The Parish Church of Swanmore, Saint Barnabas

**Annual Meetings**

To be held at 7pm on Wednesday 28th October 2020 via zoom

Meeting ID: 896 1308 5287
Passcode: 067339

**Annual Meeting of Parishioners**

**Agenda**

1 To accept apologies for absence

2 To agree the minutes of the Annual Meeting of Parishioners held on 10th April 2019

3 To elect two Churchwardens to serve until the Annual Meeting of Parishoners 2021.

**Annual Parochial Church Meeting**

**Agenda**

1 To agree the minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting held on 10th April 2019

2 To receive Reports:

 2.1 The Parish Church Electoral Roll

* 1. The Annual Report of the Parochial Church Council
1. The Independently Examined Financial Statements of the PCC for year ended 31 Dec 2019.
2. The Fabric, Goods and Ornaments of the Church report

5 The proceedings of Bishop’s Waltham Deanery Synod

6 To elect representatives of the laity to serve

on the PCC: 4 representatives

on the Deanery Synod:  2 representatives for a term of three years

*The PCC has up to nine representatives, and Deanery Synod two representatives, of the laity elected from amongst those eligible on the Electoral Roll.  They may complete a maximum of two terms of office that is six years continuous service.  Where a representative of the laity resigns or otherwise fails to serve the full term of office, the casual vacancy shall be filled for the remainder of that term of office.*

7 To appoint Sidespersons from those whose names are on the Electoral Roll.

8 To appoint an External Examiner for the financial statements of the PCC for 2019.

9 To take note of other reports and discuss any questions or matters arising therefrom.

 *Reports have been on available since17th October*

The Parish Church of St Barnabas, Swanmore

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Parishioners** & **Annual Parochial Church Meeting**

**held on 10th April 2019 in the Paterson Centre**

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE PARISHIONERS**

Rev Claire Towns chaired the meeting.

1 Apologies for Absence were received from 12 people whose names are recorded separately.

2 Minutes of the Meeting of Parishioners 2018 had been available prior to the meeting and were available at the meeting. Peter Boraston proposed that they be accepted as an accurate record of the meeting and Vicky Cronin seconded. This was approved.

3 Election of Churchwardens. Andrew Wilkinson and Bill Jones were thanked for their service over the last year. They are happy to stand again. No further nominations were received.

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING**

1 Derrinda Laing proposed that we accept them, seconded by Rick Ankers. All agreed.

2 Electoral Roll report

Jenny Sharpe reported:

During the year three new people registered and three were recorded as dying. As a result the number of people on the 2018-19 register remained unchanged at 185. However, the new register which came into effect on 27th March 2019, has 139 registered. Of these 125 were on the previous register and 14 were not on the previous register. The list of names of those on the Electoral Roll is displayed at the rear of the Church. In accordance with the wishes of the PCC the full Roll with addresses, etc. is available for PCC business but is not on public display. The Roll is updated as and when I become aware of departures, new members or changes in personal details. In order to keep the Roll up to date please let me know of any changes.

The PCC decided to produce a revised church telephone list and a request for permission to publish was included in the electoral roll application form. As a result 121 people gave permission and 18 declined.

**Questions:**

SW: a query on why some church family people were not on the electoral roll?

JS: This was because they had not completed the forms in time for the closing date in spite of reminders and encouragement! There were a few names to go on as soon as the Roll was opened again.

Revd Claire expressed her thanks to Jenny for all her work in organising the new Electoral Roll. Revd Claire commented that the new Electoral Roll number better reflected our weekly congregation, and that the news of 14 new people joining the Roll was very positive.

3 Annual Report of the PCC

Revd Claire directed those present to her annual report. The following inaccuracies were highlighted:

* Richard Green-Wilkinson had resigned as assistant Churchwarden
* John Branson’s name was omitted as assistant Churchwarden
* The Social & Fund-Raising committee was not listed under PCC teams*.*

These were altered and Andrew Wilkinson proposed that the meeting accept the report, with Peter Boraston seconding. All in favour.

4 Finances:

Andrew Wilkinson offered a revised version of the church accounts, with apologies, as Richard Green -Wilkinson had found an error.

