

Barnes Team Ministry  
The Parish Church of St Mary Barnes

A meeting of the PCC took place in the Ellerton Room  
On Tuesday, 26 November 2024 at 6.15pm

**MINUTES**

**PRESENT:** Peter Boyling (chair), Richard Chalker, Geoffrey Barnett, Caroline Georgiadis, Trisha Hawkins, Fouki Heller, William Heller, Michael Ross-McCall, Catherine Roe, Philip Smith

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Cheryl Cole, Helen Gibbs

**APOLOGIES:** Revd James Marston, Helen Faride, Mark Glasgow, Elisabeth Munden, Richard Nickels, Deborah Stewartby, Paul Teverson

Geoffrey opened the meeting with a prayer.

<b>1</b>	<b>Minutes</b> of the PCC meeting on 17 September and 12 October 2024 were approved with one change: on the September minutes at Kitson Hall, Small Hall (point 11) the word "tenant" is changed to "licensee".	
<b>2</b>	<b>Matters arising from minutes of last PCC meeting</b> - None	
<b>3</b>	<p><b>Mission Action Plan</b> – no comments</p> <p><b>Growing our faith</b> <i>Grow the involvement and number of children, young people and families; greater involvement in worship &amp; growth of junior choir. Enable more adults to come to Christian faith and grow in faith; annual enquirers course.</i></p> <p><b>Serving the people of Barnes</b> <i>Widen access and use church for those in particular need in Barnes. New screen, projector and AV in church; explore other improvements.</i></p> <p><b>Promoting care for God's creation</b> <i>Make progress in reducing our negative impact on the environment by achieving the Eco-Church Silver Award; implement planned improvements to Kitson Hall and the Church. Develop the environmental message in our worship and teaching.</i></p>	
<b>4</b>	<p><b>Finance – presented by MRM</b></p> <p><b><u>Management accounts at 31/10/24</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 10-month surplus excluding investment gains was £27k compared to budget surplus £12k and 2023 surplus £33k. Hall surplus was £35k versus full year budget of £20k and Friends surplus was £46k compared to full year budget of £32k, so lower surpluses for the full year were expected. With inclusion of £26k unrealised gains on investments, 2024's net surplus was £53k.</li> <li>- Liquid assets (cash, bank and deposits) reduced from £125k at 31/12/23 to £121k at 31/10/24, an increase of £28k in October reflecting receipts from Zettle/Paypal (5 months), HMRC, Fashion Show and 2025 Music Festival. The budget at 31/12/24 was £73k.</li> <li>- Liquid assets plus investments at 31/10/24 stood at £872k, up £24k since year end 2023.</li> </ul>	

**Draft Budget 2025 (including 2024 Forecast)**

- Compared to the 2024 Budget net deficit of £22k, the Forecast for 2024 was a net surplus of £19k and the draft Budget for 2025 was a net deficit of £65k.
- Principal factors causing the 2025 deficit (as compared to 2024 Forecast) were summarised in table 6 on page 3, including no investment gains and lower appeals donations, Friends surplus and Hall surplus.
- It was agreed to include an estimate for investment gains of 2.7% (£20k) being the expected growth in global GDP in 2025.
- All PCC members were requested to review the draft budget (including the detailed analysis on pages 4-8) and email comments, questions or changes to MRM as soon as possible; the Financial Advisory Group would review the draft budget at its semi-annual meeting next month and PCC members would be appraised of any suggestions or changes.
- **Further to the meeting** MRM advised that the next PCC meeting was scheduled for February 2025 and it was important to start the year with an approved budget. Therefore, the final draft Budget incorporating changes (after Standing Committee approval) would be emailed to PCC members in December for approval by email circulation.

**Stewardship Appeal update**

- Since the launch in June 2024, donations from monthly standing orders had increased by 4.8% or £5,268 for a 12-month period. Of 110 monthly standing orders, 93 were unchanged and 14 had increased.
- With some assumed one-off donations (although no bank transfers, cheques or cash were marked as stewardship-related) and annual standing order increases, the probable overall increase in donations from the appeal was 5-6%.
- A possible further stewardship appeal will be discussed at the next PCC meeting.

**Allocation of donations from 2023 Christmas Fair and cards**

- PB referred to the 1-page "Annual allocation of donations" prepared by Judy Gowing. It showed donations of £21,250 had already been paid in 2023 from other events. The PCC's approach had been to allocate funds from the Christmas Fair and cards sales to charities which received least during the year. On this basis the PCC approved donations of £1500 each to FiSH and Welcare.

PB thanked MRM for all the work he has done on the Budget.

**5** **Safeguarding** – Nicky is in the process of reviewing training and will be letting people know if any training needs to be completed. Lis will continue to contact people as DBS's come up for renewal.

