

# Benefice of BCMU: *Church Management PCC Meeting - Zoom*

*A Community of Spiritual Disciples Leading our Benefice through Worshipful Working*

## Minutes

**Date:** Monday 19 April 2021

**Time:** 7:30pm

**Venue:** Zoom

## Present:

Roles	St Andrew	St Bartholomew	St Michael	Co-opted
<b>Priest</b>	Simon Lewis ✓			
<b>Reader</b>	Gene Joyner Apol.			
<b>Churchwarden</b>	Margaret Speirs ✓	Judith Longhurst ✓	Kate ReynoldsApol	
<b>Churchwarden</b>		Diana Coles ✓	J. Reynolds ✓	
<b>Deanery Synod</b>	Penny Crawford ✓	Nigel Crocker ✓	Jean Lockett ✓	
<b>Deanery Synod</b>	Helen Barnes ✓	Helen Fenn ✓		
<b>Elected</b>	Ben Wiggins (8pm)	Muriel Cole ✓	Gill Durbin (8:15)	
<b>Elected</b>	Lynsey Hatherall	Gerald Coles ✓	Lucy Hemsley ✓	
<b>Elected</b>		Charlie Fenn ✓	John Allen Apol	
<b>Notetaker</b>				Laura Williams ✓
<b>Secretary</b>			Sue Owst ✓	vacancy
<b>Treasurer</b>				vacancy
<b>Total PCC</b>	<b>4 + SL</b>	<b>7 + SL</b>	<b>5 + SL</b>	
<b>Majority</b>	Y	Y	Y	
<b>Quorum (1/3)</b>	Y	Y	Y	
<b>Total at Meeting</b>	<b>17 + LW</b>			
<b>Quorum</b>	Y	Y	Y	

**7.30pm: The Chair Welcomed all to the meeting and declared all three PCCs quorate.**

**3. Communication and Correspondence - none**

**4. Approval of past Minutes (One Church meeting March) - Passed unanimously**

**5. Matters arising - none**

**6. Progress updates from last meeting - none**

**We Dwelled in God's Word**

**SL**

- *Lectio Divina*: Colossians 3:12-17
- Member were drawn to the phrase 'beloved' and reminded each other that when worldly concerns become overwhelming we should remember that we are beloved of God

**7:50pm: Discussion Agenda - One Church**

**Chair**

**7. a) The First Mark of a Healthy Church**

**HF**

**Helen Fenn** gave us a presentation on the Mark 1 and Mark 2 of The Healthy Church, asking us to 'engage, explore and experience', Listening to God and to one another. The PCCs had already been sent material from Robert Warren and read about the process which we will be using during our move to a single parish and beyond.

Helen asked us to think about the word healthy: We said

Balanced    alive    holistic    secure    hopeful    confident

Living in the present    looking to the future    growing    engaging    lively

Fit for purpose    finding positives    engaging    looking after    energized

Then we were asked to think more specifically about what a healthy church would be like: We said

Generous    a model for society    well taught    open to teaching

Prayerful    sharing    letting the light shine through    open to teaching

Inclusive    serving    outward-looking    valuing    God at the centre

We agreed that a sense of wholeness, balance and harmony were important, because God makes us whole.

**Mark 1 - Energised by Faith**

A healthy church should have a sense of excitement. We grow by being challenged. It is about living your life prayerfully and nurturing your faith and sacramental life and enabling others to engage with God.

**Mark 2 - Outward-Looking Focus**

We thought about:    Justice    peace    our community    faith in daily living

Doing things that show you care    forging relationships

seeing Christ in other people, whether they attend worship or not

Helen discussed how we should be open to outsiders and prepared to receive. When we fight for survival it can be easy to turn inwards, We need the confidence to turn outwards and remember that people volunteer where they see a need. Loving service is contagious and we should be offering people the opportunity to do more, forming partnerships with other denominations and community groups

Helen drew the discussion to a close asking us to 'read, reflect and pray'. We hope to have an event in late June or July when we can gather people together to discuss our journey towards being a healthy church.

## **b) A new name for our parish**

**NC**

**Nigel Crocker** had previously received suggestions for the new name for our One Parish and PCC members debated the strengths and merits as well as negatives of particular choices. It was a lively discussion which helped us to focus on the ideas we did want to include and rule out some suggestions, but no firm favourite emerged and it was decided to ask members to vote on the names most-favoured via an email to be sent out later in the week and to debate this further at a separate meeting if necessary.

