#  St Mary’s, Bletchingley

**Minutes of PCC Meeting held 1st July 2019**

**in Church House, Bletchingley**

**Present:**

Rev’d Phe Pamphilon Green (Rector) Oliver Jackson

April Alexander (churchwarden) Jeff Marks

Bill Alexander Cyril Mighall

Kate Doody Valerie Muller (PCC Secretary)

Richard Fowler (churchwarden) Clemmie Sellick

Donna Hawkins Clare Sturgeon

Sandie Hooper Penny Sherrington

Alison Horlock Owen Thurston

Jennifer Hyde

**Apologies**: Pamela Cock, Vicki Gillespie Lynn Hargreaves McCallum

The Rector welcomed everyone and opened the meeting by reading the prayer for the day..

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| **Minutes from previous meeting*** The minutes of the meeting held on May 8th, 2019 were signed as a correct record of the meeting.
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| **Matters Arising*** There were no matters arising
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| **Correspondence*** Following a meeting between the Warden of Readers, the Training Officer of Readers, the Rector and Liz Windridge, Liz has decided to take a Sabbatical from ministry.
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| **Safeguarding*** The latest report from our Safeguarding officer is attached to these minutes.
* The church noticeboard and website comply with new diocesan regulations displaying all relevant information clearly and in such a way that help can be found easily.
* It is very important that all incidents are taken very seriously.
* Any historic abuse reported to any of us must be taken seriously and reported immediately.
* The PCC unanimously passed resolutions from the diocese regarding the reporting of serious and non-serious incidents to the Charity Commission.
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| **Finance****Budget 2019*** Following an oversight the budget for this year was not approved at the end of last year.
* Richard Fowler proposed accepting the budget for 2019, Alison Horlock seconded this proposal and everyone agreed with this.

**Pledge.** This is the sum of money we pledge to pay the diocese to pay for clergy, their  pensions, training, housing and, ideally, helping to support those parishes less well off that we are. The proposal for next year is that we increase our pledge by 1.5% although we would prefer to raise this to 2.5% if that becomes possible. The diocese hope that each parish will increase their giving by 2% annually. Kate Doody proposed increasing our pledge for 2020 by 1.5%. Seconded by Owen Thurston.**Finance sheets*** The diocese would like all parishes to work towards having reserves of £25000, about three months income.The diocese are worried that too many parishes are eating into their reserves to pay their parish pledge.
* Direct giving is slightly up but that is because there have been a number of one off donations
* The congregation need to understand the costs of running St Mary’s
* Chapman Charity cannot be relied upon as it is not a guaranteed income.

**Financial Policy*** April is working out a policy which should be available before the next PCC
* This will outline budget requirements, how expenses are paid, remuneration for weddings and also being aware of money held in accounts outside the PCC accounts.
* All parties need to be aware of safeguarding issues, this protects both parties.
* Need to include a policy about how The Hungry Hermit is run, its running expenses, and that its objectives about giving any money to charities is in line with the objectives of the PCC and JPIC.
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| **JPIC*** The speaker from Renewed Hope Trust was appreciated by all. As well as collecting money some people have volunteered to help.
* On Sept 8th a speaker is coming from Welcare. This will be our our patronal festival as well as Toy service, so that toys for Welcare are received in time for the Christmas distribution.
* On Oct 6th the speaker will come from Arosha and speak at our Harvest Festival
* We need to carry out an Eco-church audit.

Jennifer Hyde was thanked for her work for JPIC |  |
|  **Young People’s Forum*** It was agreed to circulate a questionnaire to the younger members of our congregation. Details of this should be in the weekly News Sheet and on the website.
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| **Dates of PCC Meetings**Wednesday September 11thThursday November 7thWednesday January 8th 2020Wednesday March 11th 2020All PCC meetings are in Church House and start at 8pmAPCM April 26th 2020**Other dates for the Calendar**Sept 8th Patronal Festival, guest speaker from Welcare Toy ServiceOct 6th Harvest Festival, guest speaker from AroshaBring and share Harvest Lunch in Church HouseOct 31st 5.30-7.00pm Light PartyNov 3rd All Souls ServiceNov 30th ?Concert in Church Village for Village by VillageEarly in New Year We hope to have concert by the Surrey Yeomanry |  |
| The meeting at concluded at 10pm with prayers  |  |