

St Mary the Virgin Church, Bletchingley

Minutes of PCC Budget Meeting held on 10th December 2025 In Church House, Bletchingley

Present:

Fr. Paul Fitzpatrick (Chair)
 Vicki Gillespie (Churchwarden)
 Trevor Dawson (Churchwarden)
 Leanna Quevedo (PCC Secretary)
 Geoff Stone (Treasurer)
 Jennifer Hyde (Deanery Synod Rep)
 Richard Fowler (Deanery Synod Rep)
 Chrissie Markham
 Cyril Mighall (Verger)
 Ann Pressey
 Robin Idle

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

Apologies :

Vallerie Muller, Kate Doody, Gill Black, April Alexander (Diocesan Synod Rep)

<u>Conflicts of Interest</u> None.	
<u>Minutes of PCC meeting held on 29th October 2025</u> The minutes of this meeting had been circulated in advance. They were signed as a record of this meeting.	Fr. Paul
<u>Matters Arising</u> We have agreed to change the next PCC meeting to Tuesday 10th February 2026 at 7.30pm. This is to facilitate an important development meeting at Nutfield PCC, which Fr Paul need to be in attendance for.	

• Geoff should be able to present the Annual accounts for 2025 in February. • There was a Typo in the Agenda the last meeting for the year will be Thursday 16th April 2026 at 7.30pm.	GS PF
<u>Correspondence</u> None	
<u>Churchwardens Report</u> None	
<u>Treasurers Report</u> • Geoff talked all attendees through the report. <u>Key Points taken</u> 1. Curate and costs a. Father Paul and the treasurers of Bletchingley & Nutfield) will meet to discuss the best way to split the costs for the Curate. It will be the expected split as 50/50. b. Curate costs to be put into the 2027 budget. c. It was agreed that we want the right person that fits the role. 2. We have changed energy supplier which is saving us money. 3. The interest rate on the deposit account changes periodically, the maximum was 4.45%. 4. A grant of £2,000 for the Ark and Sunday club was discussed and how much of this grant will go to Church House rent, the outcome was agreed and all of it will go towards the rent of Church House. 5. The cost of music licences has been reduced from £1,500 to £600, CCLI is the primary licence holder at £525, RSCM by subscribing to them we save money. American licence has been cancelled. 6. Remembrance Service raised £400 for the Royal British Legion and VE Day £422 for Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF). 7. A new electronic payment device has been purchased and can accept donations up to £1000, donations attract Gift Aid from HMRC automatically. 8. Geoff made a note to speak to Bill so as we do not make a double claim to HMRC. 9. Contribution to administrator costs: Nutfield have paid £1,650; there is £600 outstanding from Church House. 10. A couple donated £1,000, and a family donated £2,000, these donations are unrestricted, one of the donators has opened it up to further companies for potential donations. The PCC agreed that the donations would be put towards a grand piano. Fr Paul is in conversations with Sarah Goad about acquiring one or possibly long-term loaning of one. Where to put the piano was discussed. 11. Geoff stated that the balance has improved quite a bit. 12. Fr Paul mentioned that the Seat Fund and R Trotman fund be changed to “closed” not “deleted”.	

13. Grants to be moved from income to designated funds on the spreadsheet. 14. We need an income boost, Tristan is keen to do concerts to raise money, he is doing his Safeguarding so children can join the choir. Money raised from this would go into a Musical Instruments fund this was proposed by Fr Paul and carried by all. 15. It was agreed to leave stewardship for another year before asking for more money.	
<u>Deanery Synod Report</u> None	
<u>Substantive Matter</u> • An Extraordinary PCC meeting with Bletchingley and Nutfield PCC members, licenced clergy, readers and the Archdeacon will take place on the 14th January 2026, the resolution was read out by Vicky and agreed. This is to be filled out at the end of the meeting and signed. • It was suggested that we do a live screening of the Archbishop's Enthronement with cheese and wine party, on Wednesday 25th March 2026, we are awaiting timings and order of service before organising. Fr Paul to enquire about this. • Quinquennial Inspection Report, it was agreed to create a committee to attend to the various matters relating to the QI report. The Restoration committee will comprise of Geoff, Richard, Ian, Trevor and Fr Paul. • It would be good to get all the works done in one hit, applying for a heritage/lottery grant to pay for most of the works boost the fabric fund. • Fr Paul to arrange a meeting after Christmas with the Restoration Committee members. All Agreed.	PF
<u>Safeguarding</u> • Training is going well, but there are some people outstanding and this needs to be completed as soon as possible. It is very important the PCC members complete their training as it is a legal requirement under the Charity Act. • PCC members are required to complete 3 items of training. Members that do not complete the training will be asked to step down until such time it is complete. • Vicky Gillespie was duly appointed as a Parish Safeguarding Officer. • New PCC members are to be told about the training that needs to be completed within a month of becoming a member. • Information regarding Safeguarding is only to be shared to the PSO's. • A safeguarding incident happened while Fr Paul was away. Fr. Paul called the victim and was reassured that steps had been taken to ensure their safety. The Police were notified and visited the victim twice.	

<u>Sub-committee Reports</u> None									
<u>Any Other Business</u> • Geoff to make any last tweaks to the 2025 Accounts by the 3rd week in January. • Gill Black, Kate Doody and Ann Pressey are due to stand down from the PCC in May 2026, so we will be looking for new members. • Vicky Gillespie will stand down as Churchwarden also in May 2027 so we will be looking for a deputy. • Fr Paul mentioned how lovely it was to have the Bishop of Southwark here for the Confirmation service and that he had really enjoyed doing the training with the candidates. • Trevor asked for opinion on the danger signs to go in the Churchyard, it was agreed to get 4 signs at A4 size, Cyril and Trevor will put them up. • Perkins the house at the end of the church pathway has to have some building work. It is possible that the damp proofing needs investigating, work has to been done to drain water away from the building, this may include breaking the soil near the wall. The occupant has now moved out and into a home.	TD PF								
<u>Dates of next meetings.</u> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Extraordinary PCC</td><td>Wednesday 14th January 2026</td></tr> <tr> <td>PCC</td><td>Tuesday 10th February 2026</td></tr> <tr> <td>PCC</td><td>Thursday 16th April 2026</td></tr> <tr> <td>APCM</td><td>Sunday 26th April 2026</td></tr> </table>	Extraordinary PCC	Wednesday 14th January 2026	PCC	Tuesday 10th February 2026	PCC	Thursday 16th April 2026	APCM	Sunday 26th April 2026	
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The meeting finished with prayer at 9.30pm Approved at PCC meeting held on 10th Feb 2026 Signed. Rev'd Captain Paul Fitzpatrick, Interim Priest-In-Charge									