The main points of the report are:

* Church finances were generally healthy in 2018

Income:

* During the year, there were 81 planned givers via the Parish Giving Scheme (PGS). Andrew encouraged everyone to join this. Giving via PGS brought in £40,000 with an additional £10,000 Gift Aid.
* We were fortunate to receive a large anonymous donation of £10,000 + Gift Aid
* Fund-raising efforts brought in £4,500
* Barnaby’s, surplus, fees, lettings, receipts and advertising from the Parish magazine raised £47,000 (Barnaby’s raised 50% of that total)
* Total income £119,000

  Expenditure:

* Parish share - £64,000
* Missions and charities - £4,000
* In addition, further monies were raised indirectly for Rowans Hospice through ‘Swanmore Open Gardens’ days.
* Barnaby’s raised a further £2,000 - therefore we gave £6,000 as a church to various missions

● Expenses were down in 2018 to £110,000

* Other expenses of running the church, utilities, insurance, maintenance, repairs - £14,000

● Other church activities, Parish magazine, Paterson Centre, Barnaby’s - £32k .

 We didn’t do much maintenance on the church building in 2018.

The Parish magazine continues successfully with 1500 copies, free of charge, printed ten times a year with printing costs covered by advertising.

The Paterson Centre covered its costs by hall hire in spite of installing a new dishwasher in the kitchen.

Overall, the income from Barnaby’s and the anonymous donation enabled us to end the year with a surplus of £8,500. Without these two, we would have a deficit of ~ £20,000. This year we need to increase our planned giving and continue to raise funds through various events.

Andrew commented that the accounts do not show the thousands of unpaid hours that volunteers from all parts of the church and the community give.

Andrew thanked Janet Chant & Derrinda Laing for doing the banking, John Austin for running the advertising space in the Parish Magazine, and Richard Green Wilkinson for his work as independent examiner and general advisor. Richard is happy to continue in 2019.

Andrew apologised that the accounts were not independently approved for the Annual Meetings and proposed that they be approved at the first meeting of the new PCC. This was seconded by Peter Boraston and agreed by all.

**Questions:**

*HW: under ‘other ministry costs’ - the figure seems very low for the ministry team that serves us.*

AW: This is because the Vicar claims little and infrequently.

*NW: Large sums are usually required for maintenance of property; what would the budget look like in the next 2 years?*

AW: We will need to spend considerable sums in maintenance in the next 2 years eg re-pointing of the outside wall, painting etc. There are funds set aside for the Disabled Toilet in the Link; we are awaiting detailed plans and will approach grant-making bodies then.

Revd Claire offered thanks to Andrew on behalf of all for all the work he does.

5 **Fabric & Goods Report**

Bill Jones drew attention to the Church Warden’s report in the copy of the Annual Reports prepared for the meeting. It has taken 3 years to get the churchyard into its current good state thanks to the hard work of 2 or 3 volunteers.

Carrying out essential maintenance was a PCC priority and Barnaby’s end wall required re-pointing. Bill had met recently with the Church Architect, Julian Livingstone, and after he recommended that not all needed doing, Bill was looking for lower quotes than initially thought.

Andrew Wilkinson explained that the PCC’s aim is to spend money wisely and in a timely manner. Parts of the exterior paintwork need repainting this year; we will be looking for value for money.

Revd Claire commented that the PCC have a priority list with the jobs that must be done on the fabric of the church; we also have a ‘wish list’ but PCC will ensure that high priority jobs are done first.

AW reminded all that we had a small surplus last year and a deficit is forecast this year; large sums on maintenance could eat into our reserves.

CT regarding the Disabled Toilet - good contacts have been made with Winchester planning department which is helping us to find the best solutions.

**Questions:**

*TK: the new path -will this be a grass path which becomes muddy and a slip-risk?* BJ: once the grass has had time to grow it will be better.

*JA: It was his understanding that the grass path is temporary and the Archdeacon allowed this as a temporary situation across the graveyard. He recalled that the Archdeacon had said we need a faculty?*

BJ: the Archdeacon said we don’t need a faculty as a grass path is a temporary structure compared to a stone or tarmac path.

JA: I feel the disabled would prefer a firm, stone path.

JB: we are unable to put a permanent path in unless we move some graves.

AW: when the disabled toilet is in situ, the drains will run under the current stone path which may need to be lifted. The Archdeacon is keen that the stone path is removed. *DL: Has anyone asked those with mobility problems which path they would prefer?* Some discussion about which path was preferred.

