

**Barnes Team Ministry**  
**The Parish Church of St Mary Barnes**

A meeting of the Parochial Church Council was held on Tuesday 26 January 2016.

Present: The Rector, Ann Lynes, Peter Boyling, Patrick Findlater, Paul Teverson, Patty Darke, Francesca Wisdom, Sue Boyd, William Heller, Paul Phillips, Christine Butenuth, Emma Powell, Chris Hine, Phil Bladen and Judy Gowing.

1. Apologies for absence were received from Annie Sullivan, Tom Ridley, Christabel Gairdner, Matthew Purser
2. Designation of other business - CTiB
3. Approval of the minutes of last meeting – signed as a true record.
4. Matters arising – Paul Phillips outlined his suggested lecture series which will need a huge amount of preparation to deliver an effective event.
5. Correspondence. Acknowledgements and thanks had been received from Castelnau Centre, Welcare, Age UK, FiSH & Church Urban Fund, in respect of the donations made by St Mary's.
6. Feedback from Christmas – a very successful season with slightly larger congregations at a variety of different services. The Advent Workshops were well attended and well received and Ann was thanked for her initiative. The clergy were congratulated on the variety of sermons on Christmas Day. JulieAnn Sewell and Alison Macmillan were congratulated on the very successful Nativity Services. A generous donation covered all the extra lighting costs. Thanks were also noted to St Mary Barnes Scouts, who every year donate and decorate the Christmas tree.
7. Forward planning to Easter. Lent talks (on each Thursday in Lent) will be delivered by the Barnes clergy.
8. Finances. The annual figures are close to the forecast made in November, but with a shortfall of approx £4,000. We have not had the full effect of the stewardship initiative. The Friends are now covering all the maintenance and running costs of the church and churchyard. There are now projects in hand which will consume all the Friends' reserves. Final accounts will be available at the next meeting.  
Additional giving over a full year is projected to be £21k (including Gift Aid). Chris Hine reported that there had been 26 new donors & 32 increased donors over the year, with a 65% increase in envelopes; 84% in donations, but that the plate money had reduced as a result. It had been the best outcome of a stewardship campaign in years but it is important to keep up the momentum.
9. Finance Review group (The Rector, Churchwardens, Treasurer, Chris Hine, Peter Boyling, Michael Kalmar and Naomi Evans) will continue to meet to help shape the financial strategy and will provide the PCC with a broad range of suggestions and guidance. The PCC were all in agreement.
10. Fees for 2016. The PCC noted that the fees payable for baptisms, weddings and funerals, set by the Church of England would vary marginally for 2016. The PCC agreed that fees set by the PCC should not change for 2016, except that the fee for memorial services should be £100, for blessings of marriages should be £250 and that the voluntary donation for baptisms should be £60.
11. Filling vacancies
  - Head Sidesman. Tiziana George is standing down and a successor is being sought. We also need to appoint more sidesmen, particularly for the 11.30 services. Sue Boyd offered to join the sidesman's list for the 10.00 or 11.30 services.
  - Sacristy Team. Sally Copland has retired. She was heartily thanked for her many years of unstinting service and commitment to the church, ensuring all the linen and silverware is looked after and prepared for services. Sally will continue to be responsible for ordering supplies. To reflect the amount of task that Sally has undertaken over the years, a team of four will replace her: Lucy Hine, Wiz Dundas, Fouki Heller and Fiona Barnett. Fiona will be the named lead. Annie Sullivan will keep a pastoral watch on the acolytes.

- Chalice assistants – Richard is conscious of the need to add to the chalice assistants list.
12. Communications – website and logo. We are waiting for the new website to be finalised before launching the new logo widely, although it is being gradually introduced on the pewsheet and correspondence. Pewsheet is now usually uploaded to the website on Fridays.
  13. Memorial window – The result of consultation was overwhelmingly positive. It is necessary now to apply for a faculty from the Diocese, after consulting historic amenity bodies. PCC formally resolved that a faculty be sought to create a window to commemorate the 800<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the visit by Archbishop Stephen Langton in 1215 to reconsecrate the church. The window would be created with the grisaille technique in the Langton Chapel, as per the design by Caroline Benyon, at a cost of £4430 for making and installing the window and a further £421 for a slate plaque below it. Peter Boyling proposed the resolution and William Heller seconded it. The resolution was passed with one abstention.
  14. The Mission Action Plan, launched in 2012, now needs to be reviewed and renewed. A large part of the Away Day on 24 September will be devoted to this review and PCC members are encouraged to put the date in their diary now and make it a priority. Peter Siddall has agreed to help with the process.
  15. Future of Christmas Fair. Some thought is being given to the future of the event and whether it should continue in the same format as Judy Gowing will not be available to take the coordinating role this year. The Rector had seen a church which installed an ice-rink in church. There was some enthusiasm for this suggestion and Emma Powell offered to investigate the possibilities. If we go ahead, it was suggested that it should be available for the Barnes Christmas Festival.
  16. Reports from committees and groups

