

**Haslemere PCC**

**Minutes of the meeting held at the Link**

**on Monday 18 March 2024 at 7:30pm**

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| **Present** |  |
| Chris Bessant | Rector (Chair) |
| Andrew CulshawHamish Donaldson  | Treasurer |
| Justin Manley-CooperGeoff Martin Katie MorganDebbie PeetDavid SewellAndrew SilkDavid Simmons | Associate MinisterChurchwardenPCC SecretaryDeputy Churchwarden |
| Richard Parker |  |
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The meeting was opened with a prayer led by Rev’d Chris.

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|  | **Agenda item** | **Action**  |
| 1. | **Apologies for Absence :** Gareth David, Cathy Moore, Alistair Morgan, Simon Ingram, Geraldine Lambrechts, Bridget Leary, Stephen Vaughan |  |
| 2. | **Minutes of meetings and Matters Arising from January 2024**Minutes approved as a correct account of the meeting. CB updated on matters arising. Good progress has been made by himself and Kari Hayden on the legacy finance communication materials and it was now ready to progress. Looking at an Autumn launch in sync with the Link project financing. Recorded thanks to David Sewell for his assistance on this piece of work. AOB – RB asked what progress was being made on attendance of youth members at PCC meetings. CB confirmed he would take it up with Simon Ingram going forward, but their attendance would probably be agenda specific.  |  |
| 3. | **Rector’s Report and Updates** 1. Changes to the PCC - leavers and those standing at the APCM.
* Cathy Moore leaves after 6 years. CB reported he was struggling to find someone to replace her as Safeguarding Officer. The role comes with a position of responsibility and accountability, with a significant amount of administrative work. Consider if much of this work could sit with the parish administrator role, although there would be a budgetary consideration.

Would need to review the job description and consider if it can be split up and shared out. Will ask the Standing Committee to review once this is done. May be parish administrator looks after the administrative elements of the role, pastoral team may be able to assist with training, have someone else to deal with any cases of safeguarding concern. * Bridget Leary moving away but keen to continue working on the welcome / inclusion work before she leaves.
* Geoff Martin finishing as CW and coming off the PCC. CB working on a warden replacement.
1. Work Level, Lent and Easter: nothing particular to report, all rolling along well. Pastoral work is very high at present, with a large number of funerals so far this year.
2. Churchwarden and Parish Safeguarding Officer – see above.

Hamish sought clarification on term of office as ex-officio of Deanery Synod. CB confirmed it ran for 3 years from July 2023, after which members would need to come off. However, members are able to resign before that term is up if they wish.  | **Action: CB to review role description and agree with Standing Committee on way forward.**  |
| 4. | **Operational Management Group – JMC**Reported that taking areas of work away from the Rector’s remit is a slow process to ensure we get it right. AC chairing the group, with additional members sitting alongside him (BA and RF). Very much a work in progress. As it develops, OMG will report back to the PCC on progress and anything requiring their consideration. Aim to meet quarterly.  |  |
| 5. | **Racial Justice Covenant – RP**RP reported back on further investigations he had made into this piece of work. Confirmed All Saints Grayswood had adopted the covenant as it stands. General Synod have passed several items of this type without objection. Mission Statement of Diocese is a more macro level rather than ours which is more micro. Church of England has identified it has a poor record on racial issues and chosen to focus on restorative justice for the moment. Hence there is a need to keep certain words in. However, sought to reassure that by specifying one group, we are not intending or meaning to exclude others. Key for us is to be welcoming, and record that we offer the opportunity for all people to join, even if they choose not to. CB advised he had fed back to diocese – they did produce a report on comments and our comment that it read like a contract not a covenant and measuring issue. Outcome was their agreement that they should road test this work more thoroughly in future. HM – still not happy that we are singling out one group. This document is looking to address specific issue of racial diversity so hence it needs to be very clear on this issue. It provides an indication of how parish churches are changing with the diocesan. **Resolution: Adopt this covenant as it is written.** **Passed on a vote of 6 to 5 (are they the correct numbers)? Was there a second resoliution?**  | **Action: Document added to website/noticeboard. (CB)**  |
| 6. | **Gardening Calendar - Policy Reviews and Planned Items** Annual Accounts Small but comfortable surplus with substantial cash reserve as we look to the year ahead. May have to consider reverting to our previous auditors if funding comes through which requires a full audit (due to current auditor being retired and may not have PI insurance). AC will check if funding triggers a full audit. **Proposal to accept the annual accounts: HD proposed, JMC seconded, passed by all.**  |  |
| 7. | **Parish Vision**1. Welcoming Church & Inclusion - Nothing to report at present. Do have a card to hand out to new church members.
2. Fellowship Groups (CB)

Carpenters is back up and running under leadership of Jamie Harle. Long list of potential people to invite. Linda Feliati – keen to launch a mums of young children home group for bible study. 1. Lent – JMC reported he’d asked around the town community / retailers if there was anyone they wanted to be prayed for. Received about 30 names daily, indicating there is a desire for the church to be visible and there for people, even if we have to seek them out rather than them coming to us.
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| 8. | **Regular Reports** *Reports to be issued prior to meeting. If you have any questions, please contact the person named.* ***Reports will be discussed only if there are decisions to be taken.*** |  |
|  | 1. The Link Reimagined: AC/DP/CM