Action: Churchwardens will canvas opinion from those most affected. Further discussion about the difficulty of pushing wheelchairs and buggies on the gravel path; BJ has removed some of the gravel and this has made it easier.

*JS: has thought been given to asking volunteers to help with painting jobs?*

BJ: the exterior parts that need repainting also need remodelling, which would need professionals to do the work.

*JB: would the PCC consider publishing a list of the maintenance jobs to inform the congregation and asking for help?*

BJ agreed this would be a good idea and to do it in a visual display would be helpful. **Action BJ and the Fabric Committee.**

Revd Claire thanked Bill and Andrew for all they do as Churchwardens.

6 **Bishops Waltham Deanery Synod Report**

Janet Chant identified that she is a member of Diocesan Synod and attends Deanery Synod in that capacity. However she was not elected to Deanery Synod last year as stated in the minutes. Janet briefly explained the structure of Synods and gave a synopsis of her report.

There were no questions.

7 **Election of representatives to serve on the PCC**

There were 3 vacancies for 3 years each; 5 people had offered to stand. Each candidate had given a short ‘manifesto’ which was distributed at the start of the meeting along with voting slips. The Meeting paused at 8.30pm for refreshments during which votes were cast and then counted by Nick and Hazel Whitehead. When the meeting reconvened at 8.50pm, Revd Claire announced that after a close vote, the following were duly elected to the PCC: Allison Gurry, Dave Lee and Teresa Reynolds. Jen Frampton and John Branson were invited to take up the Deanery Synod places (Casual vacancy for 1 year) and accepted. Sally Beazley also offered to attend Deanery Synod.

Revd Claire thanked all for standing and being willing to serve.

8 **To appoint Sidespersons**

Derrinda Laing and Pat Thompson had stood down from Sidesperson duties. Vicky Cronin was added to the list. Bill and Mavis Smith asked to serve at 8am services only and Sue de Vere offered to help at 8am as well. Bobbie Branson offered to serve at 6.30pm services.

9 **To appoint an external examiner**

Andrew Wilkinson proposed that Richard Green-Wilkinson be asked to audit the accounts for the coming year; this was seconded by Peter Boraston and all approved.

10 **To take note of other reports**

The attention of all was directed to the Annual Reports which highlighted the huge activity going on in the church.

**Questions:**

*TK: what are the plans regarding communications within the church and out to the community?*

CT: we have a new communications group set up, who are due to meet in the 2 weeks after Easter. The committee members are Gail, Peter Boraston, Amanda & Rick Ankers, Teresa Reynolds, Ben Armstrong. They would be reviewing the church website; the magazine also needs to be kept alive and interesting.

*TK: could we remove the errors on the current church website?*

CT: Gail could do this.  **Action: Gail**

SB: Gail and Sally Beazley have been keeping the Church Facebook page up to date with a noticeable increase in the ‘traffic’ to the site.

*DL: wished to point out that the Social & Fund raising committee had raised £6,000 last year and worked very hard. The committee were grateful for all the support given by members of the church family.*

CT expressed thanks to all on that committee.

*JC: why are we not putting out the yellow gift aid envelopes?*

AW: we can claim gift aid on small donations up to £50. There is an annual limit of £8,000 for cash collections. We do not reach this figure- last year it was £4,000. The yellow envelopes are available on the Sidespersons’ table.

AW: recommended that if we wish to support the church it would be better to do it via PGS and put cash in for our Missions collections.

*RA: What is the church budget deficit forecast this year?*

AW: £17,000 this year including the bills for the maintenance work we need to do.

*VC: We are getting used to entering the Church via the Link door and it is good. However, it is off putting to have the church in complete darkness and may deter people from entering. Could we have a light on at the altar please or at the back of the church?*

CT: there has been discussion in PCC about having a motion-sensitive light to come on when people enter church.  **Action: Churchwardens.**

AW expressed thanks to all those who open and lock the church each day; it is good to have the Church open during the day for people to come in.

