

**JOINT PCC MEETING FOR ST MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS, SMARDEN, AND ALL SAINTS, BIDDENDEN.**

**Held on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> December 2019 at 7.30pm in The Charter Hall, Smarden**

**Present:** Rev. Alex Bienfait (Chair), Ann Courtness, Peter Cutts, Julie Lupton, Stu Tucker, Paul Webster, Joanna Winston, Tony Lush

ITEM		ACTION
1.	<b>Opening Prayers:</b> The meeting opened with prayers by Alex Bienfait.	
2.	<b>Apologies:</b> Vivienne Rose, Ewa Loffstadt, Tanya Ling`, Mike Barkway, Tom Hay	
3	<b>Open Forum/ other business:</b> None	
4.	<b>Diocesan Priorities presentation</b>	
5.	<b>Smarden Welcomers leaflet review</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Stu has drafted a welcomers leaflet for Smarden and Biddenden which was well received by both PCC groups.</li> <li>- Discussion about how encouragement to give is broached and also concern about how communion is discussed.</li> <li>- Other questions to be included "Why should people come to church?" and "What is it in for me?"</li> <li>- PCC liked the tone of language used as it doesn't use normal faith language.</li> </ul>	
6.	<b>Joint Benefice Finance</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parish Share increase is 1.7% for 2020. Biddenden budgeted for a 1.3% increase. This is more than originally indicated by the Diocese.</li> <li>• Allocation of parish share between Smarden and Biddenden update – Biddenden paid approx £41K and Smarden paid approx £30K for 2019 which is a considerable difference. <b>Action</b> Treasurers and churchwardens from each parish to discuss this further next year.</li> <li>• Progress on Joint signatories changes – Natwest have a malfunction in their system and progress has been very slow it seems. Biddenden account signatories list has been actioned. Peter now hopes to look at the joint account signatory list as Catherine Wilson, Frances Lester and Linda Webb need to be taken off. Peter can then arrange online access for these accounts when the signatory changes have been made. Tom can then initiate online payments for the joint account. It is important to note that Natwest do not offer a dual authorisation process like Lloyds.</li> <li>• PCC groups would like to thank Peter for his work on this.</li> </ul>	ED/TH, AC,PC, EL
7.	<b>Christmas thank you letters for regular givers</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Draft card circulated.</li> </ul>	
8.	<b>PCC Group Social</b> has been confirmed for 25 <sup>th</sup> January 2020 at the Rectory in Biddenden	
9	<b>Dates of next meetings:</b> Biddenden PCC meeting: 21 <sup>st</sup> January 2020 Smarden PCC meeting: 27 <sup>th</sup> January 2020	
10	The meeting closed at 21.15pm	