

ALL SAINTS BIDDENDEN & ST MICHAEL, SMARDEN PCC

Minutes of meeting of the Combined PCCs were held on Monday 26th July 2021 at 7pm at Smarden church.

Present: Tom Hay(Chair), Ann Courtness, Anne Webster, Roger Martin, Judy Grey, Peter Cutts, Tanya Ling (Minutes secretary) , Stu Tucker, Tom Hay, Edward Demery, Jeremy Carey, Mike Barkway, Vivienne Rose

Item		Action
1	Opening prayers	
2	Apologies for absence. Ewa Loffstadt, Tony Lush, Julie Lupton	
3	Welcome to new members <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcome to Martin Giles, Judy Grey, Jeremy Carey and Roger Martin 	
4	Open Forum <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None 	
5	Interregnum <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Notice of Suspension of Presentation – this document was received in the office and forwarded to both PCC groups before the meeting. A printed notice has been placed at both Smarden and Biddenden church porches for both congregations to see. Every 5 years the Suspension of Presentation of a rector has occurred. We are recruiting a priest in charge not a rector. • Parish Profile has now been submitted to Archdeacon Darren. Ann C sent a copy of the profile to the PCC groups before the meeting. We are advertising in Church Times and Pathways (online recruitment service) in August with 9th September closing date. Interview in early October pending applications and hopefully the new incumbent will start early next year. Each PCC elects two parish representatives – Tom, Edward, Martin, Ann C. The PCC groups technically have the right to accept the proposed candidate so do not have to formally be part of the interview process. During the interviews, candidates will have a tour of each parish in the morning. Whoever is involved in the tours cannot be involved in the interview which occurs in the afternoon. • Ensure that both churches and churchyards are well presented during early October – looking like it will be after Harvest festival. • Finance summary for past 5 years for both parishes are included in the parish profile and also that parish share payments have been made in full to date. 	
6	Covid update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As restrictions have been lifted, services from last Sunday resumed a 'normal' service where face coverings were not legally required and the chalice was offered. Singing was started the week before. Some people will continue to wear masks , maintaining their distance and their choices will be respected. Diocesan House have said it is up to each benefice and the rector taking the service in the path they take. • Send out Mailchimp email to let congregation know of the changes in church Action Tom to draft and send this out this week. • In Biddenden, bibles, service books etc have now been placed back onto the benches. 	TH
7	Future of Zoom/Virtual Services <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If we offer Zoom, we will need to invest in a laptop, camera, tripod, etc • There are always people who physically cannot come to church who have joined the service online so there is potential need for these virtual services. 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do both churches agree if we wish to continue these Zoom services? Both PCC groups agreed that they should continue. All in favour. Action Office to add to agenda and raise with churchwardens Zoom in Biddenden currently does not work due to the sound system not working. Tenterden church spent approx £10K for their new virtual system. 	Office/churchwardens
8	Joint Benefice update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All looks fine and the account is in credit. 	
9	Annual review of parish share split <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In 2019 the parish share split between Biddenden and Smarden was reviewed by the PCC groups. Historically apportioned it was 57%/43% Biddenden/Smarden. This was changed to 53%/47% Biddenden/Smarden in 2019 for the 2020 parish share. This split was applied for the 2021 figures How do we calculate the 2020 figures due to the pandemic? Should this formula be applied to the 2021 parish share split for the 2022 payment. For the 2020 parish share split, possibly not include the attendance figure element of the formula and only use income and community. Action Peter to liaise with Ewa to work out the 2020 figures. 	PC/EL
10	Dates of the next meetings <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Biddenden PCC meeting on 6th September 2021 at 7.30pm and Smarden PCC on 14th September 2021 at 7pm. 	

The meeting closed with prayers at 9pm