

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

THE ANNUAL MEETINGS

Draft Minutes of the Meetings held in the Church on Wednesday, 25 April 2012 at 8 pm

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Present: Revd Richard Sewell, (Team Rector in the chair), Rosie Findlater and Peter Boyling, (churchwardens) and 39 members of the parish.

The meeting was opened with prayer.

A EASTER VESTRY

For the purpose of electing two churchwardens to serve for the coming year. The Rector noted that Peter Boyling wished to step down as churchwarden. He expressed his appreciation for all Peter's help, encouragement, support, friendship and wise counsel.

The Rector announced the following nominations for churchwardens:

- Rosie Findlater, proposed by Richard du Parcq and seconded by Tim Budgen
- Paul Teverson, proposed by Judy Gowing and seconded by Patrick Findlater.

As there were no other nominations, these two people were elected churchwardens for the coming year. The Rector thanked them warmly on behalf of the parish for their work as wardens over the coming year.

B THE ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

1. Minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting held on 27 April 2011

The minutes had been displayed on the church website for the past year and on the porch notice board. They were also reproduced in the papers for the Annual Meetings. The meeting unanimously approved them as a true record on a proposal of Michael Murison, seconded by Ian Radford.

2. Church Electoral Roll

Judy Gowing, on behalf of the Electoral Roll officer, Cheryl Cole, reported that there were 329 people on the roll, a reduction of 17 over the year.

3. Elections

(a) To appoint members to the Parochial Church Council (five representatives to serve for three years and one to serve for two years).

The following nominations had been received:

Ted Muxworthy, proposed by Rosie Findlater and seconded by Jean Otty  
Patty Darke, proposed by Judy Gowing and seconded by Rose Robertson  
Peter Boyling proposed by Ronnie Williams and seconded by Chris Madeley  
Christabel Gairdner proposed by Peter Boyling and seconded by Alison Collins  
Michael Murison proposed by Lucy Hine and seconded by Richard du Parcq

These members were elected by the meeting for three year terms.

Juliet Hogan who had retired from the Council was thanked for her valuable work on the PCC over a number of years. The whole Council was thanked for their time, commitment, care and consideration, supporting the church in so many ways.

(b) Election of Sidesmen for 2012-2013

The Rector commended the report on the sidesmen presented to the meeting. He extended the church's gratitude to all the sidesmen, who welcome congregations to all our services. Special thanks were noted to Charles Goldsmith, Ferelith Reay, Marina Mandarino, Nick Phillips and Hamish Henderson who have stood down.

The Rector proposed that the following be elected as sidesmen for the coming year: David Barrie, David Blacklock, Claire Boyling, Brian Cleave, Tony Dundas, Sue Dundas, Wiz Dundas, Rachel Elkington, Anthony Figgis, Patrick Findlater, Ken George, Tiziana George, David Heyhoe, Ken Hitchcock, Amanda Iremonger, Jonathan Iremonger, Sarah Kearney, Wendy Kyrle-Pope, Desmond MacDermott, Josephine MacDermott, Sheila Mitchell, Neville Otty, Peter Siddall, Fiona Smith, Andrew Summers, Joan Wheeler-Bennett and Marjorie Wing.

Election of these sidesmen was approved.

4. Report on proceedings of the PCC

The Rector referred to the written report of the PCC for the year. The meeting received the report.

5. Report on the annual accounts

Patrick Findlater, PCC Hon Treasurer, referred to his written report. He noted that the church's main bank account had been moved from NatWest to CAF Bank, which is part of the Charities Aid Foundation. The PCC's finances remain for the moment satisfactory.

The Rector thanked Patrick for his excellent work during the year. The meeting received the report.

6. Appointment of an Independent Examiner for the 2012 accounts

The meeting approved the appointment of Alastair Cameron to examine the 2012 accounts, on a proposal of Judy Gowing, seconded by Geoffrey Barnett.

7. Report on the fabric of the church and the Kitson Hall

The Rector drew attention to the written report on the fabric of the church and to the report on the management of Kitson Hall. Many thanks were due to the Fabric Committee and especially to Michael Murison, the chairman, and to Chessy Smith, the Kitson Hall chair and to her committee, and Lindy Taylor, the hall manager.

Ian Radford asked for an update on the flat roof above the nave. Michael Murison reported that work was due to start on 8 May, to remove the felt and replace it with an asphalt roof.

The meeting received the reports.

8. Report on the Team Council

The Rector drew attention to the written report on the Team Council and its accounts for 2011. There have been major changes in the Team Ministry this year, with the departure of Rev'd Jean Boulton-Reynolds from Holy Trinity, Barnes. The Rector reported that Rev'd David Cooke had been appointed as the new team vicar, leading a church plant from Holy Trinity Richmond. Holy Trinity Barnes will remain a full member of the Barnes Team Ministry. David Cooke will take up his post in September 2012.

