

9.	<p>Deanery Synod</p> <p>a) Defining Church Membership. <u>Alex noted that at the Deanery Synod Meeting on 8 June, he would like to ask for an amendment to the rules of church membership and the PCC to be discussed.</u> He will draft his proposal and circulate the PCC beforehand. This follows a discussion at the APCM about ways to include the families attending Active Church in the decision making processes of St Michaels. Currently membership of the PCC is only available to confirmed members of the C of E, which excludes the majority of parents of children in Active Church. It was agreed that a percentage of non-confirmed PCC members (say 20%) would be acceptable.</p>	AB
10.	<p>Church Plan – Objectives for 2016</p> <p>Alex had circulated this in advance. The main points of focus as identified by Alex and Catherine are: a) Developing and Supporting Active Church. b) Developing Nurture Groups c) Developing Lay Preaching d) Financial management and Fundraising</p> <p>Points highlighted in discussion.</p> <p><i>Page 4. Point 1.</i> Include Bell ringing in list. It was emphasised that church members need to respond quickly to opportunities to engage children in services – eg Sidespeople to encourage children to take collections. Alex also felt that it was hard to expect children to sit through an adult orientated service.</p> <p><i>Page 4. Point 2.</i> Emmaus course had taken place.</p> <p><i>Page 4. Point 3.</i> Ruth reported she holds a weekly House Group Meeting. It was agreed details of this should be included in weekly Pew Sheet.</p> <p><i>Page 5. Point1.</i> Welcome Packs. Eric Spear leads this project. Distribution is via Magazine Volunteers.</p> <p><i>Page 5. Point 2.</i> Catherine noted that there is material available ‘Call to Prayer’ Novena Material.</p> <p><i>Page 5. Point 5.</i> Parish magazines. After discussion it was felt that, whilst Alan did a very good job, it might be useful to form a small group with Alan, Eric and others, to explore new ideas for inclusion in the magazine – eg. Book Reviews, Interviews etc.</p> <p><i>Page 6. Point 2.</i> Encourage people to sit nearer front. Suggestion: Sit-in- another -pew – Sunday.</p> <p><i>Page 6. Point 4.</i> Sound system to be repaired, including loop.</p> <p><i>Page 7. Point 1.</i> Emergency Plan. Dave King (link person) to be invited to talk on Smarden Plan.</p> <p><i>Page 7. Point 2.</i> Food Bank. Catherine to write article for magazine about Churches Together and Food Bank.</p> <p><i>Page 7. Point 5.</i> Financial stability essential.</p> <p>Following discussion on these points, it was felt that the Church Plan could be moved on more effectively if there were small group discussions on different issues – eg Parish Magazine. This wide range of issues needs to be distilled into a manageable Plan. It was noted that Alex and Catherine should not always have to take the lead. PCC members were asked if there was a topic which they felt they could take on. Volunteer to Church Wardens.</p>	PCC
11.	<p>Rector’s Report</p> <p>a) The Church Planning Team (Alex, Catherine, Bob Barnes, Linda Webb and John Lowings) had met on 6 April.</p> <p>June 12: Community Service in Smarden to celebrate Queen’s 90th Birthday. 11am.</p> <p>July 3: Trinity 6 Theme (not St Thomas)</p> <p>July 31: Group Service. Preacher Rev’d Sarah Chapman of the Living Well.</p> <p>August: no Evensong this month. No choir.</p> <p>September: Alex away first 2 weeks.</p> <p>October 2: Harvest Festival 11 am. All age Service.</p> <p>October: Catherine not available 4 Sundays.</p> <p>October 30: Group Service</p> <p>November 13: Remembrance Service. 10.50am.</p> <p>December 11: Village Carol Service.</p>	

	<p>December ??: possible visit from Cranbrook Band.</p> <p>b) Children and Young People Biddenden Active Church has stopped for the moment. We are committed to offer a ministry to children and families in Biddenden. They are welcomed in Smarden Active Church, but we are also considering All Age services to take place roughly bi-monthly.</p> <p>c) Roy Blackman funeral. A large congregation is expected. The memorial book kept in gallery due to concerns about security in church.</p> <p>d) Mission Action Planning (see Item 10 above).</p> <p>e) Alex's Sabbatical. Departure date to Sri Lanka is mid February 2017. 6 weeks away, including Easter.</p> <p>f) TSCW Trust – to change name to Apollos Trust, to enable inclusion of Marsh Academy</p> <p>g) Administration. Office Windows XP needs upgrading from August 2016. Possible cost of £200. This needs to be budgeted.</p> <p>h) Tony requested that Alex supported Royal British Legion 70 Anniversary Service in May 2017. Date to be confirmed.</p>	TL
12.	Curate's Report Catherine had nothing to add to points already made.	
13.	Garden of Remembrance Alex and the Wardens had held a meeting and identified an extension to the existing plot. Families are to be asked to sign an agreement on permitted usage, and to promptly remove any detritus.	
14.	Church Wardens' Report The Quinquennial Inspection had taken place, and the final report is expected. When it is received, the Wardens will review the report and produce a planned response.	ED,TH
15.	Events / Fundraising Edward has been unsuccessfully trying to call a meeting of the sub-committee. Suggested activities included a Silent Auction, or an Auction of Promises.	ED
16.	Guild Report a) Vivienne noted that she is having problems changing the signatories on cheques. A Coffee Morning is planned for Friday 1 July in Forge House. b) She asked if anyone knew the whereabouts of the French and German translations of the Information Sheets about St Michaels. The English version on the wooden paddle is also missing. It was suggested Tony Richter may have his version on his computer.	
17.	Deanery Synod Alex noted that he had been unable to find out how to get access to the Minutes of the small group meetings held by the Deanery.	
18.	Dates of next meetings: 21 June (combined), 12 July, 13 September, 11 October (Budget meeting), 22 November (combined), 13 December.	
19.	The meeting closed with prayers and a blessing.	

Eleanor Bliss

Minutes Secretary 18.05.16