

Barnes Team Ministry

The Parish Church of St Mary Barnes

A meeting of the PCC took place in the Ellerton Room
On Tuesday, 4 February 2025 at 6.15pm

MINUTES

PRESENT: Peter Boyling, Richard Chalker, Caroline Georgiadis, Mark Glasgow, Trisha Hawkins, Fouki Heller, William Heller, Elisabeth Munden, Richard Nickels, Michael Ross-McCall, Philip Smith, Deborah Stewartby

IN ATTENDANCE: Cheryl Cole, Helen Gibbs

APOLOGIES: Revd James Marston, Geoffrey Barnett, Helen Faride, Catherine Roe, Paul Teverson

PB opened the meeting with a prayer.

1	Minutes of the PCC meeting on 26 November 2024 were approved	
2	Matters arising from minutes of last PCC meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mailchimp - We are now paying for a service that allows us to reach more recipients - Piano restoration update – The Director of Music provided a written update on the planned refurbishment and the fund raising in particular. WH confirmed that £1,500 has already been committed, the equivalent of 20 keys (£75 each) on the new sponsorship poster. The Barnes Fund will be meeting on 11 February to consider our application. PS asked that, should we raise more than the £19k, the extra would be ring-fenced for future work on the piano. This was supported as the £19k target wouldn't include any cosmetic work and an annual service will also be required. - Thank you emails from FiSH and Welcare were noted. - Inclusive Church – MRM will confirm whether our donation has now been made. 	MRM
3	Mission Action Plan – no comments Growing our faith <i>Grow the involvement and number of children, young people and families; greater involvement in worship & growth of junior choir.</i> <i>Enable more adults to come to Christian faith and grow in faith; annual enquirers course.</i> Serving the people of Barnes <i>Widen access and use church for those in particular need in Barnes.</i> <i>New screen, projector and AV in church; explore other improvements.</i> Promoting care for God's creation <i>Make progress in reducing our negative impact on the environment by achieving the Eco-Church Silver Award; implement planned improvements to Kitson Hall and the Church.</i> <i>Develop the environmental message in our worship and teaching.</i>	
4	Period to end of Vacancy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Institution Service – Calum Zuckert will be instituted on Monday 3 March at 7.30pm by the Bishop of Kingston. The service will be followed by drinks at the back of the church. PCC members are asked to bring finger food items to contribute. 	ALL ALL

