

ST BARNABAS CHURCH, EMMER GREEN

Minutes of Meeting 02/2018 of the PCC held on Tuesday 24th April at 7.45pm in the Parish Centre

Present:

Members

Rev. Derek Chandler (Chair), (DC), David Howell (DH), Joyce Bedingfield (JB), Mark Burton (MB), , Felicity Chapman (FC), Richard Cunningham (RC), Susie Downer (SD), Wendy Howell (WH), Hilary Lee (HL), Sandra Rice (SR), Alison Johnson (AJ) (Caversham Park church warden), Roger Moore (RM)

Welcome and Prayers.

1. DC welcomed Hilary Lee and Alison Johnson to their first PCC meeting. DC distributed copies of the Yellow service book and asked that members turn to the inside cover and sit quietly for a moment and consider “Be still, and know that I am God” (Psalm 46 v 10) opening our hearts and mind to God before we started our deliberations.

Question for PCC

2. DC asked PCC members, working in pairs, to identify two possible answers to the question: “What is the one primary thing we need to do this year as an elected PCC?” Similar themes emerged, including:
 - Communicating effectively with church members, listening to their ideas, concerns and needs and where appropriate, providing face to face feedback.
 - Being a praying church
 - Schools, children and youth ministry
 - Creating a fresh start, not just survival, from the loss of key people

Apologies for Absence

3. Bob Abel (BA)

Minutes of meeting 04/2017.

4. The minutes of meeting 01/2018 held on Tuesday 27th February 2018 were accepted and signed.

Actions and Matters Arising

5. RM reported that the Diocesan Safeguarding Officer had replied to queries on the application of safeguarding and copies of his response had been sent to PCC members. PCC agreed to follow the recommendations. DH reported that action was in hand to implement the safeguarding policy.

Health and Safety

6. Nothing to report

Children's Church

7. DC invited PCC members to think about their feelings with regard to Children's church. HL commented on the importance of thinking of families and not just children in isolation. HL also described how in some churches children attend the beginning of the service. DC suggested it was important for PCC members to get to know the leaders of the Children's church, Busybees and COGS.
8. DC asked again for pairs to consider the questions: "to whom should we speak?" and "to whom should we listen?" The responses included:
 - children's church leaders
 - families
 - other churches
 - families that have left the churchDC agreed to start the conversations. HL agreed to contact other churches to identify their experience. **Action: DC & HL**

Giving

9. Richard Cunningham agreed to take over from Bill Harper the responsibilities associated with Giving, this was unanimously endorsed by the PCC.
10. The PCC proposed to invite Bill Harper to address the congregation to explain the "Giving Scheme" which the PCC agreed to adopt at its last meeting.
Action RC

General Data Protection Regulations

11. RM reported on progress. PCC agreed unanimously the Consent form, Data Privacy Notice and Statement of Principles. RM to get consent forms printed for completion. AJ to update St Barnabas website to allow online consents.
Actions RM & AJ

Updated Roles and Responsibilities

12. RC agreed to take over from Richard Gash the responsibilities of the Electoral Roll officer this was agreed unanimously.

Finance

13. It was noted that a Finance Report had been circulated to the PCC. RM stated he had received a letter from Ian McKinlay confirming his agreement to be the independent examiner for the 2018 accounts.
14. The following proposal by Wendy Howell was discussed and accepted unanimously:
"St. Barnabas has for many years supported its chosen charities with its fundraising events. The Handyman Sale in May, and Christmas Fair in December were well established when I joined the church in 1996. The Garden Party held in July, was introduced some 3 or so years later by myself & Julie Kent. Once the Parish Centre Project was launched, it was decided that the proceeds from the Garden Party should no longer go to the charities but to the Parish Centre Fund instead. Subsequently, the proceeds went to the Quiet Garden Project and finally the Organ Fund. I would like to ask the approval of the PCC that, as in the past, the proceeds of the Garden Party should be used,

wherever possible, for charitable purposes or for specific projects which the PCC approve”.

15. The issue of giving presents to departing members of the congregation was discussed. As a charity it was suggested it would not be appropriate to give money. A gift that wasnt too expensive, possibly, but not necessarily, related to the church, would seem to be appropriate. [Sec Note: Because no definitive overall policy position was established for all circumstances should the subject be discussed in the first instance by the Standing Committee and brought back to PCC for decision]

Annual Meeting and Service - feedback

16. Concerns were raised by church members and were also identified when the Service of the Word group reviewed the APCM.
17. One of the key aims of the integrated approach was to maximise the engagement with church members. In the past, meetings in the evening or after the morning service have been poorly attended.
18. Overall, the PCC felt that the APCM was a success but that arrangements would have been improved if:
 - the papers/reports had been issued earlier to allow those interested to read and digest the contents;
 - more time had been allowed for questions and answers, this could have been achieved in part, by doing away with the third and final short talk;
 - more information was presented as bullet points on the screen
19. There was a strong feeling that integrating the meeting into the worship brought together all aspects of our Christian life. The prayers for those elected to and taking on roles in the running of the church and its ministry were considered to be a powerful endorsement. Asking members to stand, highlighted literally those who were taking on the tasks.
20. Following the discussion, the PCC decided to repeat the experiment next year with inclusion of the changes which will reflect the concerns. It was also agreed that RM would take part in the planning team next year with the aim of improving the administrative arrangements.

Any Other Business

21. No business identified before the meeting. DC closed the meeting highlighting three words which had for him emerged from the discussion: listen, pray and engage. These three words underpinned by encouraging leadership point the way ahead.

Future Meetings

26th June 2018

11th Sep 2018

20th Nov 2018

PCC 02-2018