**6** **Vacancy**  
- **Appointment Process** – Following the closing date for applications, there are three candidates all of whom have been shortlisted. Interviews will be held on 10 December and the

	<p>patronage board will make a decision later that day. Two candidates will visit as planned on 7 December. The third candidate is unable to attend on that day and we have suggested an alternative date of 3 December for him. The PCC and other key members of the church (including Cheryl, Jackie, Ben) will attend an informal lunch at 12.30pm as part of these visits. TH offered to help with these refreshments at the visits and also on the day of the interviews if required. WH and RN have offered to be drivers. PB will speak to the Bladens about welcoming the candidates between interviews.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Services</b> – PB thanked JM and others for giving so much of their time to conduct services at SMB. The nativity service will be simpler this year with no play. The Scouts will erect a Christmas tree on 11 Dec. JM is leading a Benedict course and will lead a Quiet Afternoon on 14 Dec. The Bishop of Southwark is no longer able to take the midnight service on Christmas Eve and we are currently looking for an alternative.</li> <li>- <b>Volunteering</b> – Volunteering is one of the key things we can work on during the interregnum. There is some work to be done in preparation for a volunteering drive and the SC suggested that we start this in the new year. Please direct any thoughts or suggestions to PB and a volunteer to steer this project would be welcome.</li> </ul>	
7	<p><b>Service Fees</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Fees for 2025</b> - The 2024 fees, including proposed 2025 fees, were circulated with the meeting agenda. These include a small increase in fees for bell ringing and minor adjustments to organist fees. Certain fees are set by the CoE and on all other fees the SC has recommended a 5% increase. A 50% discount is offered to charities. Rounding up to 5/0 sums and regular small increases were favoured (rather than less frequent larger increases). Where invoices have already been issued for periods including 2025 new prices will apply from the next invoice. On this basis rates for 2025 were approved.</li> <li>- <b>Wedding drinks receptions in church</b> – The PCC discussed whether wedding drinks receptions should be permitted in the church in light of issues experienced around clearing up and locking up. It was agreed that future requests for drinks receptions would not be approved.</li> </ul>	
8	<p><b>Fabric</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Toilets</b> – We are still waiting for a detailed estimate of costs</li> <li>- <b>Soundproofing of the Tower</b> – We have received a response to our application with questions that we will be replying to shortly.</li> <li>- <b>Yew Tree</b> – Most of the wood will be taken away to be stored. A plan will be required next year for what will be done with it.</li> </ul>	
9	<p><b>Kitson Hall</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Barnes Community Players costume store</b> – Following the last meeting notice was served on BCP requiring them to put forward plans to fireproof the costume store or vacate. They have now written to say they will vacate by April.</li> <li>- <b>Online booking system</b> – An online booking system has been successfully implemented and will save AJ a lot of time invoicing and accounting.</li> </ul>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Small hall</b> – A prospective nursery viewed the hall yesterday and seems interested. The hall is being offered from the beginning of the summer term.</li> <li>- <b>Maintenance</b> - £1k has been spent fireproofing doors and the small hall has been redecorated after being vacated by Petite Performers.</li> </ul>																	
<b>10</b>	<b>Policies</b> – The Complaints, Disciplinary and Grievance procedures will be reviewed at a future PCC meeting.																	
<b>11</b>	<p><b>Proposed PCC meeting dates 2025</b> – The following meeting dates in 2025 were accepted:</p> <table> <tr> <td><u>SC (2pm)</u></td> <td><u>PCC (6.15pm)</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Monday 20 January</td> <td>Tuesday 4 February</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Monday 17 March</td> <td>Tuesday 1 April</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Thursday 15 May – APCM</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Monday 16 June</td> <td>Tuesday 1 July</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Monday 1 September</td> <td>Tuesday 16 September</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Saturday 11 October – Away Day</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Monday 10 November</td> <td>Tuesday 25 November</td> </tr> </table>	<u>SC (2pm)</u>	<u>PCC (6.15pm)</u>	Monday 20 January	Tuesday 4 February	Monday 17 March	Tuesday 1 April		Thursday 15 May – APCM	Monday 16 June	Tuesday 1 July	Monday 1 September	Tuesday 16 September		Saturday 11 October – Away Day	Monday 10 November	Tuesday 25 November	
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<b>12</b>	<p><b>Minutes</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Minutes of the Friends meeting on 21/10/24</b> – no comments</li> <li>- <b>Minutes of the Communications Group meeting on 11/11/24</b> – Mailchimp has been used to send out the Weekly News by email since Covid. The existing account is limited to 1500 emails per month and, because we exceed that, an increasing number of people are no longer receiving the Weekly News. CC requested a small marketing budget of £21 per month to upgrade the Mailchimp account and ensure the Weekly News can continue to be sent to everyone. This was approved.</li> </ul>																	
<b>13</b>	<p><b>AOB</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Inclusive Church</b> – CC asked if we have made a donation to Inclusive Church. PB confirmed that we have been a member of Inclusive Church for a number of years. They don't have a membership fee but expect an annual donation of £5-£500+. PB recommended that we following the precedent already established. MRM will ask Pauline to confirm the amount of previous donations. PB will then approve the payment.</li> </ul>	<b>MRM</b> <b>PB</b>																

The meeting closed with the Grace at 8.10pm.

**Future dates:**

SC (2pm)

Monday 20 January

Monday 17 March

Monday 16 June

Monday 1 September

Monday 10 November

PCC (6:15pm)

Tuesday 4 February

Tuesday 1 April

Thursday 15 May – APCM

Tuesday 1 July

Tuesday 16 September

Saturday 11 October – Away Day

Tuesday 25 November

*[Handwritten signature]*  
 Peter Bayliff  
 Church warden  
 4/2/25