

St Michaels PCC

Minutes of a meeting of the PCC held on Monday 6 November 2017 at 7.30pm in the Charter Hall

Present – Alex Bienfait, Catherine Wilson, Tom Hay (Chair) Edward Demery, Ruth Papworth, Mike Barkway, Ewa Loffstadt, Vivienne Rose, Tanya Ling

Item		Action
1	The meeting opened in prayer with Catherine.	
2	Apologies for absence Apologies received from Tony Lush and John Lowings	
3	<p>Minutes of the previous meeting Monday 4th September:- In Events item 16, please amend to Tony Richter (not Tony Lush).</p> <p>Action points</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Item 4. Fair Trade – Edward has spoken to Val who confirms that tea and coffee is Fair Trade. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Letter to the Bishop has been sent to the Bishop by Alex and has been received. ◦ Antiques roadshow – to be placed under 2018 Events • Item 5. Diocesan Day of Prayer – details at the back of the church and in the current pew sheet <p>Item 11. Smarden electoral roll has been sent the Ecclesiastical insurance offer.</p> <p>Minutes agreed and signed by Tom Hay.</p> <p>Minutes of the budget meeting on Monday 9th October :-</p> <p>Action points</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Item 2.Church notice board – Marcus is awaiting feedback from the PCC on the mockup that is to be made. <p>Minutes agreed by PCC and signed by Tom Hay</p>	<p>Office</p> <p>TH/ED</p>
4	<p>Open Forum</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PCC Social is to be held on Friday 26th January 2018 at Catherine's house in Great Chart. This will include partners as well. • GDPR comes into affect next May 2018 - dealing with storage of data, data processing and protection. Catherine distributed a basic guide document. To be added to next joint PCC meeting in December • Christmas Tree Festival preparation is going well, large posters have gone up and look good. Paid for 6 and received a grant for £100. Lots of volunteers for cooking and all on course. More buckets have been purchased. New buckets are not the identical size as last year and more expensive. Patchwork team already have a large bucket. Handles are to be removed from the new buckets. Having a raffle this year as well and currently printing the tickets. All trees have been sold. Trees go up on Wednesday, decorated on Thursday, starts on Friday, concert on Saturday night. Certificates are also being printed. Mulled wine will be served and the license is in hand for this. • Sacristan still required but no offers as yet. 	Office

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Land and Tree outside the church – it is unregistered land. The church could register it but this comes with risks Both the path and the tree will need maintenance and the church would be liable for any accidents on this path. Currently access is an issue. Has the PCC historically maintained this land? Ruth found some paperwork to confirm that work has been done in the past on this path and paid by the PCC. <p><i>“We have been through all the minutes and there are several vague references that have been marked out but only one specific named reference now clearly marked as follows : 28 June 2007 Church wardens report It was noted that the standing committee had discussed tarmacking the area around the tree in the entrance to the churchyard as the surface was very uneven and difficult to manage for those with walking limitations. An alternative would be to lay gravel and to mark out a pathway to the side of the Flying Horse. There were also other notes being passed to the archivist at Maidstone on 4th November 1990”.</i></p> <p>Tarmacking is not a solution as it is expensive and the tree roots would still come up and would require retarmacing again.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Motion to petition Bishop – Alex has written to the Bishop and is meeting with Deanery colleagues to arrange when the Deanery Synod can next meet and debate and vote the motion. March, July and November are when they regularly meet. Need to determine if it will be discussed in March and if not, the AGM in May would be a suggested date. Alex to email the briefing paper to the PCC which contains the motion at the combined meeting next month. HIVE remote boiler – it is now installed and can we can now monitor and set heating for the church using the HIVE phone app. The target temperature is 14C and is a very useful tool and should see some financial savings. Ollie is still the main contact for the boiler maintenance. 2018 Benefice Calendar – Walking Church is a new addition to the calendar, a Diocesan initiative. 	AB
6	<p>Finance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Handover to new Treasurer – Tom to agree handover date with Ewa. Handover for Joint Benefice treasury work – Tom to arrange date with Peter Cutts. Final budget for 2018 is in progress and to be sent out to PCC when complete Our DBF has increased by 2% (rather than the standard 4%). It is a reflection of a slight downward trend of our usual church attendance. The report also included details of the eventual move of Diocesan house. Ashford may be a future location for the new office. 	TH/EL TH TH

7	<p>Quinquennial update</p> <p>Meeting needs to be arranged to confirm what needs to be done.</p>	ED
8	<p>Church Plan priorities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Active Church</u> -Light party on 28th October, an enjoyable event with around a dozen children. The Youth Group met at High Halden for pizza and games, the next meeting is on Sat 18 November and there is the Diocesan Youth event in Canterbury on 2nd December • <u>Lay preaching and lay led services</u> – lay preaching to be rota ed in every quarter with Tony Richter ion 26th November • <u>Fair Trade</u> – previously discussed under item 3. 	
9	<p>Stewardship campaign</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First meeting scheduled for 20th November with Tony Lush, Carol Barkway, Tony Richter, Edward Demery, Catherine Wilson , C McAuley, Ewa Loffstadt 	
10	<p>Rectors Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Services - Group service in Woodchurch – good turnout from Smarden and Biddenden. Next year the Group service will be in Biddenden in 29th April 2018 with the new Archdeacon Darren. Smarden has the opportunity to invite someone on the 30th September 2018. for the Patronal festival. Open to ideas on who to invite to preach. Xmas Day All Eucharistic is at Smarden at 11am • Children and young people – attendance is lower than last year and baptisms are down. • Pastoral – fewer funerals, a lovely All Souls service led by Catherine was widely appreciated and good attendance • Church plan and Motion to Synod already discussed earlier • Events – carols with Cranbrook jointly with Zion chapel on 21st Dec, 6th Jan 2018 Epiphany party, walking church services in 2018 being launched by Alex 	
11	<p>Correspondence</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nothing to report 	
12	<p>Magazine</p> <p>Nothing to report</p>	
13	<p>Health and Safety</p> <p>Risk assessment for carol service will be required. Alex would like to see last years. Edward/Tom to forward to Alex</p>	ED/TH
14	<p>Churchwardens' and Fabric update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carpet by the Bonham Millers - 3rd December Advent Sunday dedication as well as the new Lectionary bible , donated by Gill Clark in memory of her late husband. 	
15	<p>Safeguarding</p> <p>Big push by C of E nationally to enable us to have a full understanding of these issues.</p> <p>All PCC members need to complete the C0 course. Office to send link to the PCC members who once completed will receive an email certificate which must be</p>	Office

	<p>printed off and given to the office.</p> <p>Sian Newman is the Smarden nominated safeguarding officer.</p> <p>Safeguarding policy query as to whether it is displayed on our website? Office to check and if not, upload accordingly.</p>	Office
16	<p>Events</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bonfire night was a great night for the village. Final figure raised tbc, around £1K. Alex gave thanks to all those involved for their hard work. • Sri Lankan evening with curry on 17th November • Coppicing day and Diocesan Youth event on 2nd Dec 	
17	<p>Deanery Synod</p> <p>Deanery talks on Trees in Bethersden with Julian Evans and the Marriage and Gender talk.</p>	
18	<p>The meeting closed with prayers at 9.00pm</p>	
19	<p>Next meeting is the combined meeting on Monday 4th December. Peter Cutts to discuss parish data and demographic information and also look at Data Protection.</p>	