

## Barcombe Parochial Church Council

### Minutes of the Vestry and Annual Parochial Church Meeting (2008) Wednesday, 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2009, The Conker Room, St Mary's Church, Barcombe

#### **7.30pm – Vestry Meeting**

The Rector opened the meeting with a Bible reading (Ephesians 3 v 10-21) and a prayer, followed by hymn no. 407, "O Breath of Life".

The Rector welcomed Mrs Kate Tiffin and thanked her for taking minutes of this meeting.

Mrs Heather Shepherd agreed to be nominated as Churchwarden (in replacement of Mr Eb Cottingham, who was standing down) and Mr Andrew Lamont agreed to continue in this role. There were no other nominations, so Mrs Shepherd and Mr Lamont were duly elected as Churchwardens for the forthcoming year.

A vote of thanks was proposed by Robin Moore and seconded by the Rector, to Eb Cottingham, who has worked tirelessly in his role as Churchwarden for the last seven years, going beyond the call of duty on many occasions. A card signed by many members of the Church family was given to Eb to express our gratitude for all he has done.

#### **Annual Parochial Church Meeting**

Present: Rev'd James Hollingsworth, Mr Lamont, Mr Cottingham, Mrs Shepherd and 21 others.

1. It was confirmed that the notice convening the meeting had been displayed for two Sundays prior to the meeting.
2. **Apologies for absence** were received from Mr and Mrs Sherman, Mr W Hope, Mrs P Moore, Mrs C Culme-Seymour, Mr and Mrs Simpson, Mr I Pounce, Mr P Frost, Mr and Mrs Williams, Mr N Lear, Mr and Mrs Rice and Mrs R Brown.
3. **Adoption of minutes** for meeting held on 30<sup>th</sup> April 2008: These were read, agreed and signed by the Rector as a correct record of the meeting.
- 3a. **Matters arising:** Last years' Rectors Report made mention of the Church funding summer camps for our young people. Had anything come of this? The Rector replied that only two young people had expressed an interest in attending the Soul Survivor Youth Camp, but that the Scripture Union Camp to be held at Cumnor House School was a possibility that he would investigate.
4. **Annual Report.** This report is attached to the accounts, and comments upon what has happened in the Church over the last year. It has been available for perusal by Church members for the last 14 days. The only question raised was

one regarding the intention to become a “teenage friendly Church”, which the Rector answered comprehensively.

5. **Presentation and adoption of accounts** for year ended 31.12.08. The Treasurer summarised the accounts, which form part of the Annual Report. A surplus of £3,686 was recorded on the General Fund, despite a downward re-evaluation of our investment assets. Across all funds, the PCC’s assets rose by £569. Income from Planned Giving rose by almost 10%, we received donations of £7,187 and a legacy of £1,806. The largest expenditure of the PCC was £45,600 paid to the Chichester Diocese for the cost of provision of ministry. Grants of £7,621 were made under Mission Giving. A new copier and book finisher was purchased at a cost of £6,274, so as to bring the production of the Barcombe News totally “in house”. This should bring significant savings, with the capital cost being balanced over the next 3-5 years. At 31.12.08, the PCC’s total assets were £170,439.

The Treasurer wished to thank Steve Brentnall, our Management Accountant, for all his help and guidance. Also, Elaine Matthias, Robin Newell, Andrew Lamont and all members of the Finance Committee for their help with various tasks. They are much appreciated.

Finally, the Treasurer announced that he would be stepping down from his position forthwith, and urged us all to give his successor the support he has enjoyed.

A vote of thanks to the Treasurer for all his hard work, was proposed by Mr Lamont and endorsed by all present. Mr Ian Pounce will stand to be elected as the next treasurer at the next PCC meeting.

6. **Appointment of independent examiner.** It was proposed by Mr G Tomsett and seconded by Mr A Lamont that we appoint Independent Examiners of Walberton, West Sussex to be our independent examiners for the forthcoming year. This was agreed by all present.
7. **Electoral roll report.** The electoral roll officer, Mrs G Macadam, had reported that there are now 104 names on the Electoral Roll, 80 Resident and 24 non-resident. We lost one member and gained 8.
8. **Election of members to PCC.** The following people, having been proposed and seconded, having their names on the Electoral Roll and having given their consent were duly elected to serve on the PCC;  
Robert Anscombe, Peter Frost, Eb Cottingham, Alan Cannings, Graham Tomsett and Anthony Cross.
9. **Election of 2 members to Deanery Synod.** Mr M Richards and Mrs C Mitchell are presently in mid-term of their appointment to this position, so no further election was required.
10. **Appointment of Sidesmen.** The Rector read the list of nominees, all of which, having been proposed and seconded and having given their consent, were duly appointed for the coming year.  
Mr J Brown, Mrs S Richards, Mr W Hope, Mr M Richards, Ms P Lawson, Mrs D East, Mr N Hill, Mr C Williams, Mrs R Williams, Mrs H Lear, Mr R

Anscombe, Mrs C Anscombe, Mrs P Clarkson, Mrs J Turnbull, Mr M Skinner, Mr J Simpson, Mrs G Warren, Mr G Trower, Mr C Lear, Mrs L Hollingsworth and Mr R Clutton.

11. **Churchwarden's report.** This report had been available for perusal over the last two weeks. The only point raised was from Robin Moore from the SUCCESS group, who promised that his group would work closely with the Churchwardens with the aim of making St Mary's less dependent on oil.
12. **Questions and comments on other reports.** Reports from the following groups and committees have been available for perusal; TGIF, Holiday Club, Club 7+, Bellringers, Thursday Group, Sunday Kids' Stuff, Buildings, Caring & Sharing, Deanery Synod, Homelink, SUCCESS project, Mission Committee, Family Support Work and Mothers' Union. Jill Macadam will be stepping down as organiser of Club 7+ at the end of the current term (Summer 2009). We pray that a worthy and equally energetic successor can be found to continue her work. Patricia Hill is also stepping down from her role on the Mission Committee. She was thanked for her many years of tireless service and enthusiastic involvement.
13. **Future meetings of PCC.** The only date set a present is the next meeting, which will be held on 18<sup>th</sup> May 2009. Other dates will be e-mailed to PCC members. The next APCM will be on Wednesday, 21<sup>st</sup> April 2010.
14. **Any other business.** The Rector thanked the musicians for their enthusiastic performances and Alan Cannings for his operation of the sound system in St Mary's over the past year.
15. **Notices and forthcoming events.**
  - a. Saturday, 25<sup>th</sup> April 2009, Bible and Ecology meeting in the Conker Room. 10.30 – 1pm.
  - b. Bible by the Beach event – tickets can now be purchased on a daily basis.
  - c. The Bishop's wife's breakfast meeting, 8.30am 16<sup>th</sup> May – “Coping with Pre-Teens” – open to all Mums and Grandmas.
  - d. St Mary's spring clean, 9<sup>th</sup> May, 9am – 12 noon. All welcome.
  - e. Djembe drumming workshop and praise. 31<sup>st</sup> May, 3pm. Free.
16. **Closing prayers.** The Rector closed the meeting with a prayer followed by Hymn 54, “Brother, sister Let Me Serve You”. The Grace was said.