

ST BARNABAS CHURCH EMMER GREEN

Minutes of meeting 04/2014 of the Parochial Church Council held on Wednesday 11th February 2015 in the Parish Centre.

The meeting began with reflections on Luke 10, 1-12 which had been commended to PCCs for attention during the vacancy for the position of Bishop of Oxford.

1.Present: Derek Chandler (Chair), Mark Burton, Richard Cunningham, Bill Harper, Sue Harper, Wendy Howell, Des Long, Jean Rae, Sandra Rice, May Smith. In attendance – David Little.

Apologies: Felicity Chapman, Graham Davey, Susie Downer.

2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting held on 8th October (03/2014) were approved.

3. Correspondence.

Bill reported briefly on receipt of the periodic mailing to PCC Secretaries from the Diocese.

4. Finances.

4.1 The PCC received the report on the finances for 2014.

4.2 Des drew attention to three current issues:

- i. Andrea Jones has indicated that she will not wish to fulfil the role of Examiner next year for the 2015 accounts. Members are asked to consider whether they can identify any candidates for the position.
- ii. When a church's total income exceeds £100,000 it is required to register as a charity. That threshold had been exceeded in 2014, and had been marginal in earlier years. Since it is inevitable that the threshold will be exceeded again in the future it was agreed that St Barnabas would register. Action Bill and Des
- iii. The summary financial information recently submitted to the MAP meeting had been well received. It was agreed that similar summaries would be produced quarterly. Action Des

5. Hall & Buildings Committee.

5.1 Reports of meetings held on 4th November and 20th January were received. A number of maintenance activities are in hand.

5.2 The church gates had been removed for repair. The PCC agreed that they will not be replaced for a trial period. Their absence had made access easier, but the situation will be monitored for any adverse effects.

5.3 The redecoration of the chancel will now take place in mid June. Issues about furnishings will be brought to the May PCC for discussion.

5.4 The H&B Committee will compile a schedule of medium/long term spending requirements to provide a basis for determining future funding plans.

6. Children and Young People Committee

A report of a meeting held on 23rd October was received. The major points covered are now being considered within the MAP context.

7. Health & Safety

There are no matters of concern to report.

8. Organ Refurbishment and Appeal.

8.1 Following receipt of a legacy and a major donation, the Appeal had reached its target taking into account the planned transfer of £5,000 from the Hall account. Whilst donations will no longer be actively sought any further income would have the effect of reducing the funding required from the Hall. (See also 13 below.)

8.2 Contact has been made with the organ builder who now expects to dismantle and remove the instrument at the end of April. The work at his premises is expected to take twelve weeks and it will then take two weeks for installation and commissioning.

9. Benefice Developments

9.1 Caversham Park Church is in discussion with Alison Boulten from the Baptist Church about the possible appointment of a Pioneer Mission Officer.

9.2 An invitation has been received from the Bishop of Reading for the Benefice to take part in a pilot initiative “Partnership for Missional Church” aimed at promoting church development. This had been considered by representatives of both churches at a meeting on 9th February. Their situations are quite different, but both are already working on development activities. Questions were formulated to be raised at a “Taster Evening” for all churches arranged for 3rd March. Efforts will be made to organise a separate meeting with Rev Rachel Smith who has the role of PMC Officer.

10. Wider Church

10.1 Diocesan Synod. A helpful report from Mark was received.

10.2 Deanery Synod. Recent meetings had been dominated by finance, and in particular the determination of the Parish Share. The focus of the February meeting had been on mission and a new meeting structure had been introduced based on group discussions and sharing experience.

11. Lay Ministry Training

11.1 A report on Mark’s current training situation was received.

11.2 Alison Johnston is seeking renewal of her licence for administering “Communion by Extension” and in future this will also cover preaching. The new licence will apply throughout the Diocese. She is currently spending time at St Barnabas to give more experience of Church of England practice. St Barnabas is also being asked to give support to the renewal application. The PCC agreed to consider this at a special meeting arranged in March. Action Bill

12. Mission Action Plan

12.1 It was agreed that the address by Graham Fancourt on 8th February has been inspirational, encouraging but had also dealt with practical realities. The extent of common ground between the two churches had been striking and many of his points had resonated with the congregation. Attendance at the service, the MAP meeting and the subsequent lunch had been good.

12.2 The PCC reviewed the document MAP Progress and Issues (February 15) in the light of the congregation meeting. David gave a presentation on Befriending in the context of the aim to develop the arrangements for caring for individuals in contact with the church. Particular emphasis was placed on the need to identify and help develop future leaders across the range of activities and responsibilities that contributed to effective church life.

12.3. The early MAP consultations had produced the suggestion that we investigate setting up a relationship with an overseas church under the auspices of the diocesan partnering initiative. A Guidance Paper prepared by the Oxford Diocese on the link with the Kimberly and Kuruman Diocese in South Africa had been circulated. Time did not allow a full discussion and members were asked to give their reactions to Bill. Action All

12.4 The outcomes and issues for the meeting and the PCC discussion will be incorporated into the Progress and Issues paper, which will then form an assessment of progress to date and an account of work still to do. Action Bill

13. Fundraising

The ending of the Organ Appeal raises the question about the focus for fundraising in the future. It was agreed that fundraising for charitable purposes remained an important part of church life. Fundraising for church purposes is best directed to specific items or projects. Since any additional funding for the organ project will reduce the transfer from the Hall (8.1 above) it would be proper for the proceeds of the summer event to be used for this purpose. Some information on future funding requirements would be provided when the assessments of needs for equipment and building work had been carried out (5.4).

14. APCM Elections

14.1 There will be the normal election of Churchwardens.

14.2 One vacancy existed for a Deanery Synod Representative to serve until 2017

14.3 Our electoral roll numbers mean that four PCC members can be elected each year. Since this had replaced three members each year recently, some vacancies for past years still existed.

Elected 2012 to 2015 Four members retiring. Four three year vacancies.

Elected 2013 to 2016 One member in post. Three one year vacancies.

Elected 2014 to 2017 Three members in post. One two year vacancy.

The shorter term vacancies might encourage newer church members to gain some experience.

15.Future meetings	APCM	Sunday 22 nd March
	Standing Committee	PCC
	April 29	May 13
	July 8	July 15
	Oct 7	Oct 21