

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL,  
ST. BARNABAS CHURCH, LINSLADE, HELD ON THURSDAY,  
27<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2008, AT 8.00PM IN THE CHOIR VESTRY**

Present:	Bernard Minton	Vicki Faiers
	John Deighton	Carolyn Birch
	Nick Moore	Russell Stannard
	Pat Faulkner	Janet Miller
	Carol Oakman	Marlene Richardson
	Wyn Jones	Fran Morrow
	Ian Woodward	Sarah Woodward
	Simon Soper	Miranda Soper
	Maureen Gadsby	Bruce Benedickter
	Vernon Smith	David Throssell

Apologies: None

Fr Bernard opened the meeting with prayers. The minutes of the meeting of 25<sup>th</sup> September were approved. Proposed by John, seconded by Carol. All agreed.

**Matters arising:**

- 7/08 Child protection** – Carolyn has offered to be the Child Protection Officer. She has been in contact with the CPOs at All Saints and St Leonards and is drafting a policy for St Barnabas to adopt. Fr Bernard proposed and Sarah seconded that Carolyn be the CPO for St Barnabas. All agreed.
- 10/08 Stewardship Report** –The Vision for Giving Sunday was held as planned. Russell was thanked for the amount of work that he had done and for the way he had conducted the appeal.
- 18/08 a) Back of church** – John Hardern agreed to look at the back of the church. He has already visited and we wait his report. Fran thinks there were some earlier plans drawn up when Colin Mattock was here – it may be of interest to find them and compare with what is now suggested.
- 19/08 Hall funding** – One intermittent user is making a gift aided donation for the use of the car park. The reserved parking does not apply to Sundays and Nick has put a note in Cross and Crown to explain this. Other people need to be approached to take up the offer of parking. The proceeds of two future concerts are to go to the Hall fund. Dave Darvill has reported an increased use of the hall and Vernon is now separating the

income and expenditure for the hall so it is easier to see how the Hall Community Project is doing. Some suggestions were made for future fundraising and there is a case for considering holding a regular social event.

New items for this meeting:

Items for AOB – there were 3 items to be considered.

### **23/08 Vicar's remarks**

Fr Bernard said that all appears to be going well! We have received a letter from the Reverend Canon Malcolm Grant, Rural Dean, congratulating us on not just paying our Parish Share in full but paying it early – a creditable achievement.

### **24/08 Treasurer's report**

Vernon distributed a balance sheet correct to 23<sup>rd</sup> November. The position is looking reasonably good but we need to remember that our Parish Share will be about £8,000 more next year, plus the expected increase in utility bills. Planned giving has increased by about 20%, which is a significant amount in view of the present climate. Marlene felt that the increase is a direct result of the positive message from Russell and it would be useful for the congregation to see the chart that shows the range of giving. Russell thought that the chart should be accompanied with a thank you to those who have responded to his appeal and they might like to see how their giving compares with others. John felt we should all be trying to reduce our overheads, especially with utilities. Dave Darvill will be asked to remind all hall users to turn off lights etc. Vernon was thanked for a full report.

### **25/08 Hire charges for 2009 for Church and Hall**

Standing committee has suggested that the hire charge for the church be £10 per hour with a minimum of £50 without heating or £15 per hour with heating, with a minimum of £75. Fr Bernard proposed this, seconded by Sarah. All agreed. Hall bookings will be at least £8 per hour.

### **26/08 Dates for 2009**

Fr Bernard had distributed a list of proposed dates for 2009 and invited PCC to add to it. Several additions were made and Fr Bernard will produce an updated list. John asked that a list of weddings be available for those who need it, like flower arrangers, choir etc. Fr Bernard will investigate.

Action: Fr Bernard

### **27/08 Report from Churches Together**

Pat Faulkner is now accompanying Wyn to these meetings. The AGM was held on 8<sup>th</sup> October but the minutes have not yet been distributed. The

chairman this year is Rev Peter Dudeney and the next meeting is on 7<sup>th</sup> January.

### **28/08 Standing Committee report**

- a) Ref 18/08 b and c – Nick will apply for faculties for these proposals. John reminded us that there is a new, more favourable, quote of £5,000-£6,000 for the repairs to the stonework at St Mary's. The work needs doing. Fr Bernard proposed and Marlene seconded that we accept this quote and get the work done. All agreed.
- b) Standing Committee made the decision to increase the cost of the Parish magazine to an annual subscription of £5 and the cover cost of 60p per copy. This was the first increase since 1992! The question of the advertising is being addressed.
- c) Standing Committee formally approved the appointment of Michael Dales to be the architect to carry out the Quinquennial inspections at St Barnabas. He will make the inspection next Thursday, 4<sup>th</sup> December.
- d) The pump and thermostat on the church boiler needed replacing at a cost of £829. It is an old boiler but is still working well and it is not suggested that it be replaced yet.
- e) Nick consulted the Ecclesiastical Insurers about regularity required for the testing of the lightening conductors at St Barnabas and St Mary's. A simple system like ours needs checking about every 18 months to 2 years. St Mary's was checked last year and St Barnabas needs doing now.
- f) A child had run into the link doors and hurt his face. Mike Finney is to arrange for some clear Celtic crosses to be put on the doors to make them more visible.

### **29/08 Any other business**

- a) Mike Finney has been accepted for training as a Lay Reader. Fr Bernard proposed that PCC support him in this. All agreed. John proposed, seconded by Maureen, that we also support him financially. All agreed.
- b) The Christmas Fair was a great success, with a lovely atmosphere, raising more than £2,000, and the Fair committee thanked everyone who helped. A further £75 was raised from items from "bric-a-brac" sold on e-bay. Nick proposed a vote of thanks to the Fair committee for all their hard work.
- c) The Sunday school has asked to use the committee room on a Sunday morning instead of the main hall. This was agreed. It was noted that the other small room needs tidying.

The next full PCC meeting will be on Thursday, 29<sup>th</sup> January 2009.

The meeting concluded with The Grace at 9.40 pm.