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Welcome drinks – There will be drinks and nibbles at the back of the church on Sunday 9 March after the 10am service. - Other developments concerning Calum's moving in and immediate plans – CZ will move into the rectory in the week commencing 17 February. Diocesan contractors are completing repairs, redecorating throughout, fitting secondary glazing and recarpeting throughout. We expect this to be paid for by the Diocese. TH has received an offer to do some gardening at the Rectory if required but due to the time of year this is probably not necessary. - The Bishop of Southwark will preside and preach at the 10am service on 23 February. - James Marston will be busy covering services at St Michael's with Judith during Father Stephen's sabbatical which starts on 15 March for 3 months. - Lent Course – Bishop Richard Harries will be holding a Lent course on Julian of Norwich on Fridays beginning on 7 March at 4pm for 6 weeks. The course will be held in the nave or, during the Music Festival, the Melvill Room. It will be advertised in the Weekly News. - Volunteering campaign – This campaign was started at a recent 10am service following which 4 people volunteered to help with the Sunday Club. We still needed volunteers to be a server. There has been one volunteer to be a vergers for weddings and funerals but more would be welcome. David Blacklock needs more stewards and an appeal will be made for this soon. Jo Teverson has been maintaining the Scrapbook for the past 6 years and a volunteer is required to continue this work once she steps down in March. PB thanked TH for organising a church cleaning party that has done a fantastic job in the Melvill Room and porch already. - Legacies campaign – The SC thought that this should be delayed until the summer once CZ has started. PB will check that the information about legacies on the website is correct. TH noted that another church has a solicitor in the congregation who does codicils for free and this might make it easier for people to donate. 	PB
5	<p>Finance– presented by MRM</p> <p><u>Management accounts at 31/12/24</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 12-month 2024 surplus excluding investment gains was £356 compared to budget deficit £21k and 2023 deficit £29k. 2024 reflected £30k non-recurring receipts from house rent/insurance and appeals (chairs/Simonson) plus £31k of unbudgeted hall surplus. - With inclusion of £27k unrealised gains on investments, 2024's net surplus was £28k. - Liquid assets (cash, bank and deposits) reduced by £37k in 2024 (budget: £53k reduction) to £89k at 31/12/24. A further reduction in liquid assets through to 30/06/25 was forecast. - Liquid assets plus investments at 31/12/24 stood at £841k, down £6k since year end 2023. - Reasons for £37k drop in liquid assets in 2024 when a £28k surplus was earned were presented on page 5 of the accounts. 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Despite a 6-month vacancy, attendances at services (page 6) in 2024 at 9,205 were unchanged from 2023 with an average of 100 attending the 10am Sunday services. <p><u>Ratification of email approval of 2025 budget</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Draft budget (deficit £65,300) was discussed at the PCC meeting on 26/11/24 and members agreed to include unrealised investment gains of £20,300, being the lower end of predicted growth in global GDP in 2025. - Members had approved the amended budget with net deficit £45,000 by email circulation during the last week of December 2024. - Members unanimously ratified this approval. - Liquid assets (cash, bank, bank deposits) had reduced by £141k during 2023-4 (24 months), including £82k capital expenditure (capex). Members agreed that action should be considered to reduce the operating deficit and asset reduction by increasing revenue and/or cutting costs – to be reviewed after installation of new Rector. <p><u>Reserves policy amendment</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Current policy (approved by PCC on 17/09/24) included a requirement to maintain £45,000 in liquid assets in case Friends' events were unable to provide "one year's contribution to church running expenses and major church capital projects; plus underwriting the cost of any Friends loss-making events". - As a result of lower surplus on events and financing the £55k AV system in 2023-4, Friends' fund balance was £11k at 31/12/24. The fund budget at 31/12/25 indicated that the Friends could not fund church utility costs and capex in 2025 and beyond. The Friends had advised that they should only pay church fabric maintenance costs in 2025. - It was accordingly proposed to reduce the Friends reserve requirement from £45,000 to £10,000, which would match the reality of the situation and allow the church to comply with the policy as at 31/12/24, in respect of "total aggregate funds" (page 3 of policy – surplus 16.7%). The Council unanimously approved this change. 	
6	<p>Safeguarding</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Annual Self Review – LM is currently working on this lengthy form and will bring more details to the next PCC once it has been submitted. Most training and DBS is up to date but we may need to tighten up on risk assessments which are required for all activities in church. LM confirmed that there is a Risk Assessment template in <i>A Safe Church</i>. LM will email all group leaders asking them to check they have the necessary risk assessments and that they are up to date. LM will also check whether the website version needs updating. 	<p>LM</p> <p>LM</p>
7	<p>Fabric</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Toilets – We are close to getting to a detailed spec but it is likely to be quite expensive. We are continuing to explore cheaper options, in particular by talking to the new neighbours. 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Tower sound proofing – We are finalising the text of a response to the questions from the Diocese. We hope to receive approval and start work. - Yew Tree – The final element of the work involved propping up the tree but we have been unable to find anyone to quote for this work and have now asked the writer of the original report for advice. We have so far been unsuccessful in finding a good home for the wood and may have to put it on eBay. 	
8	Kitson Hall <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Net Zero Work – The PCC had approved £4.5k to complete phase 1 and the hall now has all LED lights which will hopefully create a saving on electricity. The PCC had also approved £5k to design Phase 2 work on insulation and heating and the spending of that should start shortly. - Small Hall – Negotiations were at quite an advanced stage with a prospective new nursery for an initial 3 year licence. - Automated payments – A new system introduced in Q3 is working well and has freed up a lot of AJ's time. 	
9	Policies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Complaints, Disciplinary and Grievance Procedures – These policies were written several years ago using a template from the Diocese which is still current. Additional confidential material was added in 2021 at the suggestion of the PCC. The PCC approved all 3 policies for a further year. 	
10	Minutes – for information – no comments <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Minutes of the Financial Advisory Group meeting on 16/12/24 - Minutes of the Friends meeting on 25/01/25 - Minutes of the Communications Group meeting on 13/01/25 	
11	AOB <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - CZ will chair future PCC meetings. PB thanked everyone for their hard work during the interregnum. FH thanked PB, on behalf of the PCC, for everything he has done. 	

The meeting closed with the Grace at 7.30pm.

Future dates:

SC (2pm)

Monday 17 March

Monday 16 June

Monday 1 September

Monday 10 November

PCC (6:15pm)

Tuesday 1 April

Thursday 15 May – APCM

Tuesday 1 July

Tuesday 16 September

Saturday 11 October – Away Day

Tuesday 25 November

Approved 3-IV-2025
