**Minutes of PCC Meeting held on 22nd March 2018**

**in Church House, Bletchingley**

**Present:**

Rev Phaedra Pamphilon Green (Rector)

April Alexander (Churchwarden) Cyril Mighall

Glynis Beazley Valerie Muller (PCC Secretary

John Buck Sandie Roper

Richard Fowler Lisa Swan (Acting Treasurer)

Sarah Goad John Thurston (Churchwarden)

Alison Horlock Clare Wilson

Jennifer Hyde

Robin Idle

Oliver Jackson

**Apologies:** Leana Quevedo, Caroline George. Nicky Worsley

The Meeting started in prayer lead by the Rector

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| **Minutes of Meeting held on Jan 8th 2018**The minutes, have been previously circulated, were approved and signed by the Rector |  |
| **Matters Arising****Lay Champion Survey**. Nine parishes were asked to take part in this survey. Of the replies 30% of the total came from St Marys! |  |
| **Correspondence*** Rob Tucker has sent a letter saying he wishes to retire from the PCC.
* The Diocesan Secretary has sent a letter to all PCC secretaries thanking them for their work but also thanking all parishioners for their contribution to the Fairer Shares scheme.
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| **Approval of Accounts for 2017*** The audited accounts for 2017 had been circulated to PCC members prior to the meeting.
* The acting treasurer, Lisa Swan, presented the accounts together with her report for the Annual Church Meeting. She highlighted the following points:
1. She pointed out that this year we have a deficit of £5172 compared to a surplus of £5669 at the end of 2016
2. Direct giving has fallen by 9.4%
3. Our quote payment has increased by 2.5%
4. There were additional expenses incurred setting up the parish office.
5. Bletchingley Thomas Chapman Charity fully meets the PCC’s share of the parish administrator
6. Repairs and maintenance costs fell this year from £4537 to £3231

Lisa thanked Anthony Cock, our independent examiner, for all his hard work and efficiency.Finally she expressed a big heartfelt thank you to our treasurer for 2017, Ron Napper, for his beautifully kept ‘red book’ that contained his meticulous book keeping records Lisa felt this had shown her how accounting should be done!April Alexander proposed that we should accept these accounts, seconded by Richard Fowler and Valerie Muller. Everyone agreed unanimously.Lisa was thanked enormously for her hard work in stepping to maintain the accounts. It had been an enormous relief to Ron to know the accounts were in such very capable hands. There was then much discussion about how to increase our income by about £6000 a year.* Need to encourage monthly giving
* Need to encourage people to gift aid there giving
* Need to make everyone aware of just how expensive it is to maintain and run our church
* Legacies should be explained
* There will be a Stewardship Sunday after Easter probably at Pentecost.
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| **Church Life**1. **Preparations for Easter.** This are well in hand and have been circulated to everyone, together with details of ‘The Easter Retreat at Home’
2. **Safeguarding** April 7th or `14thhave been offered to St Mary’s but, as these dates coincide with school holidays it would be preferable to have a date later in Aril in the evening. Would need at least 20 people for the course to be viable.
3. **Preparations for APCM.** Four people will be retiring from the PCC together with the resignation mentioned earlier mean we are looking for 5 new members.We need to appoint a deputy warden. The existing wardens to produce a job spec for this role.The PCC secretary volunteered to check the constitution of the PCC.
4. **Reports**
* **Finance Committee** For details please see section about Approval of Accounts
* **Worship Committee** Minutes of their last meeting had been circulatedprior to this meeting.

The Service on Remembrance Sunday Service on November 11th will need careful thought. It was suggested that special mention should be made of Bletchingley men who were killed during WW1.PCC Sec offered to find out more about ‘the Silent Soldier’ memorials.* **Social Committee** Minutes of this meeting had been circulated prior to this meeting.Following a suggestion from Ron and Pat Napper the Sunday Lunch will be at the Golf Club and organised by Pat and Ann PresseyThe Concert for the Village will be in October/November.

When the time comes the Social Committee have offered to cater for Ron’s funeral. It was felt this should be a donation from everyone.**General Data Protection Regulation**April Alexander has been on a course run by the diocese, who will be running similar courses in April nearer to home.Her feeling was that it is not as arduous as it had at first seemed and therefore we would not need a GDPR Officer. John Thurston would like to use this opportunity to gather more information about the congregation.Particular will be needed with wedding couples and the use of information gathered from the CCTV cameras. | **JT, AA****VJM****VJM** |
| **Mission and Outreach**This committee has not met for a long time and so its remit needs re examining.Our Mission Action Plan, although good at the time it was created, needs a serious re think, it needs to be shorter and more concise so that the goals set are achievable. This should be a PCC responsibility rather than the Mission Committee. It could very usefully be achieved at a PCC Away Day. Before then there are many questions we need to give serious thought to – * Who we are
* What we would like to become
* Where we want to go and how to achieve it
* Short term vision
* Need to look beyond ourselves
* Should we have a charity of the month
* We need to be looking after the whole of creation
* Look at the work of JPIC
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| **AOB*** The PCC agreed to exploring the idea of creating a full sized stable in the area behind the organ for Advent. Ideally it will be large enough to enter for prayer with wooden figures and straw.
* The PCC confirmed that we should proceed with the application for a Faculty for the installation of two Training Bells in the tower and nominated the Tower Captain, Ed Muller, to make the on-line application on behalf of St Mary’s.
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| The meeting finished at 10.30pm by saying The Grace |  |