11  **To hear the Chairs closing remarks**

The noticeboard from Barnaby’s was on display at the meeting: *“Thank you for your patience, we are all volunteers!”*

Revd Claire acknowledged that, with the exception of herself and Gail, we are all volunteers and that is to be celebrated; she thanked everyone who does anything to support the life of the church in any area. Claire reflected that 2018 had been a good year overall. We have had lots of new people coming in regularly of all ages (apart from the 20’s age group, very few of whom live in Swanmore). We have had a busy year with lots of different events - the Light Party, Mama Mia film night, the Nativity film and over 360 people squeezed into church for the Crib service. These events and their success are the result of lots of work and prayer in the year before. Claire introduced Nick and Hazel Whitehead who’d moved here in October, both retired priests and honorary Canons of Guildford Cathedral. Their PTO (Permission to Officiate) with us is being confirmed and we are delighted to welcome them. Claire spoke of her forthcoming Sabbatical from Easter Sunday to 4th August. All services are covered and different priests will be visiting to officiate at the weddings and baptisms that are booked in. Jill will be the first contact for matters of Pastoral Care and enquiries about weddings, baptisms and funerals. Bill and Andrew are the contacts for anything regarding the building and grounds. Claire will have email and phone out of office replies set up. Andrew will Chair the PCC meetings during Claire’s absence. Claire asked the church family to think and pray about anything more that we could do to meet the needs of our community and ideas should be passed to members of the PCC.

Due to the Diocesan plans to celebrate Pentecost ‘Thy Kingdom Come’ at Portchester Castle, our Patronal Festival will be moved to the following week with afternoon tea and Songs of Praise. Claire showed a copy of Daily Prayer and asked for those interested in purchasing a copy, to indicate with a show of hands. It was agreed that Jill would purchase 50 for those in the congregation to purchase. The Churchwardens presented the Vicar with a bag of fun, useful items for her sabbatical and the meeting closed at 9.30pm.

*Notes taken by Jill Phipps, PCC Secretary*

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**Annual Report by the Electoral Roll Officer for the year 2019-2020**

As of the APCM on Wednesday 10/4/19 the number on the Roll was 139.  Since then 12 people have registered and 6 have died so that as of 14/10/20 the register stands at 145.

In accordance with the wishes of the PCC the full Roll with addresses, etc. is available for PCC business but is not on public display.  The Roll is updated as and when I become aware of departures, new members or changes in personal details.  In order to keep the Roll up to date please let me know of any changes.

Jenny Sharpe

Electoral Roll Officer

14th October 2020

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**Treasurer’s Report**

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**Annual Report on the Year 2019**

**The Parish Church of St Barnabas, Swanmore**

Church Road, Swanmore, SO32 2PA

**Annual Report on the Year 2019**

**Introduction**

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) has responsibility to co-operate with the vicar to promote, in the parish, the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical.  The PCC also owns, lets and maintains the hall and meeting rooms of the Paterson Centre, and Barnaby’s Coffee Shop

**PCC Membership**

The Vicar, two Churchwardens, two Diocesan Representatives and two Deanery Synod Representatives (unfilled) and 9 Elected PCC Members.

PCC membership for 2019/20 were:-

**Ex Officio:**

Vicar/Chair of PCC The Revd. Claire Towns

Churchwardens: Andrew Wilkinson (Vice-Chair)

Bill Jones

Diocesan Synod Reps: Janet Chant *appointed June 2018*

 Andrew Wilkinson (Treasurer) *appointed June 2018*

 Deanery Synod Reps: Jen Frampton (filling a 1-year casual vacancy)

John Branson (filling a 1-year casual vacancy)

 Licensed Lay Ministers Sally Beazley

 Jill Phipps

**Elected Members:**

Allison Gurry *elected 2019*

Dave Lee *elected 2019*

Teresa Reynolds *elected 2019*

Ben Armstrong *elected 2018*

Peter Boraston *elected 2018 (Sadly, RIP Peter October 2019)*

Liz Newbold *elected 2018*

Bobbie Branson *elected 2018 – 2year casual vacancy from 2017 APCM*

Amanda Ankers *elected 2018 – 2 year casual vacancy from 2017 APCM*

Jenny Sharpe *elected 2017*

**PCC Appointed**: Secretary Jill Phipps

**Assistant Churchwardens**

The Churchwardens invited Janet Chant, Jen Frampton, Richard Green-Wilkinson, Tony King, Derrinda Laing, John Sharpe and Crawford Wright to act as Assistant Churchwardens.

