

## ALL SAINTS BIDDENDEN PCC

Minutes of a meeting of the PCC held on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> March 2020 at 7.30pm in the Cabin.

**Present:** Alex Bienfait (Chair), Ann Courtness, Paul Webster, Julie Lupton, Peter Cutts, Joanna Winston, Tanya Ling (Minutes secretary)

Item		Action
1	The meeting opened in prayer.	
2	<b>Apologies for absence</b> None	
3	<b>Minutes of the previous meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> January</b> The minutes were adopted as a true record and signed by Alex Bienfait. Julie approved and seconded by Joanna.	
4	<b>Matters Arising</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Item 4 - Paschal candle will be ready by Easter. <b>Action</b> Alex to clarify the cost of the candle holder.</li> <li>• Item 5 - iSettle handset. The Diocesan Cashless presentation that Alex and Peter attended shared that the terminal would not work as well as hoped. Conclusion that the device would only be useful for cabin payments for weddings but not at collections. This is not a pressing item and will be raised again in 6 months. <b>Action</b> Office to add to end of year agenda</li> <li>• Parish Share – churchwardens not discussed this yet.</li> <li>• Item 14 – Christmas star will return to Biddenden but will need work to be done due to its heavy weight. <b>Action</b> During the summer Ann to ask for the Star to be returned. Office to add a reminder calendar entry for July 10<sup>th</sup> and Alex/Paul to create an article for the magazine to appeal for help with repairing and updating Star.</li> </ul>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>AB</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Office.</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>AC/Office /PW/AB</b></p>
5	<b>Open Forum</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Covid-19 Services - Public services have been suspended but the church remains open for prayer. Alex can offer prayers and others can join in prayer with no prayer books.</li> <li>• We will stream live services via Zoom - this will be interactive with the congregation. Ann, Alex and Tom have tested Zoom. Alex will try to stream via Facebook this coming Mothering Sunday. Alex will be in the church for 8.30am for Morning Prayer and ring the bell.</li> <li>• Weddings can currently still go ahead but with restrictions – the Office is liaising with wedding couples to encourage postponement of weddings. Funerals can go ahead.</li> <li>• Tom Claykens has started an initiative (for shopping, dog walking etc) in the village and Alex will speak with Tom to see what the church can do.</li> <li>• Ann suggested a telephone tree call rota. <b>Action</b> Ann to list the most vulnerable in the congregation and assign people. Alex will send an e-mail to ask for phone call volunteers to speak to others on a regular basis.</li> <li>• Heating – <b>Action</b> Jim Oatway to be asked to turn heating off for mid week events and for Sunday 0800 service but to set it for the normal heating for Sunday services.</li> <li>• Alex would like to go ahead with Walk church this Sunday at Little Chart. Social distancing restrictions to apply. PCC all in favour</li> </ul>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>AB</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>AC/AB</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>AB</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>AB</b></p>
	<b>Interregnum update</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The rectors who were due to hold services when Alex leaves are all over 70 years old so would not be able to hold services.</li> <li>• The Parish Profile can be started electronically as the subgroup cannot physically meet.</li> </ul>	

6	<b>Correspondence</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Donation letter and the FAB thank you letter were distributed to the PCC before the meeting.</li> </ul>	
7	<b>Finance update</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Peter distributed his finance report before the meeting.</li> <li>Sri Lanka funds <b>Action</b> Alex to confirm payee details to Peter Cutts.</li> <li>Apollos Trust is no longer running but there is £599 in our accounts assigned to it. Suggested to reallocate it to this year's Toilet Twinning charity instead. PCC all in favour. <b>Action</b> Treasurer to move funds accordingly to the Twin Toilet charity.</li> <li>It was noted that the church accounts will be fragile this year as there is little chance of fundraising and no weekly collections.</li> </ul>	<b>AB/PC</b>  <b>PC</b>
8	<b>Churchyard Burial Proposal update</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Awaiting response from Diocesan Registry.</li> </ul>	
9	<b>John Mayne School</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sharon Lewis, the headteacher, has resigned and a recruitment process has started. Alex has a meeting on Monday to discuss this further.</li> <li>Clive Thomas who lives in the village is going to be nominated as a Governor at the school.</li> </ul>	
10	<b>Ministry update</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Alex is in discussion with the Archdeacon about the postponement of his departure during the Covid crisis.</li> </ul>	
11	<b>Magazine</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Anne Webster has sold lots of extra colour advertising which has raised more revenue.</li> <li>The possibility of problems delivering the magazine during potential lockdown was raised. Distributors to be offered an opt-out option.</li> </ul>	
12	<b>FAB</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No events to cancel in the event of lockdown.</li> </ul>	
13	<b>Churchwardens report</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No update.</li> </ul>	
14	<b>Fabric update</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Julie sent out a report before the meeting.</li> <li>Tylden Pattenson cracks – Julie to write to the DAC informing them that we are not engaging an engineer. All in favour.</li> <li>Quotation was obtained from Finnwood roofing for £1745 for clearing out the gutters and downpipes. PCC in favour of proceeding as soon as possible on the understanding that JL be consulted if the £500 contingency included in the quotation had to be used.</li> </ul>	<b>JL</b>  <b>JL</b>
15	<b>PDO and Safeguarding</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Report sent out before the meeting.</li> </ul>	
16	<b>Health and Safety</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No update.</li> </ul>	
17	<b>Events and fundraising</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Flower Festival to be cancelled. JL to confirm this with Jeannette Oatway.</li> <li>Christian Aid week – discussed what to do re speaker. Gillian Burtenshaw will follow this up in due course.</li> </ul>	<b>JL</b>
	Date of the next meeting Tuesday, 28 <sup>th</sup> April at 7.30pm – Microsoft Teams virtual meeting .	

The meeting closed with prayers at 9.15pm