



## **Annual General Meeting – April 24th**

March/April in the Church of England is the time for the Annual General Meeting.

Now come on, don't turn to the next article, stay with this one for a moment!

The Annual General Meeting may not be the most exciting event, but it's an important one. People rarely turn up in big numbers for the meeting - in fact, probably vicars worry when people do turn up in big numbers. But important things are done at the AGM.

It is when the churchwardens are elected for the year. They are the Bishop's agents in the parish and represent all parishioners. That's why everyone who lives in the parish is entitled to vote, and not just those who are members of the church.

The accounts are presented at the AGM. You can discover how much it costs to run the parish (you'll probably be surprised how much) and what savings the church has (you'll probably be surprised how little).

The Vicar/Rector will give a report, saying what has gone on in the past 12 months, and what the plans are for the future. His report should give you a good idea of what the life of the parish is like.

Reports will also probably be given on the condition of the buildings, so you can learn whether the church is about to fall around your ears next time you attend.

Then there are elections for those standing for the Parochial Church Council, which is the body, along with the Vicar, which organises church life in the parish.

If you want to learn what our church does, what its ministry is all about, and what the various church officers do, come to our AGM on Sunday April 24<sup>th</sup> after the 10:30am service. You'll probably be surprised to learn how much goes on.

## **Bromley Parish Church PCC Notes**

meeting of Wednesday 19 January 2005

### **St. Paul's House**

On 17th January leases were exchanged with BAIS, who hope to commence operations in March. Refurbishment work has now begun. The PCC agreed to accept an offer from the previous tenants for dilapidations on the property.

### **BPC Policy on Baptism**

Michael Camp outlined the current approach, stressing that it is part of the Church's responsibility to offer baptism to all parishioners wanting it. Non-parishioners are encouraged to turn to their own parish initially unless there is a specific connection with BPC. Baptisms are normally held during morning Eucharist, though there is flexibility for separate afternoon services. Great emphasis is laid on careful preparation and subsequent contact.

In a wide-ranging discussion several issues were identified which Michael Camp and Alison Newman will consider when they review our policy. These include the practical difficulties of