**PCC teams -** *and their abbreviated outline terms of reference*

**Standing Committee** – sets the agenda for PCC meetings and has the authority to transact the business of the PCC as required between meetings.

**Fabric & Grounds** – maintains the churchyard, church buildings and contents according to a programme of works approved by the PCC.

**Paterson Centre Management** – manages the day to day running, letting and maintenance of the Paterson Centre, subject to terms of reference and financial control exercised by the PCC.

**Magazine** – manages the production and distribution of the magazine, subject to terms of reference and financial control exercised by the PCC.

**Barnaby’s Business Team (BBT)** – manages the day to day running of the coffee shop, subject to terms of reference and financial control exercised by the PCC.

**PCC Meetings**

The PCC met 10 times between January to December 2019, and published minutes of each meeting.  The approved Minutes of the PCC Meetings were made available to church members at the back of the Church.

**Church Teams**:

Other groups that contribute invaluable work and input to the life of the church and parish, and from which reports have been submitted are: Bishop’s Waltham Deanery Synod; Flower Group; Hand Bells; Home Groups; Magazine; Mothers’ Union; Social and Fundraising and Sunday Club.

**Electoral Roll**

As of the APCM on Wednesday 10/4/19 the number on the Roll was 139. Since then 12 people have registered and 6 have died so that as of 14/10/20 the register stands at 145.

**Safeguarding:**

St Barnabas’ PCC takes very seriously its commitment to Safeguarding. Theresa Reynolds, with many years of local authority Safeguarding experience, continues to be the Parish Safeguarding Officer. Safeguarding is on the Agenda at PCC meetings.  Teresa offered basic training for all those in relevant roles. The church safeguarding policy and policy statement has been adopted by PCC.

A safeguarding reporting procedure has been put in place, and there is a requirement for all staff and volunteers to read and understand the policy and reporting procedure. Safer church posters have been put in place with contact details and information on how to raise safeguarding concerns. As is now required, the PCC has agreed to adopt safer recruitment procedures. A code of conduct has been developed and is due to be implemented. Risk assessments are required for all activities run by or on behalf of St Barnabas church. Some progress has been made in this area with a risk assessment template available for all leaders/organisers to complete. This is an area for further development by the health and safety lead.  Paul Eathorne, a new church family member, has been appointed as the Health and Safety Officer for the church.

**PCC Priorities in 2019**

The new PCC of 2019/20 decided to keep 5 of the priorities from the previous year. In November, a new one was added. These are:

* **Continue to firm up plans for installing a toilet in the Link**
* **Carry out all essential maintenance work**
* **Improve the entrance into church**

The year’s trial of using the Link as the main entrance to the church was completed in September. At its meeting on Thursday 26th September, having heard congregational views, and based on discussions at its own meeting, the PCC decided that the Link would now be the main entrance into church. New signage, noticeboards and furniture are now in place.

* **Hold 2-3 missional, outreach events during the 2018/19 PCC tenure**

The 2017/18 PCC decided to try and host 2-3 free outreach events per year, something which has been continued by the 2018/19 and 2019/20 PCCs. Mission, of course, is bigger than just hosting events.  Mission is making God known in and through our worship, through our words and through acts of service to our community.  Mission happens in the church building, and beyond it, whether that is in intentional missional activities or when mixing socially with others, at church functions or otherwise.

In 2019, we held Messy Church, a family-fun day in July and a Light Party on Halloween.  In December, the film ‘Nativity 2’ was shown in church, with afternoon tea being served afterwards in the Paterson Centre.  Again, lots of families came to this who we do not normally, or very rarely see. A really good atmosphere prevailed, and many who came to this event, came to Christmas services.  At Harvest, we held afternoon tea in the Village Hall, supported by the uniformed organisations. Turn out for this event was extremely low but over 200 Harvest “Meals in a Box’ were given, and most of these were delivered to the Meon Valley Foodbank.

The Tuesday morning ‘Pause to Pray’ slot continues to be promoted on the notice sheet each week.  Thank you to all those who faithfully pray at this and other times.  We have seen on-going and steady growth in numbers and commitment over the past couple of years. Faithful prayer is the bedrock of all growth.

