

ST BARNABAS CHURCH, EMMER GREEN, READING

Minutes of Meeting 04/2022 of the PCC held on Tuesday 5th April at 7.30pm in the Parish Centre

Present

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

Apologies

Joy Abel (Assistant Churchwarden)

Opening Remarks, Welcome and Prayers

DH opened the meeting with prayers from the Iona Abby Worship Book and the Book of Common Worship.

Approval of Minutes 03/2022

Noting the insertion of Joy Abel's name, the minutes were approved unanimously and signed by DH.

Actions and Matters Arising

There were no actions. MB commented on timescale changes.

Health and Safety.

Nothing to report.

Safeguarding

Nothing to report

Vacancy

Update on Process

DH reported that both St Barnabas PCC and Reading Deanery had now agreed to recruit an incumbent and move forward under a single parish. He said that the process would move forward to the Archdeaconry SMP committee. He stated that on the assumption they approve (which Liz Jackson (Ass Archdeacon Berkshire) felt confident they would) then it would be for the Bishop to formally lift the suspension. DH noted that this was purely a procedural matter which he thought did not affect the process to move forward with the recruitment.

Discussion of Questions

PCC members had been asked to come to the meeting armed with views on the following two questions:

- Five statements which describe how we see ourselves now as a church
- Five themes for Mission

Members presented ideas, and these were discussed. There was a good deal of unanimity over the various topics. RM agreed to take away the information he had captured and produce a first draft for discussion. See Annex A.

AOB

Christian Aid

WH addressed this topic. It was agreed that there should be a Christian Aid service and a special collection on that day. The potential to have a cake sale was also discussed.

Knife Crime Forum

DH described the recent meeting he had attended and his disappointment that there were no big business attendees. The Bishop, Matt Rodda and Ollie's parents were in attendance. DH described the innovation of "safe spaces" and reported that he had pledged St Barnabas to provide such a space.

CTC – St Barnabas Funds

BA reported that £140 provided by St Barnabas for a CTC event which was subsequently cancelled had not been returned and CTC were proposing to divert the funds to another different use. He sought PCC approval to seek a refund. This was agreed unanimously.

Thank You Letters - Giving

RC sought PCC approval to send email communications in place of postal letters. This was agreed.

Dates of Future Meetings:

PCC: Tuesday 3rd May

Annex A - PCC 04-2022

Five statements which describe how we see ourselves now as a church

We are a church which:

- values the relationships built up between its members and provides a welcome to newcomers which encourages them to become fully involved
- offers a variety of mainly traditional church services and provides a space which is comfortable for people of different traditions
- promotes a deeper understanding of the gospel message through bible study, alpha courses and children's services
- acts as a focal point for the wider community - for activities within the church's buildings, for contacts with local schools, and for support in times of sorrow
- is committed to supporting two educational charities in Africa through our fund-raising events as well as other local charities proposed by the congregation.
- Encourages active Lay leadership

Five themes for Mission

- Further growth of involvement with schools and the development of youth provision.
- Establishing the new parish and developing a presence within Caversham Park and the new housing development on the golf club site
- Growing the involvement of families and younger people whilst maintaining the ministry to the more elderly in church and at home
- Being church based but reaching out and being connected with the community visiting care homes, on-line, in the home, at work, where people are
- Improve the variety of services to include modern songs, junior choir, junior band,
- Develop the Lay team to be a strong part of the ministry