

ST BARNABAS CHURCH, EMMER GREEN, READING

Minutes of Meeting 01/2022 of the PCC held on Tuesday 11th January at 7.30pm by Zoom

1. Present

David Howell (Chair)(Churchwarden) (DH), Wendy Howell (Asst Churchwarden) (WH), Bob Abel (BA), Mark Burton (MB), Felicity Chapman (FC), Irene Lindsay (IL), Noel Drury (ND), Richard Cunningham (RC), Roger Moore (RM) (PCC Secretary)

2. In Attendance

Joy Abel (JA) (Asst Churchwarden) for item AOB Microphone

3. Opening Remarks, Welcome and Prayers

DH opened the meeting updating members on the welfare of church members and a prayer for all those suffering from Covid and other illnesses.

4. Apologies for Absence

Susie Downer had tendered her apologies.

5. Approval of Minutes 05/2021

The minutes updated to reflect the changes to Item 11 Authorized Preacher were approved unanimously and signed by RM on behalf of DH.

6. Actions and Matters Arising

DH reported that he had investigated the potentially unstable sound desk and determined there was no problem.

7. Health and Safety

Nothing to report.

8. Safeguarding

Joy Abel had provided the Secretary with a report. "There is one current ongoing situation. This is being monitored as there is no further action to be taken at present. This follows discussion with the Diocesan Safeguarding Team (as previously mentioned)."

9. Finance

BA reported that he was currently drafting the end of year financial report and hoped to have it ready for consideration at the next PCC meeting in February.

10. Feed Back on Q & A with Liz Jackson Assoc Archdeacon

DH invited members to give their views of the session following the service on Sunday 9th January. Members' reflections centred on a small number of issues and feelings. It was felt that the Archdeacon was not sufficiently prepared, and that the session produced more confusion than clarity. Some members were themselves confused about the issue of Caversham Park and were disappointed that she had failed to explain why resolving the problem caused by the Church of England withdrawing from Caversham Park LEP was so important. There were feelings of depression and the lack of a strong message about the future. Members remarked that although consultation was mentioned it seemed that a decision had already been made to merge St Barnabas with Caversham Park Parish. Because it was unclear how things would be taken forward MB outlined the official process.

DH concluded the discussion accepting an action to get in touch with Rhodri Bowen to move forward with those things which were in our hands for example starting to draft the Parish Profile and engaging with the congregation on the type of church they wanted in the future. **Action DH**

11. Queen's Platinum Jubilee Celebrations

DH invited members to put forward ideas how St Barnabas could celebrate this occasion. Suggestions included: picnics, a musical event, either preceding or after the long weekend, offering St Barnabas as a venue for others to use, partnering with other organizations. DH accepted an action to contact local groups. **Action DH**

12. Easter Services

See details at Annex A.

13. APCM

RM reminded members that contributions to the Annual Report were needed by the end of the month.

DH agreed to stand again as Churchwarden and BA said he would like to stand down as Treasurer but would reluctantly continue until a replacement could be found. He suggested splitting the job into Hall and Church would lessen the load.

RM agreed to continue as Secretary.

It was recognized that there was a need to communicate the importance of the PCC and church offices and seek volunteers.

14. AOB

Hiring the Church. RM proposed that the church should be available for hire. The particular event he had in mind was a concert of young violinists. The PCC accepted the proposal subject to the following conditions:

- BA would recommend a suitable hiring rate
- Each hire would be at the discretion of the PCC or Standing Committee
- A set of conditions of hire would be produced – Action RM

Microphone and Loop. Joy Abel outlined her concerns about the functioning of the sound system and wondered if a better microphone could be bought. MB explained the issues associated with Zoom. Members also described apparent problems with the loop system. MB agreed to check the loop system. **Action MB**

DH asked the communications team to investigate if a better microphone would be beneficial and also if improvements could be made with the use of Zoom.

An Evening with Bishop Steven. MB explained that Bishop Steven would be visiting Reading in March and that there was an opportunity for PCC members to be part of an evening event. MB would keep members informed of the details.

15. Dates of Future Meetings:

PCC: Tuesday 14th Dec proposed dates 11th Jan, 15th Feb, 8th Mar, 3rd April AGM

Annex A

Ministry Team meeting (Zoom)

10th January 2022

Att: David Howell (DH & Chair), Mark Burton (MB), John Volland (JV), Noel Drury (ND)

Meeting started with prayer "Thanking God for his amazing power and work in our lives" (DH)

- Reflection and feedback from the Q&A session with the Ass Archdeacon was expressed with disappointment and negativity.
- Review for the services throughout the Christmas period were overwhelmingly positive.
- Future Services
 - SOW 16th January – Action: DH & ND to agree Hymns and inform Felicity and Mark
 - Young Families 6th February – Action DH to issue a meeting invite.
 - Ash Wednesday - To proceed with the signing of ash. No zoom
 - Mothering Sunday – Daffodils as normal Action DH to inform Wendy H
 - Lent – Actions: MB to look at the options. DH to ask what CTC are proposing. Major topic for discussion at the next meeting

- Palm Sunday 10th April – Procession from the Hall via the pavement with a larger percentage of the service staged outside of the church.
- Maundy Thursday 14th April – Lay leadership Team, light meal with the emphasis and time spent in open prayer for the vacancy
- Good Friday “Reflection around the cross – 15th April - Lay leadership Team
- Easter Sunday 17th April - dawn service 5am ish (Dependent on sun rise time) Communion. Lighting of the Paschal Candle
- Easter Sunday 17th – Holy Communion
- St Lukes contaminated wafers – Action MB to respond to Anna’s email. Meeting conclusion: It’s the responsibility of the presiding clergy to dispose of wafers according to their conscience but not to be buried in the church grounds.
- Next meeting 7am to 8am 14th February

Meeting closed in prayer (JV)

