

Minutes for the Biddenden Budget Meeting on 14th October 2019 at 7.30pm

Present–Alex Bienfait, Paul Webster, Julie Lupton, Ann Courtness, Peter Cutts, Joanna Winston

Apologies – none

Opening Prayers

Draft Budget for 2020

The PCC went through the proposed budget that Peter Cutts been sent out previous to the meeting.

Peter proposed funds are moved from reserves to the general account given the predicted deficit for this year and next year. Peter proposed withdrawal of £5000 from the CCLA investment account.. This was proposed by Paul and seconded by Alex. All members in favour, except an abstention from Ann Courtness.

Charity of the Year 2020

All PCC members request to put forward ideas before the next PCC.

Salaries

- Mark Wilson. New organist contract the PCC supported proposed monthly stipend of £207. (This figure based on 7 services a month at £26 (From RSCM) together an allowance of £30 to cover choir rehearsals, and one off services, eg Candlemas, Songs of praise etc).
- Administrator salary – Alex proposed an increase of 6.5% to the basic rate which is currently £9.42. Increase the rate to £10 per hour. (Swarden PCC proposed and approved this increase at Swarden PCC last week) This inflation plus increase reflects increased experience and knowledge of role. Increase, unanimously agreed but members wanted to convey that this would not necessarily be repeated in a further year.

Additional Wedding fees for 2020

No changes to current additional fees.

Any other business:

Julie asked the PCC consider whether or not CES lighting should undertake a 3 hour emergency light test. Our Health and Safety Advisor Mark Clixby suggested that this was probably necessary. However, given that the PCC could not imagine a scenario whereby emergency lighting would be required within the church for 3 hours, the PCC members felt that this was an unnecessary expense. The quote was approx £250 (tbc by Julie.) The PCC expressed satisfaction with the current arrangements whereby the emergency lighting is checked by Julie, to ensure that this stays on for an hour, every 3 months.

The meeting closed at 9.40 pm.