* **Continue with missions giving**

The three missions regularly supported throughout 2019 were The St George Foundation, The Salvation Army and the Roberts Centre.  Certain monthly Sundays were allocated for giving to these missions.  The totals raised for each mission for Christmas 2018 to January 1st 2020 were £4635.The Roberts Centre and the St George Foundation took part in the service on Advent Sunday and the Salvation Army band played for the carol service. Monies were also collected for Christian Aid, The Royal British Legion and The Children’s Society

* **Develop intergenerational growth initiatives and work with families and young people**

Though set in November, it is a priority for 2020/21 and in January 2020 the St Barnabas Intergenerational Growth Initiatives (St BIGGI) was born.

**Worship**:

The Vicar monitors and reviews the provision, patterns and styles of worship and proposes a regular schedule of services. Canons Nick and Hazel Whitehead, both recently retired priests joined the church family in 2018 and became part of the ministry team in 2019, sharing in the leading of service along with other team members, Jill Phipps, Reader, Sally Beazley, Reader and The Revd. Mary Morfill, retired PTO priest.  Ben Armstrong also led some of the Café Church services.  The Vicar was on Extended Ministerial Development Leave (formerly known as a sabbatical) from May-July and St Barnabas was then in the care of the Church Wardens and ministry team, with Bishop Alan Chesters, The Revd Ruth Tuschling, Canon Dr Anthony Rustell and the Venerable Gavin Collins covering some Sunday services.

Music in worship continues to be supported by our talented and generous musicians, Peter Fellows, Tony King and Sarah Woodman, with occasional input from Dave and Sam Lee on their saxophones. Claire Lloyd joined the musicians’ team in 2019, playing the piano.

A varied pattern of services continued to be offered throughout 2019:  There was an all-ages together Family Eucharist on key occasions such as Mothering Sunday, Easter, Harvest and Christmas. Remembrance Sunday, The All Souls’ Service of remembrance for those who have been bereaved, Easter and Christmas services all saw very good attendances in 2019.  Also, as in 2018, 2019 saw several new people joining the church family, again some as occasional worshippers, whilst others have become regular and committed members, contributing to wider church and community life.

Café Church continues to take place on the 3rd Sunday of the month.  This happens in the Paterson Centre and begins with breakfast, coffee and chat followed by 45 minutes of worship from 1030-1115. As reported last year, it is disappointing that this continues to be our lowest attended 10am Sunday service, attracting fewer regular worshippers or newcomers than other services.  The PCC have plans to re-develop and re-energise this service from late-Spring 2020.

Messy Church was held on a small number of occasions in 2019 and continued to reach many families not otherwise engaged with church.  The age range of the children continued to be lower than it has been in previous years.  Messy Church struggled to find helpers on occasions, which meant that it wasn’t possible to hold all planned sessions. The PCC had an away day in November, facilitated by Canon Hazel Whitehead, to explore both the future of Messy Church and the wider picture of working with young people and families at St Barnabas.  Following this away day, at its next meeting, the PCC decided that after many successful years, it was now time to end an increasingly flagging Messy Church and to direct energies towards developing something new.  The final Messy Church session was a Messy Christingle on Sunday December 8th.

Sunday Club continues to thrive and grow under Ben Armstrong’s leadership.  There are about 40 children ‘on the books’, with some Sundays seeing up to 20 children in attendance.

**Home Groups:**

Home Groups form an important part of our mission, learning and fellowship. There are 6 home groups meeting in people’s homes.  Group sizes range from 5-15 people.  A couple of the groups, one of the Monday evening ones and the Tuesday evening men’s group are ecumenical. Materials studied range from films, to study books based on themes and/or books of the Bible.  Most groups are facilitated by different members of the group. CREATE, a craft-based and Bible-journaling group established towards the end of 2018, continues to meet fortnightly on Tuesday evenings in Barnaby’s.

A new weekly Wednesday evening home group for 30s-50s was established in 2019 and has 8 members.

**Baptism, Confirmation, Marriages and Funerals:**

There were 8 baptisms during the year, some infants, some toddlers and 1 teenager. 1 candidate was prepared for Confirmation, being confirmed by Bishop Christopher in Portsmouth Cathedral.  There were 5 weddings in church, and 8 funerals conducted either in church or at one of the local crematoria.

