

St Mary the Virgin Church, Bletchingley

Minutes of PCC Meeting held on 5th May 2026 In Church House, Bletchingley

Present:

Fr. Paul Fitzpatrick (Chair)
 Vicki Gillespie (Churchwarden)
 Leanna Quevedo (PCC Secretary)
 Geoff Stone (Treasurer)
 Jennifer Hyde (Deanery Synod Rep)
 Richard Fowler (Deanery Synod Rep)
 Chrissie Markham
 Robin Idle
 Ian McMillan
 Imogen Montgomery

The meeting was opened with a welcome and prayer led by Fr. Paul.

Apologies :

Cyril Mighall, Trevor Dawson (Churchwarden) April Alexander (Diocesan Synod Rep)
 Clemmie Sellick

01/26-7	<u>Conflicts of Interest</u> There is a potential conflict of interest: Fr Paul and Richard Fowler are trustees of Church House	Fr Paul
02/26-7	<u>Minutes of PCC meeting held on 10th February 2026</u> The minutes of this meeting had been circulated in advance. They were signed as a record of this meeting.	Fr. Paul
03/26-7	<u>Matters Arising</u> Fr Paul mentioned that all Safeguarding training and DBS checks are up to date.	

04/26-7	<u>Correspondence</u> • A letter has been received from Christian aid. • Richard Fowler has received envelopes and a poster; he suggested that the envelopes be given out by the welcomers on a Sunday morning and returned in a couple of weeks. • Vicky said she would make sure it is mentioned this Sunday morning. • The PowerPoint is loaded up ready for Christian Aid for Sunday.	RF VG
05/26-7	<u>Appointments</u> • Vicki and Trevor were duly elected to the office of Churchwarden • Geoff is happy to continue as Treasurer • Leanna is happy to continue as Secretary • Vicky and Louise are both happy to continue as Safeguarding Officers <u>Standing Committee</u> The standing committee was agreed and will include the following: Fr Paul, Vicki Gillespie, Trevor Dawson, Geoff Stone, Jennifer Hyde, Leanna Quevedo. Standing committee meeting dates are as Follows: • Wednesday 1st July 2026 • Wednesday 26th August 2026 • Wednesday 25th November 2026 • Wednesday 27th January 2027 • Wednesday 24th February 2027 These will all take place at the Rectory at 5pm.	
06/26-7	<u>Churchwardens Report</u> • No report. • Fr Paul added that he had been in communication with the Archdeacon regarding the repair of the pinnacle, and he has an outline plan. The repair will require scaffolding and will be costly. Robin Idle is going to prepare a quote. • Trevor and Eddie are looking into the lighting as some units have failed and need replacing. • Fr Paul is speaking to the Archdeacon regarding the lights, if we get permission Fr Paul is happy for Vicki and Trevor to authorise the works.	Fr. P/VG/ TD VG/TD VG/TD

07/26-7	<u>Treasurers Report</u> - Fr Paul has spoken to Geoff regarding the APCM finance presentation. key points. As the Annual Report had been circulated in advance of the APCM it was agreed that the minutes would record the following: - The annual accounts were presented and noted, and the current financial position was outlined. Detailed figures do not need to be included in the minutes as they are available in the full finance report. - Richard clarified that the accounts presented at the APCM should align with the calendar year. <u>Key Points taken</u> Geoff talked all attendees through the management report on Q1 2026, his tables were given out at the meeting and are appended to this set of minutes. - The Piano fund target has been reached. - Organist should be changed to Occasional Organist on the budget sheet. <u>Reprofiled Budget:</u> - PSF: Currently, we pay 75% of the indicative costs for the Benefice. Fr Paul proposed we change that downwards by 15% of that to 60/40%, the latter being Nuffield's element. - Fr Pauls time is significantly changing in Nutfield. And they need to pay more accordingly. It is up to the incumbent to apply his wisdom to the split of hours. - This split of PSF and associated costs will allow us to cope with the costs of a curate. - The reprofiled figures were presented in Gold on the reprofiled budget sheet. - Church House Rent – slight increase on the reprofiled budget: - Review of the split of costs between the parishes. Fr Paul is asking both treasurers in the benefice to review this over the summer and come back with a simpler calculation that is more in line with 60/40%. There will be a small saving across the expenditure lines. <u>Curate:</u> - Fr Paul wishes to recommend to the diocese that the curate is 100% in Bletchingley. - The Curate could arrive in June 2027. - There is a rental cost of approx. £20k, but because of our IMD status, it is capped at approximately £9k. There is a diocesan house in Caterham. There is a possibility to explore a house in Bletchingley.	Fr. P/LQ GS GS Fr. P
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	• Fr Paul has allowed income from grants and oncosts that were represented in Green on the reprofiled budget sheet. • The Youth and family worker: Fr Paul has decided not to take on the Apprentice • The PCC agreed to pursue a Curate arriving in 2027 Concerts • Ian was concerned with the amount that was put in the budget for concerts, as we have no idea how much we will get from these events yet, and it's purely a guess. However, we have no way of knowing until at least one concert has taken place. Ian suggested we need to do more fundraising and more data analysis. • Fr Paul informed the meeting that Tristian has been in conversations with Hawthorns, Caterham School and Fr. Paul with Bletchfest about concerts. It has not been decided if these will be ticketed events or donations. Comments on general income • Stewardship money is a challenge; new people are giving smaller amounts. 20% of our givers pay 80% of the money. • Church House rent has increased significantly to reflect the amount of bookable hours the church uses. • Jennifer asked about the Bletchingley Thomas Chapman Charity income and when we could receive a grant from that. Fr. Paul said that grants could become available from November 2027, this is dependent on available funds. • Geoff suggested that we show more than one year ahead on the accounts. He will develop a 5-year budget table The 2026/7 Fees were reviewed. The only amendment was the organist's fees going up to £225.00. This was agreed. Fr Paul thanked Geoff for all his hard work on the accounts.	Fr.P
08/26-7	<u>Deanery Synod Report</u> None	
09/26-7	<u>Substantive Matter(s)</u> A. <u>Resolutions</u> • 6/2026 - Delegated authority on SIR, this was unanimous with 16 votes for. • 7/2026 - Concerts in church, 10 votes for, 5 no response. Richard Fowler also added his "for" vote for the concerts.	

10/26-7	<u>Safeguarding</u> • All training and DBS checks are up to date.	
11/26-7	<u>Sub-committee Reports</u> None	
12/26-7	<u>Any Other Business</u> • Imogen was welcomed to the PCC • Fr Paul asked the PCC if they would like to have an away day. Date for this 22nd August 2026, 10-4 pm either at Wychcroft or South Nutfield this will include lunch.	Fr. P
13/26-7	<u>Confirmation of Actions/Expenditure</u> • Dates of meetings • Standing committee • Fees	
14/26-7	<u>Dates of next meetings.</u> PCC • Tuesday 14th July 2026 • Tuesday 15th September 2026 • Thursday 17th December 2026 • Thursday 18th February 2027 • Tuesday 16th March 2027 • Tuesday 18th May 2027 APCM • Sunday 9th May 2027	
	The meeting finished with thanks and prayer at 8.40pm Approved at PCC meeting held on Tuesday 14th July 2026 Signed. Reverend Captain Paul Fitzpatrick, Interim Priest-In-Charge	