## **8. Consent Agenda**

As no decision about the new name for the Parish was reached, no resolution could be passed and an extraordinary meeting was scheduled (Monday 26th April 2021)

**Members of the current PCCs were asked if they would continue to serve for another year, particularly during our journey to become One Parish.**

**Individual PCCs (as break-out groups via Zoom, not reconvening with the main group due to the differing lengths of agendas)**

## **Minutes of St. Bartholomew's Parochial Church Council Meeting Monday 19th April 2021 - minutes taken by Charlie Fenn**

**Present:** Judith Longhurst (JL, Church Warden), Diana Coles (DC, Church Warden), Gerald Coles (GC, elected member), Charles Fenn (CF, electoral roll officer), Helen Fenn (HF, Deanery Synod), Nigel Crocker (NC, Fabric, Deanery Synod).

**Apologies:** Muriel Cole.

**CC:** Simon Lewis (SL, Rector), Laura Williams (LW, Benefice Administrator).

### **1) In advance of the agenda items**

Phil Collins has requested a report from the PCC for the Annual Parish Council Meeting on 6th May. The consensus was that this should mainly be a summary of PCC finances.

**ACTION:** JL offered to provide something.

### **2) Finance and fundraising**

- a. DC confirmed that the 2020 accounts had been updated with the two changes requested by the auditor and Chris Balls has now certified the accounts. JL proposed that the audited accounts be accepted. Seconded by GC. Approved.
- b. The current account value of £8,575 on 31st March does not reflect:

- i. an expected credit of circa £2,000 gift aid tax rebate from last year
  - ii. an expected debit of circa £600 for outstanding parish contribution towards benefice expenses.
  - iii. a debit of £3,600 parish share contributions (£1,200 pcm for Feb, Mar, April).
- c. JL shared the analysis that the £8,575 total was up about £3,800 on what it might have been without recent donations prompted by the appeal to the village and regular givers. This includes:
- i. some increases in the commitments from existing regular givers
  - ii. one new regular giver
  - iii. ten one-off donations

JL confirmed that there were more new givers who have indicated that they are planning to make donations shortly.

The PCC had agreed a 'parish share holiday' for Feb, Mar and April. It is therefore necessary to give the diocese an update on our intentions for May onwards.

- iv. CF suggested that we now have enough money to restart payments at half of their previous rate (ie £600 pcm), with a view to returning to full payments and making up the shortfall once sufficient additional donations were received.
  - v. JL said that in the immediate term we should (try to) conform with whatever Simon Lewis has agreed with the diocese on behalf of the benefice, and that the PCC should reconvene in May to review the financial position then. Agreed.
- ACTION:** Church Wardens to discuss with Simon when/how to restart parish share contributions.
- ACTION:** St. Barts Extraordinary PCC meeting scheduled for Monday 7th June to review financial position.
- d. JL explained that the PCC gave annual charitable contributions made up from two sources:
- i. Money donated at specific events (eg Msoro donations from Harvest Festival, Children's society donations from Christingle).
  - ii. A percentage of regular donations.

If we exclude the money raised at specific events (because there were none in 2020) we would typically give circa £300 as a tithe of other income.

**ACTION:** the decision on whether, and if so to whom, we should donate £300 was carried forward to the 7th June meeting.

### 3) Fabric

- a. NC thanked Jonathan and Judith for removing the Jackdaw's nest from the church porch and assured the meeting that although it looks like Jackdaws are also nesting within the tower he can confirm that the wire meshing is still intact and keeping them at bay.
  - b. NC has consulted with Ian Morgan about the damp in the toilet and proposes to purchase (and donate) some Johnstone's Speciality paint to cover damp. (Once available CF would be happy to apply this).
  - c. NC would like to thank everyone who turned up for the Churchyard tidy-up working party. There was enthusiasm to turn this into a regular (3rd Saturday of every month) event, with the next one scheduled for Saturday 15th May.
- ACTION:** Churchwardens to kindly publicise this as previously
- d. NC has thanked Peter Hardy for enabling the gate into the churchyard (from the glebe road) to open fully. The gate should no longer need to be removed from its hinges every time the grass is mown.

**Upcoming Dates:**

Monday 17th May - APCM

Monday 7th June - Extraordinary finance PCC meeting