**Schools:**

Good links continued with the primary School throughout 2019, primarily thanks to the wonderful efforts led by Jill Phipps.  The school continues to come into church each Wednesday morning for its *Worship on Wednesday* (WOW), as well as for other key services such as Year R Mothering Sunday and Year R nativity and the Year 6 Leavers’ Service. Jill Phipps led some WOW services each year, as well as going into school or receiving church visits from different classes and year groups.  Year 6 children came in just before Easter to take part in the Mother’s Union “Experience Easter’ event, something which was enjoyed by children, teachers and MU members alike.  In the Autumn term "Experience Church", for Year 3 took place, with The Vicar, Jill Phipps and members of the MU, and again was very well received.  ‘Open the Book’, an interactive way of telling Bible stories continues to thrive, again led by Jill Phipps, with support from a team made up of people from St Barnabas and Swanmore Methodist Church. St Barnabas continues to be well-represented on the School Governing Body, with a number of congregation members serving as Foundation Governors.

**Buildings, Contents & Grounds**

As ever, 2019 was a busy year for all those responsible for the building and grounds, not least the Churchwardens.  The churchyard continues to be well-maintained, thanks to the on-going hard work of a small team of volunteers. Maintenance and regular cleaning are carried out by a team of dedicated volunteers, so huge thanks to them. Essential maintenance work continued including the repair and painting of wooden fascias, gutters and other woodwork.  A new boiler was installed in the Print Room in order to make Barnaby’s heating and water independent from the Paterson Centre. In December, new flooring was laid in Barnaby’s and the Paterson Centre corridor. In October, there was another theft of lead from the Link roof.  This will be replaced with a new fiberglass roof.

**Finance 2019**

In financial terms the year 2019 broadly followed the pattern seen in recent years; a deficit of about £5400 on the General Fund was offset by surpluses on church activities, particularly Barnaby’s coffee shop, and fundraising events. Overall there was a net deficit of £2654 on total income of £121,178. The largest source of income was regular giving through the Parish Giving Scheme (PGS) of £38,275, while the largest expense was the cost of ministry paid through the Parish Share (£64,890); an amount somewhat greater than the total of voluntary donations. Most other expenditure was in line with previous years except for a major project to repair and decorate the exterior of the Paterson Centre (£7640) and the installation of a new boiler for Barnaby’s. With inflation rising – 13% between 2014 and 2019 - the benefits of the PGS over standing orders became even more apparent. Most of the 46 PGS donors elect to increase their giving automatically in line with inflation, whereas standing orders are hardly ever increased. Collections for our three chosen missions – EC Roberts Centre, Salvation Army and St George Foundation - raised £4635 plus Gift Aid. Other collections totalled £810 while Barnaby’s donated £2188 to mainly local charities.

The Treasurer records his thanks to Derrinda Laing and Janet Chant who looked after all the banking, to John Austin for managing the Swanmore Magazine advertising, and to John Sharpe for managing, among many other things, the Memorial Path and Book.

In summary, St Barnabas was financially healthy at the end of 2019, but more regular donors and donations are needed to sustain this position.

**Barnaby’s Coffee Shop**

2019 has been another successful year for Barnaby’s, with the coffee shop and team of volunteers continuing with its mission to be a vital facility for all to enjoy. Barnaby’s continues to be staffed by volunteers from both the church and wider village community and has seen a real growth in custom and use. It continues to grow and be a busy, vibrant social hub in the village, and very much a means of ‘gentle’ mission and outreach for the church.

**The Parish Magazine - *Swanmore***

Ten editions of the community magazine were delivered free of charge to every home in the village during 2019. Extra copies were posted further afield to former villagers.  Advertising revenue has been well maintained and expenditure carefully monitored. Sue de Vere continues to run the distribution and delivery of the Magazine and, Ian Ford and Roger de Vere the responsibility for the production of it.

**Paterson Centre:**

The day-to-day running of the Paterson Centre continues to be managed on behalf of the PCC by Anne Pearson, with the support of others.

*Signed*  *The Revd Claire Towns - Vicar* originally signed 16th March2020 and updated 18th October 2020.

Correspondence address: The PCC Secretary, c/o The Vicarage, Church Road, Swanmore, SO32 2PA

Registered Charity Number 1128899