

**BARNES TEAM MINISTRY  
THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST MARY BARNES**

Minutes of the meeting of the Parochial Church Council held on 2 June 2015 in the Ellerton Room starting with Evening Prayer at 7.50pm

Present: Revd Richard Sewell (chair), Phil Bladen, Sue Boyd, Peter Boyling, Christine Butenuth, Alison Collins, Patty Darke, Patrick Findlater, Christabel Gairdner, Paul Phillips, Tom Ridley, Annie Sullivan, Paul Teverson

Apologies: Judy Gowing, William Heller, Chris Hine, Revd Ann Lynes, Matthew Purser, Francesca Wisdom

**WELCOME**

1. Richard welcomed Christine Butenuth and Paul Phillips to their first meeting of the Council. He would remind all Council members of their responsibilities in an induction briefing at the next meeting.

**COOPTION**

2. On a proposal of Peter, seconded by Alison, the Council unanimously agreed to coopt Patrick to the PCC.

**MINUTES**

3. The Council approved the draft minutes of the meeting on 17 March, and noted the draft minutes of the APCM on 30 April.

**MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS PCC MEETING**

4. Richard noted that he would pursue the decision to join Inclusive Church, including communication of this to the congregation. Paul Teverson undertook to conduct the environmental audit with support from Tom Ridley.

**APPOINTMENTS**

5. Richard invited expressions of interest in joining the Team Council, as there was a vacancy for a St Mary's PCC member. There was also a vacancy for the coordinator/leader of the Hospitality group which managed social events. It was important not to overwhelm a single person with work. Patty undertook to arrange a meeting of the members of the group to develop a team strategy for managing events. Sue offered to join the group.

6. Richard encouraged all members of the Council to attach themselves to one or another of the church groups. He undertook to invite members to attend a meeting to brief them on the roles of the different groups.

7. On a proposal of Richard, seconded by Patty, the Council re-elected Peter as vice chair of the Council.

**FINANCE**

8. Patrick presented the accounts for the first quarter of 2015. There were no real trends yet in the year, though the financial review group's strategy of encouraging the congregation to gift aid donations at church services appeared to be showing a positive result.

9. Richard reported that St Mary's needed a substantial increase in income to achieve our budget proposals. We had started to implement another element of the financial review strategy by meeting about 35 members of the congregation over meals. These gave the opportunity for him to give a presentation on the future work of St Mary's and its financial needs, and inviting people to consider

how they could be more involved in church life and join the committed giving scheme. These had been enjoyable occasions for fellowship, and more such events would be planned for the autumn. We were working on how to ensure that a regular financial commitment could most easily be made.

#### PARISH SUPPORT FUND

10. Richard outlined the new diocesan system which would replace Fairer Shares from next year. The Council needed to consider our resources and what in a spirit of generosity we should pledge to the diocese for next year. The figures would be public in the deanery and the diocese could invite churches to reconsider their pledges. The Council watched a DVD produced by the diocese outlining how the PSF money was used and the principle of generosity on the basis of which churches should approach the subject.

11. In discussion:

- suggestions were made for increasing income from events; and it was suggested that the priority was rather to engage with the congregation to build on a sense of commitment to the mission of the church in order to develop generous regular financial giving to St Mary's;
  - there was a view that the DVD was very worthwhile and motivating and should be shown to the congregation, perhaps at a 10am service;
  - there was considerable support for a leaflet to be issued to the congregation giving relevant facts and arguments. Paul Teverson was asked to work up a draft leaflet in time for the next PCC meeting;
  - there was support for inviting an inner city priest to preach.
- Richard agreed that we could look at a variety of creative ways to encourage a desire to make a regular financial commitment in response to what people had received from St Mary's.

12. He concluded that at the next PCC meeting the Council should address the financial figures for St Mary's and consider what pledge to make to the diocese. He would develop a timeline for presenting the issues to the congregation for the next few months, incorporating the development of the leaflet, and a visiting preacher.

#### FUNDRAISING EVENTS

13. Christine Butenuth presented a proposal for a series of talks, which could raise useful funds for the church; and she undertook to follow up the practicalities.

14. Richard said that he would seek helpers to organise the event offered by Gyles Brandreth for 4 July. Sue offered to circulate posters before 18 June.

#### FABRIC COMMITTEE

15. Peter reported that there should be final proposals for the design of the memorial window and its plaque by the time of the next PCC. In the coming week churchyard trees would be pruned, the stolen lead replaced, and the vestry door strengthened. A proposal for CCTV would be presented to the DAC shortly; and improvements to the path to the Kitson Hall were to be implemented after the Barnes Fair.

#### 800<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY

16. Richard reported on the amazing Magna Carta Festival, and looked forward to the production of Jesus Christ Superstar, the June Pilgrimage and the anniversary service with Archbishop Rowan on 15 June. He would issue a note to the whole PCC asking for fire wardens for the musical.

DEANERY SYNOD

17. Richard reported that the new Area Dean, Trevor Patterson, had given a presentation on generous giving. Copies would be circulated to the PCC for information.

DATE OF NEXT MEETINGS

14 July at the Rectory – starting at 7.30 with drinks

19 September – Awayday at the Kairos Centre in Roehampton (approx 10am to 3.30pm)

20 October

17 November

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