

ST MARY'S CHURCH, HADLOW

STANDING COMMITTEE

Minutes of Meeting held Monday 18 October 2021

at 7.30pm via Zoom

1. Opening prayer

The meeting opened with prayer led by the Rev'd Paul White.

2. Members present

Rev'd Paul White (PW), Michael Payne (MP), (NC), John Speed (JS), Jenny Hopkins (JH), Martin Massy (MM, Secretary)

3. Finance matters

MM noted the intention to table reserves policy, additional contribution to the diocese and 2022 budget at the November PCC meeting.

PW would need to complete the quarterly return for Q3 and provide data for October to MM.

Amendments to the Stewardship brochure were discussed and agreed.

4. Miscellaneous

Covid: It was reported on Wednesday that someone at the concert on Saturday 16th has Covid. It was agreed that no action need be taken. We follow CofE guidelines, and the church would not be open within 48h of being told about the Covid case so a deep-clean is unnecessary.

Hadlow is becoming a dementia-friendly village. JH wished to clarify that the Seniors' Coffee is NOT a dementia café, which would require specialist training for volunteers. To go on PCC agenda next year.

5. Worship

PW's last service on 31 October would be celebrated from the high altar. Communion would be given at the nave rail to avoid confusion and proximity to the choir singing. Because there are no facilities for video-streaming the service would be streamed as audio only.

6. Interregnum

Appointment of a new vicar: The churchwardens met with the archdeacon for Rochester, the Ven Andrew Wooding Jones (Archdeacon Andy), last week for an induction to a ministry in transition. The process for appointing a new vicar won't start until the new archdeacon for Tonbridge is in post, expected January 2022. People to be made aware of the timetable (JS to mention next Sunday, 24 Oct). MP is preparing a parish profile for discussion at PCC in January 2022 and with interested parties, e.g. on a Saturday.

Services: JS is organising cover for services. Current arrangements are:

Penny Steven One Sunday per month

Sheila Perkins Two Sundays per month

Christopher Miles One Sunday per month + Carol service and Midnight Mass

Kelly Parsons Two Christingle services

Carols in The Square would take place again this year.

Families: Cheryl Trice to be invited to discuss family activities going forward (??).

Telephone: The church would need to take over the vicarage telephone line (850238) and the voicemail message changed. The Parish Administrator would be able to have access to voicemail from mobile phone. Some calls may go to JH in her role as Anna Chaplain. The Parish Administrator can liaise with undertakers as required, and weddings can be arranged 2-3 months in advance. Priests to conduct weddings and funerals may be organised through Archdeacon Andy.

Administration: Parish Administrator hours worked to be approved by both churchwardens. PW contact details to be removed from website and pewsheets.

Bank accounts: MM to arrange for PW to be removed as signatory.

Printer: Meeting with supplier still to be arranged.

Food bank: MP to lead and develop a rota. Would be open on Thursday mornings.

Items for next PCC (if time): World Mission Committee; church music (junior choir is good outreach and should be encouraged)

Standing Committee to meet ahead of the next PCC meeting, on Monday 15 November.

Thanks: PW expressed huge thanks to everybody on the PCC for all they have done and the hope that this would continue for the next incumbent.

Signature

Date:

Date of next full PCC meeting 23 November 2021