

PARISHIONERS MEETING 2013
Held in St Barnabas Church, 17th March

The meeting opened with prayers

Minutes of the Parishioners Meetings held on 18th April 2012 were agreed.

Election of Churchwardens

A duly completed nomination form for Robin Kent had been received, but Robin had completed the maximum period of six years' service allowed under present church policy. The meeting therefore resolved unanimously:

1. That the six year limitation on the office of Churchwarden be waived for one year.
2. That Robin Kent be re-elected for the year 2013/14.

Derek thanked Robin for all his hard work on behalf of the Church.

No other nomination had been received, so the vacancy for the second churchwarden position necessarily remained unfilled. To spread the workload, and to give some experience of the role, the PCC had agreed to introduce the role of Assistant Churchwarden. The holders of such posts could be appointed by the PCC rather than being elected. Two volunteers had come forward to be considered for appointment.

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

1. Apologies. Apologies had been received from seven church members.

Present. Vicar, Churchwarden, PCC Secretary and 26 Church members.

Minutes of the Previous APCM. The minutes of the meeting held on 18th April 2012 were agreed. Bill Harper was thanked for his work preparing the meeting papers.

4. Electoral Roll. The fully revised Roll, containing 134 names (107 in 2012), was presented and received. Richard Gash was thanked for his work as Electoral Roll Officer.

5. Annual Report. Derek introduced the Annual Report.

(i) Attention was drawn to the Child Protection policy which was appended to the agenda papers, and which had been reviewed by the PCC during the year.

(ii) Arising from the Diocesan Synod report, Mark Burton informed the meeting that to avoid a deficit in the Diocesan budget for 2013 no increase would be made in clergy and staff salaries. The basis of the Deanery and Parish Share is being revised, and it remains important for parishes to pay in good time to secure the rebate on offer.

(iii) The Reports were accepted, thanks expressed to the many people whose efforts were recorded in them, and appreciation was expressed to Jon Barclay for all that he did as Hall Manager.

6. Annual Accounts. The Accounts and Examiners Report for the year ended 31st December 2012 were presented and accepted. The overall financial situation remained sound.

Des Long was thanked for his efforts in what is a demanding role. To assist with the workload it is hoped to appoint two Assistant Treasurers to take responsibility for some tasks.

7. Appointment of Independent Examiner. Thanks were expressed to Mrs Andrea Jones who had acted as Examiner. She was willing to be reappointed for 2013.

8. Inventory. The Inventory, which had been updated at March 2013, was tabled and accepted. The new altar frontal had been added and thanks were recorded to Alison Wood and Julie Kent for acquiring it.

9. Election of PCC members.

Richard Cunningham and Oliver Kent were retiring at the end of their period in office. Richard was willing to stand for re-election. Susie Downer had been co-opted to the PCC during 2012, and was now standing for election. Graham Davey also stood for election. Having been formally proposed and seconded all three were unanimously elected.

The membership of the PCC for 2013/14 would be:

Ex-Officio

Derek Chandler
Liz Gash
Robin Kent

Deanery Synod Representatives

(For the period 2011 to 2014)

| | Elected |
|--|---------|
| Mark Burton | 2011 |
| May Smith | 2012 |
| Gillian Wilson (appointed to fill a vacancy) | 2012 |

Members

| | |
|--------------------------------------|------|
| Des Long | 2011 |
| Alison Wood | 2011 |
| Felicity Chapmen | 2012 |
| Bill Harper (to serve for two years) | 2012 |
| Sue Harper | 2012 |
| Wendy Howell | 2012 |
| Richard Cunningham | 2013 |
| Graham Davey | 2013 |
| Susie Downer | 2013 |

10. Election of Sidemen and Sideswomen. Robin Kent referred to the current list of Sidespeople. The re-election of those on this list was agreed

11. Any Other Business.

(i) At last year's meeting reference had been made to the desire to increase the participation of congregation members in worship. Jean Rae said that she felt that progress had been encouraging, with more special services organised and more people involved. Thought perhaps needed to be given to the "Big Welcome" service that parishes were encouraged to arrange each September. Delaying it would give longer for it to be publicised after the holiday period, and clashes with other notable calendar items could be avoided.

(ii) Derek expressed his gratitude to Elizabeth Gash for all that she had contributed, going well beyond the duties of an LLM.

Presentations.

(i) Robin reported on the work of a group that had been established to consider the future of the organ. He outlined its history, state of repair (not good) and the options that had been considered. A proposal had been agreed that would involve renovating and repositioning the instrument at a cost of £60,000. Fundraising will be started soon in the hope of providing the money by the end of 2014.

(ii) Derek outlined what he regarded as the many benefits enjoyed in St Barnabas, but their continuation could never be taken for granted. He noted that the Benefice bringing together St Barnabas and

Caversham Park Church had been created in 2003, but that since then the two churches had remained largely separate. Caversham Park faced particular challenges with no Minister in place and other ministry team members coming up to retirement. Elizabeth Gash will also be retiring at the end of 2014. Whilst it is hoped to train one candidate from each church for the Lay Ministry, resources would inevitably be reduced in the future. The Standing Committees of both churches had met to consider this situation, and the discussions had identified that advantages could flow if the two churches worked more closely together. Derek described his vision of a “Common Mission Zone” served by two churches following a common calling and sharing resources. There would be further meetings to more fully develop these ideas in the coming months, and if their potential remained, the consultation would be widened to include the congregation.

The meeting closed with The Grace.