

## **ST BARNABAS CHURCH, EMMER GREEN**

Minutes of Meeting 02-2019 of the PCC held on Tuesday 30th April at 7.45pm in the Parish Centre

### **Present**

1. Rev. Derek Chandler (Chair), (DC), Yvonne Morris (Diocesan Children's Adviser), Bob Abel (BA) (Treasurer); Mark Burton (MB), Felicity Chapman (FC), Richard Cunningham (RC), Susie Downer (SD), David Howell (DH) (Church Warden); Wendy Howell (WH), Sandra Rice (Church Warden) Alison Johnson (AJ) ( Caversham Park Church church warden), Michael Andrews (Caversham Park Church church warden ), Roger Moore (RM)

### **Welcome and Prayers.**

2. DC welcomed Yvonne Morris to St Barnabas and also Michael Andrews who was attending PCC for the first time. DH opened the meeting with a prayer and a contemplation using a radio recording with music and a reading from Matthew at its core.

### **Apologies for Absence**

3. None.

### **Minutes of meeting 04 -2018**

4. The minutes of meeting 01/2019 held on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> Feb 2019 were accepted and signed.

### **Actions and Matters Arising**

5. Website – A progress report had been circulated to PCC members.
6. 3<sup>rd</sup> Space – DH reported that a grant request had been submitted to the Deanery. AJ noted that it would be considered in the coming week.

### **Health and Safety**

7. Nothing to report

### **Safeguarding**

8. DH reported that:
  - DBS Checks required:
  - Children's Church - Bene & Hazel
  - Busybees - Wendy Moore, Jane Warren & Maria Perona (Renewal)
  - Training required:

- All Children's Church and Busybees - C0 & C1
- Leaders for above Marianna & Debbie – C2
- Additional training
- Sandra C2
- All PCC members – C0
- C3 Training Complete in April - David, Mark and Derek

### **Review of Financial Controls – Paper 1**

9. BA advised that to meet the requirements of the Charity Commission there was a need to have in place and to have formally reviewed financial controls. PCC approved unanimously the controls set out in Paper 1.

### **Energy Audit – Paper 2**

10. DH reported that the energy audit had been completed. He suggested priority be given to the recommendation to lag pipes in the boiler room because they were also a health and safety hazard. PCC agreed unanimously.
11. SD raised the suggestion of work on the main doors. DH noted that St Barnabas was in good shape and he wouldn't recommend taking forward any of the other recommendations.

### **Discussion Children and Families – Paper 4**

12. Yvonne Morris explained that there was no ‘magic bullet’ to solve a church’s children and families issues. This evening would be the start of a conversation.
13. Yvonne outlined some ideas from an American author John Roberto who suggested that a church should be part of a faith forming eco-system. And like any system, to function well parts should be interconnected, integrated, interrelated, communicating and responding.
14. At the centre of Roberto’s work is the idea of “Life Long Faith Formation for All Generations” and the importance of intergenerational learning where appropriate.
15. Discussion highlighted various groups that exist, such as Mens Breakfast, Women who Lunch, Craft, Lunch club which are all, to a large extent, of a single generation and often a single gender. At the moment there are few intergenerational groupings.
16. Yvonne suggested that parents are the most important factor and influence on children and how Christian parents are nurtured is critical. But children will pull parents and influence parents.
17. Yvonne underlined the importance of giving younger people a role to enable constructive involvement in the life of the church. She also stressed that the digital world was a world of the young and one that we cannot easily enter.
18. DH noted that the discussion had raised many questions which he would need to follow up. Yvonne said she would gladly respond to queries and would happily return at some late date.
19. DC thanked Yvonne on behalf of the PCC for a thought provoking talk.

### **Area Dean – Paper 3**

20. DC asked AJ and MB to outline the issues associated with this topic. AJ rehearsed the arguments about the size of the Reading Deanery and the future expansion of housing in Reading. MB explained that although not yet quantifiable the move to a full time Area Dean would have financial implications.
21. WH asked what the Area Dean actually did for individual churches and in particular St Barnabas. MB explained the role during interregnums. RM explained the role of the Rural (Area) Dean during the interregnum at Caversham Park Church.
22. RM was of the opinion that increased resource was probably needed given the size of the Reading Deanery but a full time Area Dean may not be the correct solution.
23. DC invited members to provide their thoughts to RM who would construct a response and circulate to PCC members for comment and agreement. Action: PCC members and RM

### **Any Other Business**

24. Response Pastor. DH reported that he intended to train as a Response Pastor, a role similar to a street pastor but linked to major tragic events such as a terrorist attack or a natural disaster where responders and others affected need support. DH recognised this might have an effect on his duties at St Barnabas and wanted PCC to understand and hopefully support this role. PCC gave unanimous and heart felt support.
25. Vicar's Discretionary Fund. BA requested PCC endorsement to topping up the fund to £500 following a recent payment of £350. PCC unanimously agreed

### **Future Meetings**

26. 2<sup>nd</sup> July; 10<sup>th</sup> Sep; 19<sup>th</sup> Nov