Building community is part of the project so we need to continue that journey. Get people to buy a tile with their name on it to keep the engagement with local community. Focus on the soft side to keep parish / community involved and engaged over next 18 months to keep them feeling like they are part of project. Lot of communications going on at present, thankyous will be recorded at APCM. AC drafted a press release. Haven’t engaged closely with the congregation yet - need to start looking at £200k fundraising – maybe launch at APCM. Need to look at team structure, buildings, fundraising etc. Short definitive messaging on what people can do. Crossways have a professional fundraiser who might be able to help. May devise a separate website for the project. JMC – big hurdles overcome and thanks to Andrew, Debbie and Cathy for their devoted work to this project, echoed by all those present.  |  |
|  | 1. St Christopher’s Team: CM

Nothing to report.  |  |
|  | 1. Families and children’s Groups: GL

Drawing attention into Families at 4 as numbers have plateaued, may need a revamp. Good choral music in place and organ scholar making a valuable contribution.  |  |
|  | 1. Safeguarding: CM.

Vote of thanks will be recorded at the APCM. |  |
|  | 1. Finance: AC

AC would like to send out quarterly management accounts for PCC instead of bi-monthly accounts, **Unanimously agreed by those present.**  |  |
|  | f. Fabric Committee: AC  |  |
|  | g. School Update:. CB Laura Wallace stepping in as Chair of Governor, looking at new foundation governor second half of year. 3 school services over Easter.  |  |
| 9. | **AOB** |  |
|  | 1. Charter Fair – 6th May

Looking at ways we might be involved. D-Day celebration on 6 June (refreshments at St C church /green). 1. Churchyard Maintenance – not had a specific project team with Philip Hunt looking after the working party. Trigger for looking at this is due to the eco side of things (e.g. can we plant more trees). We don’t have a team or a budget for this. CB has referred the matter to Philip Hunt and CWs.
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| 10. | **Dates of 2024 meetings**PCC: 18th March, 20th May, 15th July, 15th SeptemberAPCM: 29th April 7.00pmSC:  |  |
| 11. | **Closing prayer, Meeting closed at 9.05pm.**  |  |



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**Future Vision and Development in Main Areas of Church Life**

*Updated July 2023*

Significant Achievements for 2023

Launch of a new Older Children’s Group (13+)

Launch of Sunday Families (morning Sunday School)

Employment of a new Parish Administrator

Establishment of a new Parish Vision

Completion of curacy for Justin

Significant Achievements for 2022

Launch of a new Older Children’s Group (8-12)

Launch of a new Junior Choir

Establishment of First Communions

Mid-week ministry to the elderly – pop-in café

Re-establishment of nursing home ministry.

Launch of Hearing Champions Ministry.

Worship and Occasional Office

All-age services \ morning worship accessibility for young children. Completed.

Establishment of an acolytes team. Completed.

Establishment of First Communions. Completed

Children and Families

Families@4 to move to twice monthly. Completed.

Establish a regular meeting Families@4 team. Completed.

Establish better branding, communications and cross-over with other areas of church life. Completed.

Greater integration of First Steps into the wider Children and Families ministry. Completed.

Launching of a new older children’s mid-week group. Completed.

Launching of a new Parish Junior Choir. Completed.

Launching of a new 13+ youth group. Completed

Pastoral

Re-establishment of the pastoral team to operate under Covid-19 restrictions. Completed.

Create a strong link with The Hunters Centre. Completed.

Mid-week ministry to the elderly – drop in café possibility? Completed.

Re-establishment of nursing home ministry. Completed.

Re-establishment of Haslemere Hospital ministry.

Schools

Integration of new Children and Families Worker into St Bart’s School. Completed.

Education and Spirituality

Increasing spiritual breadth with the arrival in Grayswood of Revd Elaine Collins. Completed.

Aims towards quiet days, healing, rules of life and spiritual direction ministry.

Establishment of Lent and autumn courses. Completed.

Increasing network of home group support and learning.

Finance, Fabric and Administration

2022 Stewardship campaign to increase regular giving in spring/early summer. Completed.

Completion of Flemish Glass. Completed.

Completion of St Christopher’s Organ repair. Completed.

Review of Churchwarden’s role.

Long term consideration for use of The Link, with planning for possible major redevelopment. Current.

Establishment of a fundraising hospitality group. Completed.

Redecoration of the StC upstairs room. Completed.

Provision of a lightweight altar for St Christophers.

Upgrade of audio/visual infrastructure at St Christophers.

Review of donations and legacies strategy.

Communities Engagement

Building upon our relationship with the High Street and Wey Hill shops. Establishment of Revd Justin as High Street Chaplain. Completed.

Research into the establishment of a permanent presence on the High Street.

Vocations and Training

Continue to explore vocations with individuals.

**Attachment: Annual Calendar for PCC Review**

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| **Month** | **Required** | **Administration** | **Briefings** |
| May | Charity Commission (KM)Safeguarding Policy (CB, OWG) | Health, Safety & Risk Policy - next review 2024 (AC, KM) |  |
| July |  |  |  |
| September | Safeguarding Self Audit | Financial Exposure Authorities |  |
| November | BudgetConstitution of Standing Committee | Data Disclosure – next review 2024Lone Working – next review 2024 |  |
| January | Annual Return | Building Hire Agreements – next review 2023 |  |
| March | Annual Accounts | Outward Giving Policy – next review 2025 |  |