# St Mary’s, Bletchingley

**Minutes of PCC Meeting held 7th November 2019**

**in Church House, Bletchingley**

**Present:**   
  
Rev’d Phe Pamphilon Green (Rector) Jennifer Hyde

April Alexander (churchwarden) Oliver Jackson

Bill Alexander (Treasurer) Cyril Mighall

Pamela Cock, Valerie Muller (PCC Secretary)

Kate Doody Clemmie Sellick

Richard Fowler (Churchwarden) Clare Sturgeon

Lynn Hargreaves McCallum

Sandie Hooper

Alison Horlock

**Apologies**: Vicki Gillespie, Owen Thurston

The Rector welcomed everyone and opened the meeting in prayer.

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| **Minutes from previous meeting**   * The minutes of the meeting held on September 11th, 2019 were signed as a correct record of the meeting. |  |
| **Matters Arising**   * There were no matters arising other than those discussed later in these minutes.   . |  |
| **Correspondence**   * A letter has been received from Matthew Montgomery, whose property is adjacent to the northern boundary of the churchyard, expressing concern about the size of the feathered beech tree that now overhangs his garden fairly   considerably. Peter Hieatt, his neighbour has also written about the same issue. Richard volunteered to look into this.   * Following Glynis Beazley’s retirement from Sunday club Kate Doody has offered to take over producing the rotas etc. thank you Kate! Kate suggested that the tower could be made more friendly for the creche with the light and sound system left on. The small tables and chairs could eb left out with some colouring materials on them and maybe the lid to the toybox left open. | RW |
| **Hungry Hermit and Breakfasts**  After much discussion the following motion was put to the PCC:  That the Hungry Hermit can run at a loss if necessary and can therefore accept funds from outside sources.  This motion was passed unanimously.  It was also agreed unanimously that the income from The Breakfasts should all go to the predetermined charity (for each breakfast) and costs should be met from the Hungry Hermit’s funds.  Agreed the cook should be offered £50 per breakfast. She will be responsible for producing an invoice and should ideally be paid by bank transfer, although if there is a paper trace of her receiving the money this would be okay.  The Hungry Hermit has a surplus of about £2000 so it was decided to pay a cheque for £350 to Christian Aid and £75 to Nutfield School raised for Ollie Green’s fund raising walk for the school.  PCC secretary asked to write to Geoff Markham detailing the above decisions |  |
| **The Light Party**  This was a lovely party, very professionally run. There were about 40 children there, but it was felt the event might have been better supported had it been run at a weekend.  Fortunately, next year Halloween falls on a Saturday! |  |
| **Treasurers Report**   * **The treasurer presented his budget** forecast for 2020. A copy of this will be kept in the Minutes File. He commented that this budget just about balances but it does not include money from Bletchingley Chapman charity. If we receive this donation it will contribute to the PCC reserves or enable us to pay a further contribution to the diocese.   **Richard Fowler proposed we accept this budget,**  **Oliver Jackson seconded this motion and**  **It was passed unanimously.**  The treasurer and finance committee were thanked for their work in producing the budget.   * **The treasurer then presented his monthly financial report** until the end of September.  1. Budget is doing well 2. Income ahead of budget 3. Income varies from month to month 4. One more payment hoped for before end of the year from Thomas Chapman charity 5. Another payment from HMRC 6. Current figures show a potential surplus of £7000 at year end. |  |
| **Stewardship Campaign**   1. Financially a great success, increase in income of £11500 2. 8 people have increased their contribution 3. 5 have stayed the same 4. 6 have joined the scheme 5. 6 have joined the system who are not church goers 6. 36 have not replied at all 7. Not as many people have joined the scheme as had been hoped for   The wardens were thanked for running such a successful campaign |  |
| **Financial Policy**  The financial policy had been circulated in advance of the meeting.  Jennifer proposed accepting this policy  Richard Fowler seconded this and the motion was passed unanimously. |  |
| **Organists Contract**  April and the Rector met the new organist, Ian Skipper, recently and discussed his contract. Ian wants to remain self-employed, as do many musicians, but that has meant the standard contract recommended by the RSCM has had to be amended. April has sought advice from Southwark on this.  Ian will be paid £553 a month (£7000 divided by 12).  The PCC were asked if they were happy to engage Ian on a self-employed basis.  The majority of the PCC were in favour. Oliver Jackson was not in favour.  April was thanked for her work on this. |  |
| **Any Other Business**   * It was agreed to move the next PCC meeting to January 22nd with the Standing committee being on January 8th at 59 High Street. * The Away Day planned for next Monday will concentrate on discipleship.   **Dates of PCC Meetings**  Wednesday January 22nd 2020  Wednesday March 11th 2020  All PCC meetings are in Church House and start at 8pm  APCM April 26th 2020  **Other dates for the Calendar**  Nov 30th 7pm Concert in Church **Light up the Christmas Tree**  This will be a light-hearted concert as the Christmas Tree is lit and the Stable is welcomed into church. It will feature local soloists both from the congregation and the village and local choirs. Please Please do support this. |  |