

**St Mary the Virgin, Bletchingley**  
**Minute of PCC Meeting held on**  
**Monday January 10th 2022 at 7:30pm**

**Present:**

Rector	Chrissie Markham
April Alexander)	Jeff Marks (Churchwarden, Safeguarding Officer)
Bill Alexander (Treasurer	Cyril Mighall
Richard Fowler (Churchwarden)	Valerie Muller (PCC Secretary)
Vicki Gillespie	Jackie Puleston
Sandie Hooper	Clemmie Sellick
Jennifer Hyde	

**Apologies:**

Pamela Cock, Rosa Diacon, Kate Doody, Trevor Dawson,

**Minutes:**

The minutes of the meeting held on November 9<sup>th</sup> 2021 had been circulated prior to the meeting. They were signed as a correct record of that meeting.

**Matters Arising:**

Bishop Christopher was unable to attend yesterday's service.(Jan 9<sup>th</sup>)  
The Dedication of the Reconciliation Chapel will take place at a later date.  
Work on the font cover has been completed..

**Correspondence:**

A letter has been received from the Diocese thanking us for fulfilling last year's pledge and confirming what we hope to give this year.

**Covid:**

Coffee after the service has been cancelled for the time being. People are to be encouraged to stay and chat.

**JPIC:**

The minutes of the last two JPIC Meetings had been circulated to the PCC before this meeting.  
We now have temporary faculties for both the display boards and the tapestry. The wording on the display boards has been approved by the Archdeacon. The picture of Desmond Tutu also requires a faculty.  
The first Temporary Display will be to commemorate Holocaust Day on January 27<sup>th</sup> . there will be displays from the previous Sunday and a short service in church on the evening of the 27<sup>th</sup>  
The committee have chosen three charities for support during this coming year. They are all Christian based. They are

Local	Welcare
National	A Rocha
International	Christian Aid

The PCC voted in favour of resuming charitable giving from income in addition to special collections. Two people voted against this. It was noted the Finance Policy will need to be updated to reflect this change.

#### **Finances:**

The treasurer produced both his monthly figures and his budget for this coming year. The reserve fund has increased in line with expectation. Collections are down for the year but no doubt Covid is partly responsible for this. The Rector suggested we set up an Easy Fund Raising site. Goods ordered online through them generates a small income for the church.

When presenting his draft budget for 2022 the treasurer suggested it was difficult to predict Stewardship. For various reasons 4 people have left the scheme.

He hoped we might be able to return to collections shortly.

The use of the Good Box should be encouraged every week. This now works better as the church has wifi.

The Parish Administrator is no longer on furlough.

Income from fees is expected to rise..

We have pledged the same total figure we gave last year to the diocese.

Another expense will be the above pledge to donate £1500 annually out of income to the 3 charities listed above.

The congregation need to be reminded of the need to increase their giving each year!

Bill was thanked, his work is much appreciated.

#### **Safeguarding:**

There have been no new issues.

#### **Inclusive church**

Inclusive church is a network of churches, groups and individuals uniting together around a shared vision. An inclusive church celebrates and affirms every person and does not discriminate.

**Please look at the [www.inclusive-church.org](http://www.inclusive-church.org) before our next meeting.**

The Rector would like to run the Living in love and faith course during Lent.

#### **Any Other Business:**

- Those that visited the Coffee Station at Chiddingstone were very impressed. Their drop down screen was also impressive.
- We need to update our Mission Statement. Please think about this and bring some ideas to our next meeting.
- The long term future of the Heating system needs looking at. Fabric Committee to be asked to research this.

- Plans for Queen's Platinum Jubilee?? Maybe a street party lunch after Sunday service, as we have done on previous similar occasions.

The Rector thanked everyone for coming to the meeting and we finished by saying the Grace together