

Barnes Team Ministry  
The Parish Church of St Mary Barnes

A meeting of the PCC took place  
in the Ellerton Room on Tuesday 27 September at 6.00pm

MINUTES

Present: Rev James, Annie Sullivan, Lis Munden, Michael Murison, William Heller, Fouki Heller, Geoffrey Barnett, Judy Gowing, Phil Bladen, Peter Boyling, Steve Cox, Trisha Hawkins

Apologies: Cathy Putz, Michael Ross-McCall, Carolyn Wilson, Paul Teverson, Alison MacMillan

<p>1. Matters arising - none</p>
<p>2. Plans for future of the music department. Toby Ward was unable to attend. He proposes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- To expand the scholarship scheme to have 4 junior scholars (SATB) as currently and 4 senior scholars (SATB) who would be university students. He has developed a relationship with Royal Holloway University.</li><li>- To split the Junior Choir in two age groups</li><li>- The organ needs attention and Toby has booked William Drake to undertake a consultation. The work would not take place until 2025. After the consultation, their report will be circulated with costs.</li><li>- A replica Tudor chamber organ (and harpsicord) have been offered to us on a long loan. The organ will be useful during the work on the Collins organ. This has been agreed subject to Toby viewing and playing the organ and the insurance being covered by the owner. It is a small piece which could stand in one of the alcoves beside the altar, and will be covered with a heavy cover when not in use.</li></ul> <p>The choral scholars have always been funded by donations and Toby intends to approach the congregation again. There was a comment about the aesthetics of the chamber organ in church. This is one of the points to be resolved when Toby visits or gets photos from St Anne's, Kew.</p>
<p>3. Rector's report</p> <p>James had a meeting with other agencies in Barnes about how we can support people suffering due to cost of living crisis. It is much harder to ask for financial help. It is a challenge to know how to respond to people's needs. A Joint working group is looking into it. James asked for ideas from the members. There are a lot of social issues disguised behind our middle-class façade in Barnes.</p>
<p>4. Finance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Management accounts were largely positive, apart from the value of investments which is not a surprise in the current situation. The staff salaries look far above budget because the Youth Workers' salaries had not previously been included in the budget. Michael was thanked (in his absence) for his work preparing the accounts.</li><li>- Investments report. One comment from Paul Teverson has been forwarded to the Treasurer for his attention.</li></ul>

- Book-keeper recommendation – a second reference has been received for the new book-keeper and we are now just waiting for DBS clearance before confirming her appointment.
- Budget schedule for 2023.
  - 31-Oct-22: Issue Management Accounts at 30/9/22 to PCC Members
  - 31-Oct-22: Issue list of Key Assumptions for PCC to provide
  - 10-Nov-22: PCC to provide Key Assumptions for 2023
  - 20-Nov-22: Issue draft Budget to PCC for review
  - 30-Nov-22: PCC to comment and edit
  - 10-Dec-22: Issue updated final draft Budget
  - 20-Dec-22: PCC to approve final Budget 2023
- 2023 Parish Support Fund We are overdue to give the Diocese our pledge for this year. They are asking for 2% (£3672) as in previous years although inflation is much higher. The Treasurer feels strongly that we should only hold the pledge at the current level and review it mid-2023. After considerable discussion, on a proposal from Phil Bladen, seconded by Michael Murison, the PCC decided we should confirm our pledge of a 2% increase now and review it mid-year to see if we can give more. All in favour. The Treasurer had asked in advance that if the PCC took this decision, his dissenting viewpoint be minuted.

5. Proposal on investment in audio and visual equipment.  
 We have finally received 3 quotes for this equipment and James is very keen to go ahead with this project, which would have high use and is a requirement in many venues. There was a long discussion about the aesthetics of two types of speakers suggested. Phil will talk to B & H and see if they can bring examples of each speaker in so we can make an informed decision. Peter has already started preparing the Faculty application so it will be ready to go when a decision has been made.  
**Action: PBI**

6. MAP  
 New framework for discussion at Away Day  
 There will be a simple feedback survey for the congregation to complete in advance of the Away Day. This MAP is different from the previous Plan as it asks us to focus on 3 main areas rather than a whole church approach. Subtle changes to James' draft programme were suggested, with slightly shorter presentations before the break. The survey results will be available before the meeting.  
**Action: JH**

7. Associate Priest update: Four good candidates were interviewed and an offer has been made. James may be able to make an announcement on Sunday.

#### 8. Fabric

Fire alarm upgrade: the system for automatically alerting the fire brigade has now been repaired.  
Hoare memorial: The stone has been received from Portugal. Latest target date for installation is early January.  
Floodlights have taken away for refurbishment. During the energy crisis we shall not use them as it would send out the wrong message.  
East gate to churchyard has been refurbished.  
Additional toilets: We have asked our architect to produce options for reconstructing the building around the current Melvill Room toilets so extra toilets could be added. The architect has noted that if there were rebuilding work in that area it would be possible to do several other pieces of work,

lower priorities from his 2020 quinquennial report on the fabric, at lower cost than doing them independently.

9. Environment – In Jack Edwards’ sermon in the churchyard, he stated that the average church generates about 40 tonnes of CO2/pa and each person generates 10 tones/pa. So we should be encouraging each of our parishioners to take their own responsibility for lowering their CO2 output as well as doing what we can as a church

#### 10. Kitson Hall

William reported that, after considerable negotiation, Barnes Petite Performers has signed a year’s licence for the use of the Small Hall (8.30-6.00 Mon-Fri) offering children’s drama, & parent and toddler group, and parties, for £20k/pa. The income from this space has therefore doubled. Many thanks to William for his work.

The Gents toilets need attention and will cost approximately £2k. William proposed and Phil seconded. All in favour. The question was asked as to whether the Kitson Hall Committee has delegated responsibility to spend up to £2k without PCC approval.

AJ is working more than her 10 hours per week. She will be paid for her excess hours as in the summer, and William will report to the November PCC whether this is just ‘settling-in’ extra hours or whether her hours should be permanently extended.

**Action: WH**

#### 11. Safeguarding

- Another First Aid training session planned for 1 Oct. Spaces available. Further publicity has been sent to specific groups. A comment was made about whether we should have a defibrillator in church. For future discussion. We are still looking for another Safeguarding coordinator to replace Natasha who is now working full time.

Lis commented that domestic violence is very high in Barnes and members should be aware. Maybe we should have a sign in the loos with a number to call if people are frightened or in danger.

**Action: LM**

#### 12. AOB

Michael Murison commented that sitting at the back of the congregation outside on Sunday, he was unable to hear much of what was said. We need to reconsider the configuration of seats before the next outdoor service.

**Action: JH, wardens, PBI**

Future meetings will start later to allow more people to join: probably 7.30.

### **Future dates:**

#### PCC

15 Oct (Away Day)

29 Nov

7 Feb

28 Mar