**Fabric Committee:** Electric power has been installed for the new path to the Hall.

A professional audit of disabled access has been undertaken and a report is being considered.

The vestry flooring had been relaid efficiently and successfully; thanks were recorded to William Heller, Peter Boyling and Sally Copland and the team for handling the furniture removals.

Quinquennial work: we await specifications for the main works from the parish architect. A concept for new nave lighting has been proposed and work is proceeding to assess it. A further attempt at a break in to the church office failed because of the new security to the outside door; we will urgently take forward introduction of CCTV at key points.

A humidifier is needed for the organ to counteract the drying effects of the heating. Two quotations were received and it was recommended that the PCC choose the more experienced company. It would be sited in the Melvill Room store. This project will need a faculty. The PCC resolved to seek a faculty to install a humidifier for the organ, accepting the quote from Watkins and Watson for £5,100, plus the cost of piping water and electricity to the equipment. Peter Boyling proposed the resolution and Sue Boyd seconded it. All were in favour.

#### **Kitson Hall**

William Heller reported on increases in fees to hall users, mainly from September. The boiler needs to be replaced and research is being undertaken as to which option to recommend. Clifford Studios has increased their use of the hall dramatically and they generate increased income for the hall. Ballet bars have been installed along the North wall of the large hall at a cost of about £700 plus fitting for their use.

The Ark Nursery reported evidence of mice in the hall before Christmas. This is being addressed with the involvement of the Environmental Health Officer and by the employment of a pest control company.

**Deanery Synod.** Revd Dr Mark Garner, Head of Whitelands College in Roehampton, addressed the Synod.

Revd Peter Hart described the work of the Interfaith Forum which has been lobbying LBRuT about the refugee crisis. If 50 private landlords could be found who would provide the properties, the Council would provide ongoing support for the refugee families. Revd Hart also mentioned a move from Public Health Richmond to make all places of worship dementia-

friendly. Paula Thorvaldsen-Brits gave a lively presentation about the work of SPAs and the benefit they bring to their parish. The Synod was urged to encourage potential candidates to consider undertaking the training.

Richard Sewell presented a very helpful, impartial report of the recent meeting of primates at Canterbury. A copy can be found at the back of church.

**Friends.** Minutes of the last meeting of the Advisory Council of the Friends of St Mary's was circulated in place of a report.

17. Future meetings

15 March, 28 April (APCM), 7 June, 12 July, 24 September (Away Day), 25 October (NB revised date. Bishop Richard Cheetham will be visiting the Deanery on 17 October with an open Deanery Synod at St Mary's), 15 November

18. Any other business.

The Rector will be taking study leave from Easter Sunday for 4 weeks.

CTiB: There are important changes suggested in the covenant. The structure has become increasingly cumbersome and the executive has recommended that the covenant should be simplified:

*"We (Barnes Baptist Church, Barnes Methodist Church, the Roman Catholic Church of St Osmund, The Parish Church of Holy Trinity, The Parish Church of St Mary and the Parish Church of St Michael and All Angels), believing that God is one, and that there is one Lord, one faith, one baptism, and that we are called to be one in Jesus Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit, affirm that we are called: to hold together the rich variety of our heritage and of our ways of worship within the One Body; to venture together in work and witness for Christ that the world might believe; and to commit ourselves to each other to serve the Church and our community."*

The PCC approved this new text of the covenant.

Barnes in Common – the editorial committee has needed refreshing for some time and it has been decided that the next issue will be the last.

Meeting closed with the Grace at 21.52.