The Rector gave special thanks to Jo Bennison and Nichola Mocatta of our congregation, who were respectively the Council Treasurer and manager of the house the churches jointly owned.

The meeting received the report.

9. Rector's report

The full text of his report is attached to these minutes. The Rector expressed his thanks to the church's staff and to all those in the congregation who contributed to the life and work of St Mary's.

Issues raised by those present:

Fiona Smith asked for a progress report on the children's work, saying how good it was to see children in the Parish Communion again. The Rector referred to reports in the Annual Review which show that the needs of the younger section of the congregations are well catered for by the Sunday Club, BYG (Barnes Youth Group) and the Junior Choir. Each group is thriving under teams of very enthusiastic leaders.

Phillip Mitchell has recently stepped down as a Reader at St Mary's for many years, which was celebrated at Choral Evensong recently. Richard expressed gratitude for his ministry and presented a card and a gift. Phillip expressed his appreciation to his wife, Sheila, without whose support, he would not have been able to fulfil his duties.

Peter Boyling thanked the Rector on behalf of the congregation for his considerable work over the year. St Mary's had high expectations on his arrival which he has more than fulfilled.

11. St Mary's Today and Tomorrow. Annie Sullivan reported on this process which is designed to discuss what is important in our lives at St Mary's and through discussion to shape our priorities for the future. At the end of 2011, the congregations were encouraged to complete a questionnaire from The Healthy Churches Handbook by Robert Warren, which has been tried and tested in many other parishes. The findings from the questionnaire were the basis for two congregational meetings held in January 2012. Approximately 40 people attended each meeting. The congregational response was predominantly from the over-40 age group and more work has been undertaken to engage the under 40s since then. Six themes have emerged from all the feedback so far:

- Worship: variety in services, inspiring sermons and music
- Seven Ages of Church: something for everyone at St Mary's, how do we nurture everyone regardless of age or back ground?
- Pastoral care: how we care for everyone in need
- Teaching: lectures, bible study and other opportunities for further learning and deepening of our faith
- Outreach: Faith in Action, individuals taking action, Charity Ball and Charity Christmas Fair, Fashion Show
- Communications: website, emails, use of social media

There will be further opportunity to discuss these themes at the next congregational meetings on Saturday morning, 19 May and Tuesday evening, 29 May. Then the Steering Group (Peter Siddall, the Rector, Annie Sullivan, Paul Teverson, Caroline Georgiadis, Ken George and Judy Gowing) will review the feedback and discuss a draft plan with the PCC. The proposal will be presented to the congregations in September 2012 and after final revisions will be launched in October/November 2012.

12. As a contribution to the consideration of St Mary's future strategy, the Rector introduced a brainstorming session on Pastoral Care

A) What situations in our own church and community need pastoral care?

Sickness, imprisonment, bereavement, divorce, loneliness, anxiety, unemployment, depression, childbirth, delinquent children, how to deal with people who don't fit, newcomers, single parenthood, disabled, domestic violence, carers, empty nest, aging

and loss of faculties, substance abuse, marital problems, bullying, exploring questions of faith, infertility

B) What is our role in reacting to these issues?

Important for the church to know its limits, listening and being along side, point in right direction, everyone being alert to people's needs, should be counsellors within the church to help in certain directions, provide an environment where people feel they can talk, be non-judgmental, organisation eg FiSH – knowing what they do and how to reach them, Service of Healing and Wholeness, prayer: intercessions list and a book at back of church, remembering that people don't always want help, waiting for people to open up

C) What are we doing already?

Marriage prep, Good Marriage course, Pastoral Care Group, Intercessory prayer group

D) Whose job is it?

Pastoral care group meet with the Rector once a month, sharing concerns and deciding what to do. Intercessory Prayer Group meets monthly, always open to 'requests'.

Fiona Barnett is a SPA. (Southwark Pastoral Auxiliary). It's every one's job and there is a great deal of 'good neighbourliness' undertaken. The needs are not only within our own church but within the whole community.

The Team Bereavement Counselling Service is being reinvigorated. Any of our church activities fulfil a pastoral need. We need to accept that we cannot do everything.

10. Any Other Business

None.

11. Date of Next Annual Meeting

Thursday, 25 April 2013

The Rector thanked Juliet Hogan and Michael Murison and all those who had brought refreshments for the evening. He encouraged the meeting participants to share thoughts from the meeting with friends and acquaintances. There is a lot of work to do in the coming year.

The meeting concluded with the Grace.

JG 26 April 2012

**Annex - Rector's Address**