

**Draft** for approval by the PCC

## **ST BARNABAS CHURCH EMMER GREEN**

**Minutes** of meeting 03/2011 of the Parochial Church Council held on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> September 2011 in the Parish Centre.

The meeting began with prayers.

**Present:** Derek Chandler (Chair), Mark Burton, Richard Cunningham, Jim Dunkley, Elizabeth Gash, Bill Harper, Wendy Howell, Des Long, Gillian Wilson, Alison Wood.

**1. Apologies:** Sue Harper, Owen Jewiss, Oliver Kent, Robin Kent.

**2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting** held on 13<sup>th</sup> July were approved.

### **3. Matters Arising.**

13.2 The new arrangement of chairs for families with young children seemed to have worked well.

15.1 The weekly collections would start on 24<sup>th</sup> September.

### **4. Finance Monitoring**

4.1 A substantial donation had been received, and this had allowed early repayment of one of the outstanding loans and payment of another instalment of the Parish Share. Otherwise the situation was satisfactory and in line with expectations.

4.2 Money had been raised for another public version of the Newsletter, and an edition would be produced and circulated in November.

### **5. Hall & Buildings**

#### Projects in Progress:

5.1 The path from the garden gate and the stand for the dustbins were being constructed.

5.2 Progress had been made with repainting of the Hall external woodwork, but it would be difficult to complete this by volunteer labour before the winter. A quotation of £320 from C Lewington to complete the work will be accepted.

5.3 It was agreed that the roof of the Hall kitchen will be replaced to deal with the longstanding leak. One estimate had been received, and another will be obtained to ensure that the price is reasonable. The work will then be put in hand.

5.4 Another quote is being obtained for the acoustic improvements in the Centre.

5.5 The leak above the Centre office now seems to be largely resolved, but the redecoration needs to be completed.

#### Hall Hire Charges

5.6 It was agreed that with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> January the Hall charges will be increased from £13.00 to £13.50 and the rate for the Guides and Brownies from £8.00 to £8.50. Jon Barclay is authorised to quote rounded rates for children's parties based on the new hourly rate.

### **6. Health & Safety**

There are no matters to draw to the attention of the PCC.

## **7. Volunteers and Staffing**

7.1 The volunteer who had been doing a good job on gardening and handyman duties was not currently available, but there is less to do in the winter.

7.2 Keren Otto has started work on the Publicity Assistant duties, but her attendance is intermittent. She will be seen as a useful temporary resource, and we are benefitting from organising the computer equipment for more general use.

7.3 We are gaining useful experience in managing outside volunteer effort, which may help if we think about creating paid positions. One difficulty is that workloads fluctuate.

## **8. Summer Events 2012**

8.1 The proposals coming forward to CTC for the "More Than Gold" events were reviewed. Progress is slow while the commitment of the Churches is uncertain, and they are being asked to give details of the support they can offer. It was agreed that St Barnabas will offer:

- The Puppet Ministry for the event on 1<sup>st</sup> July.
- A donation of £250
- Publicity for the hosting arrangements.

We will also cancel our 9.30 service if there is an ecumenical service arranged.

The congregation will be informed of the plans, and people will be invited to play a part. The reply to Jeremy Tear about volunteers available will then be based on the reaction.

8.2 There is no further news on the Emmer Green Residents plans for a Queen's Jubilee celebration. They have the same problem with volunteer resources. When more information is available we can judge what support we might give.

8.3 When we know more about what is being planned by others a decision can be made on whether St Barnabas should organise a summer event itself.

8.4 The Bishop of Reading will be with us for an evening service on St Barnabas Day.

## **9. Justice, Peace and Environment Issues**

### **10. Wider Church**

Owen's illness had prevented him preparing reports, and it seems unlikely that he will be able to resume all his activities. The Hall & Buildings Committee will deal with energy monitoring. Mark will prepare short reports on the activities at the Deanery Synod. Other responsibilities will be considered at a future meeting.

### **11. Quinquennial Inspection**

It was agreed that the services of Neil Barr will not be retained for the 2011 inspection. The Standing Committee will invite expressions of interest from a short list of architects, interview suitable candidates and make an appointment.

### **12. Produce Sales for Charity**

A request has been received to hold regular sales of produce with the proceeds going to a local charity (that is supported by St Barnabas). Given that others might like similar opportunities, the PCC agreed:

- That no events are to be arranged that are publicised as being open to the public.
- Sales after the 9.30 service are to be limited to six in a year. A programme of sale dates will be drawn up.
- Potential sellers will put requests to use the slots to the Standing Committee for decision.
- Sales can be arranged at other times when the Centre is open with the permission of the activity organiser.

- The proceeds of sales must be devoted to church purposes, which can include fundraising for charities supported by St Barnabas.

### **13. Youth Fellowship Event**

The PCC approved the organisation of a trip to Bath Abbey on 7<sup>th</sup> July next year, subject to the normal supervision arrangements being in place.

### **14. Next Meeting**

Standing Committee	9 <sup>th</sup> November
PCC	23 <sup>rd</sup> November