

St Mary the Virgin Church, Bletchingley

Minutes of PCC Budget Meeting held on 29th October 2025 In Church House, Bletchingley

Present:

Fr. Paul Fitzpatrick (Chair)
 Vicki Gillespie (Churchwarden)
 Trevor Dawson (Churchwarden)
 Leanna Quevedo (PCC Secretary)
 April Alexander (Diocesan Synod Rep)
 Geoff Stone (Treasurer)
 Jennifer Hyde (Deanery Synod Rep)
 Richard Fowler (Deanery Synod Rep)
 Ian McMillan
 Kate Doody
 Gill Black
 Chrissie Markham

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

Apologies:

Cyril Mighall (Verger), Vallerie Muller, Clemmie Selick, Ann Pressey

<u>Conflicts of Interest</u> • Richard Fowler and Father Paul as trustees of Church House (See matters arising on Budget papers point 8) • Kate Doody as Trustee for the Exhibition Trust. (See matters arising on Budget papers point 8)	
<u>Minutes of PCC meeting held on 9th 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>	

• None	
<u>Treasurers Report</u> • Geoff talked all attendees through the report. <u>Matters arising from the Budget papers</u> 1. It was suggested that the way in which weddings and funerals are recorded on the finance sheet was changed. 2. FP and Geoff to meet with regards to the coding of weddings and funerals. 3. Everyone was happy with the full year rounded. 4. Ian suggested a stewardship event. 5. FP wants ideally the general reserves to get to £30,000 6. The interest rate on the deposit account was discussed, and Geoff was asked to provide an up-to-date account for the next meeting. 7. A grant of £2,000 for the Ark and Sunday club was discussed and how much of this grant will go to Church House, the outcome was agreed and all of it will go towards the rent of Church House. 8. Richard suggested that there may be a conflict of interest as he is a Trustee for Church House and Kate is a Trustee for the Exhibition Trust. This was noted. 9. The Hungry Hermit has been paying over but will still make the same payment 10. Vestry refurbishment costs to set against the Lydia bequest. 11. The Tim Goad bequest has been designated to fabric (major projects). All agreed. 12. Lydia money designated to restoration fabric. All agreed. 13. The seat fund credit of 57p to be transferred to general fund, general fund transfer in the R Trottman £74.95 and then close. 14. It was suggested that flowers need to be added to wedding and funeral costs, an average of £300. FP said this was not needed as this is recorded in Other Costs, which the PCC passes on, if required. 15. The £300 cost for using the Choir at weddings and funerals was suggested to be put down. FP said that for consistency, the general guidance for choir costs is appropriate as it varies depending on what s required in both parishes. 16. Having a Curate in 2026, it was discussed that the expenses of £1,500 include 6 months basic office expenses through to the end of the year. Ideally, the Curate would live on Coneybury. 17. FP thanked Bill Alexander for all he has done and the handover to Geoff.	

18. Bill Alexander has agreed to be our Gift Aid Officer and will deal with Gift Aid and HMRC. Resolution The 2026 Budget was proposed by Ian, seconded by Jennifer and carried by all.	
<u>Safeguarding</u> 1. The question was asked about domestic abuse training and whether people completed it. FP informed the PCC that all training and DBS requirements will be completed by end of January 2026. 2. Leadership training, there is no current availability for Vicki and Richard to do this online or in person, when FP knows this is coming up, he will contact those relevant. 3. Val and Richard to do C2 training to lead Choir, Tristan to do it once he is available	
<u>Any Other Business</u>	
<u>Dates of next meetings.</u> PCC Wednesday 10th December 2025 PCC Wednesday 11th February 2026 PCC Thursday 16th April 2026 APCM Sunday 26th April 2026	
The meeting finished with prayer at 9.30pm Approved at PCC meeting held on 10th December 2025 Signed. Rev'd Captain Paul Fitzpatrick, Interim Priest-In-Charge	