

Barnes Team Ministry

The Parish Church of St Mary Barnes

A meeting of the Parochial Church Council was held on Tuesday 14 July 2015 at The Rectory, 25 Glebe Road.

- 1) Apologies were received from Paul Phillips, Francesca Wisdom, Emma Powell, William Heller and Peter Boyling
- 2) Minutes of the last meeting were signed as a true record. There were no matters arising.

3) 800th anniversary feedback

All the elements of the 800th anniversary celebrations were highly appreciated by a large number of people: the pilgrimage walk, the 800th anniversary service with Rowan Williams, Jesus Christ Superstar, the Magna Carta Festival and especially the opening evening with Melvyn Bragg and the tapestries. Sue Adams and Andrew Summers had done a great job at making sure that St Mary's was well connected through the Magna Carta channels.

- *Finance.* The Treasurer reported that there was likely to be a small surplus of around £1,000 from all the 800th anniversary activities. Waitrose gave a grant for the reception after the 800th service. Diane du Parcq provided the catering at minimal cost. There were generous donations in the plate as well as a one-off donation of £800.
- Finances of Jesus Christ Superstar were unclear from the beginning, as it was such a novel production to be staged in church. However, with capacity audiences of 200 at each performance, the costs were all covered and there will be a cheque forthcoming. £1,100 of this will be assigned to the Kitson Hall account and any additional monies will go to the General Fund. The 2015 Fund was set up originally to pay for the Fine Cell Work vestments and altar frontal. Rosie Findlater managed to cover all those costs with donations so the remaining amount in the 2015 Fund will go back into the General Fund.
The Rector thanked the PCC members for their help in so many different ways during the Festival.

The Friends' Choral Evensong on 11 October will celebrate the 20th anniversary of the founding of the Friends. Richard Ames-Lewis will be coming to preach.

Barnes Fair: St Mary's activities at the Fair had been a great success bringing lots of people into the church and churchyard.

4) Parish Support Fund

The Diocese has asked that churches' contributions should be 2% higher than in 2015. The challenge is to increase the planned giving to ensure that we can meet that target. The finances of the church are increasingly vulnerable and the autumn campaign will be the most hard-hitting of recent years. The PCC needs to help the congregations to understand we belong to the wider church - not just St Mary's - and we have a

duty/obligation to support those churches that would not otherwise be able to pay for their clergy or keep their churches open.

Patrick reported that the Friends have agreed to pay all the utility bills in future, amounting to approximately £7,000 pa. Despite that benefit, we still need to increase our income by £10,000 to be able to meet the challenge.

Reminding people to remember St Mary's in their wills is one area which has not had much focus recently. Legacies in last five years have only amounted to about £3,000.

It should be emphasised that our contribution to the Parish Support Fund will help to pay for all clergy in the diocese, including Richard and Ann. We need to explain everything to the congregation and not take any knowledge for granted. It will be useful to break down the target figures eg 20 people pledging an extra £33/month would raise £10,000pa (including Gift Aid).

Phil Bladen proposed that our Parish Support Fund contribution should be £167,000 and the motion was seconded by Annie Sullivan. All Council members were in favour.

Paul Teverson said it was very encouraging that the PCC had stated unanimously that it commits to support not only our own clergy but maybe one and a half others in the diocese – and to go forward with our vision for St Mary's. The Rector and the churchwardens now need the PCC to commit to be active in as many ways as possible to achieve this pledge. It will stretch our finances considerably and all members will have to contribute in extra ways in time and commitments.

5) September Stewardship appeal (covered in the Parish Support Fund discussion)

6) PCC members' duties and responsibilities.

Richard circulated a document, explaining the structure of the Anglican Church, which concluded with the key tasks of the Council members:

- Attending church as often as possible and supporting a wide variety of church activities;
- To attend all PCC meetings and the PCC Away Day in September (if possible);
- Getting to know a wide cross-section of the church community;
- Listening to and representing the views of the congregation to the PCC;
- Supporting the decisions of the PCC and communicating them to the congregation;
- If possible, to join one of the sub-committees of the church, eg Fabric, Friends of St Mary's, Kitson Hall and/or one of the Today and Tomorrow groups;
- To be willing to help with the running of events so that the responsibilities are share out

7) Away Day.

It had been decided to hold the Away Day on 19 September at the Roehampton University Chaplaincy at Whitelands College. Richard will

confirm the booking and give Judy the contact details to follow up with finer arrangements.

8) Appointments:

- Hospitality Team lead. Patty is still pursuing.
- CtIB rep: Rosie Findlater has been attending recent meetings and has been returned to the list officially.

9) Any other business

New logo:

There was a discussion about a potential new logo for St Mary's. Sarah Chapman, inspired by the shape of one of the Langton Chapel windows (which coincidentally forms an 'M') had produced some mock-ups of how the logo could be used with different colours for different areas of church activity. The majority of the Council agreed that the new design (Option2) was an improvement and with a few further tweaks, it could work well.

800th anniversary window:

Further to discussions at previous PCC meetings, a new mock-up of the window (with more leaves on the tree) was circulated with a mock-up of the plaque for the sill below the window. A revision of the plaque wording was suggested:

Archbishop Stephen Langton visited this church on his return from Runnymede.

About half the Council were of the opinion that it would be preferable to include "in 1215" in the plaque text.

All but two of the Council were in support of the installation of the new window with an explanatory plaque below.

This mock-up will be presented to the congregations to gauge the mood of whether to install the window or not; the design will not be modified any further.

The Rector and JulieAnn were thanked for hosting the meeting and for their hospitality.

Dates of next meetings:

PCC Away Day: 19 September;

PCC: 20 October;

PCC: 17 November

The meeting closed with the grace at 10.10 pm

JG

15.7.15