**PARISH OF CALNE AND BLACKLAND Minutes of PCC meeting held on Wednesday March 7th 2018**

Present: Richard Aldhous, Stan Anniss, Revd. Bob Kenway, Hugh Pilcher-Clayton, Mary Pilcher-Clayton, Penny Spencer, Graham Spencer, Lucette Rees, Jane Ridgwell, Jack Robinson Apologies: Jonathan Billings, Morcia Booton, Isabella Gage, John Gibson, Lucy Hemmings, David Munday, Derek Warnett, Kevin Wells

**Minutes** of meeting held on January 16th 2018 were agreed and signed, with an amendment to the figure on page 2.

**Matters Aising:** There is yet to be a follow-up meeting re the benefice

**Parish Day follow-up:** The Prayer and Discipleship Group meet regularly and Kevin put forward their suggestion that there should be a monthly Sunday evening meeting for discussion and reflection. Steve will be leading further prayer groups at a later date and the meditation sessions will resume after Easter. The Communications Group have continued to produce the monthly Parish Newsletter, which has been well received. It has been placed in various locations around Calne as well as in the churches and the group have appreciated the feedback they have received. The group are now planning boards with pictures of the clergy to be placed in Holy Trinity and St Peter’s, like the one they have in St Mary’s. The group felt that the PCC members should also have their photos displayed. There is a plan to locate notice boards in the churches for posters etc and it was acknowledged that putting leaflets tidily on a table was an improvement but containers to hold them upright might be even better. The Communications Group are still trying to establish the names of any groups functioning within the parish with a view to listing them and adding contact details so that anyone who would like to be a part of a group would know whom to contact. The Children and Young People group met and discussed various ideas put forward by Felicity for encouraging and involving young people in church and other activities. The group felt that two of the ideas should be followed up immediately, one being to create a larger, safe and welcoming area in St Mary’s on the south side at the back of the church, opposite the kitchen area. Advice will be sought from the Buildings Strategy group and the church architcct before funding is discussed. The other idea to be developed is that of having a midweek club for children between the ages of 6-11.A letter to parents seeing if there is sufficient interest will be the next step. The Buildings Strategy Group met to reacquaint themselves with each other and with what had been discussed in the past, with a view to planning for the future and developing the ‘vision’ ACORNS discussed the idea of having a ‘Pledge Sunday’ to be held annually at the same time of year, possibly November. The aim would be to promote and develop a culture of Christian giving and of thanksgiving for everything we have, possibly linking it with harvest. Affirming each other will be discussed again in their next meting.

**Team Day:** A day of retreat was arranged and attended by Bob, Linda, Jenny, Enid and Theresa.

**LLM:** Steve Colby is considering becoming a Licensed Lay Minister and will be put forward to a selection conference in the coming months. He would need parish support and financial backing of about £200 per annum plus expenses. The PCC approved unanimously both to his selection and to awarding him his expenses. David Munday is currently completing a Lay Pastoral Assistant’s course and will be commissioned. The PCC all agreed to him becoming part of the lay ministry team.

**Safeguarding**: All PCC members should have training in safeguarding, to be arranged after the APCM.

**Schools:**. Marden Vale Academy appointed a Deputy Head who became unwell and has since resigned. A new Deputy Head and a ‘leading practitioner’(a highly qualified class teacher) have been appointed. Jon Gibson is working extremely hard as their Chair of Governors. They still need more governors, as do Holy Trinity Academy. Hugh Pilcher-Clayton has been appointed as a trustee at Holy Trinity Academy.

**Report from the Treasurer and Finance group:** Graham pointed out that the rise in the basic minimum wage to £7.83 per hour will have some effect on outgoings. The budget projection for 2017 was correct to within £2000. The budget for 2018 still ends in a deficit but the situation has been somewhat ameliorated by an unexpected donation. There has been some correspondence about a further possible bequest but no detail yet. Graham advised the PCC that they should be aware of the financial situation and the fact that it is being closely monitored. Examiners are tightening up in their perusal of accounts. All expenses for any future plans must be passed by the PCC for their approval. Currently, our giving is not sufficient to cover the Fairer Share, which has to be paid to the Diocese. It is important to know which funds are restricted and which are designated (unrestricted). Graham is again pursuing the idea of having the HT School House fund released. Full details of the budget and accounts will be available in the churches prior to the APCM on April 22nd.

**Parish Architect:** A meeting took place at the St Anne’s Gate Architects practice in Salisbury to see if they would agree to represent the churches in the C & B parish. Architect Michael Drury has already visited St Mary’s and has agreed to look after matters until his colleague Louise Rendall returns from maternity leave, when she will become our architect.

The PCC approves of the appointment of the architects, Michael Drury and Louise Randall, subject to terms and conditions being acceptable. Proposed by Richard Aldhous Seconded by Lucette Rees All PCC in favour

A letter of thanks will be sent to Raymond Winrow (architect) for past work; he will continue to supervise the bell project at St Mary’s and the ongoing works required at St Peters. Proposed by Lucette and seconded by Richard, all the PCC voted in favour of this. Mr Winrow has been commissioned by the Town Council to oversee the War Memorial restoration. There will be a further meeting of the buildings group on March 14th. The PCC were also asked to renew their support for the St M’s Bell and Tower project. This was proposed by Hugh Pilcher-Clayton, seconded by Jane Ridgwell and agreed by all of the PCC members. It would seem that there is money available to fund the erection of CCTV in St Mary’s. It would be financed initially by the parish but the money would later be refunded. All PCC members favoured this idea as it means that the church could open its doors more frequently and with greater confidence, as there would be a link to the Calne town CCTV and the images would be monitored all day.

**Deanery**: There was a talk from the Children’s Society. A new appointment has been made for the Oldbury Benefice.

**Calne Partnership of Churches**: the ‘Exodus’ Lent course has been well attended and very worthwhile. ‘Open the Book’ continues apace and has been well received by the schools.

**Fairtrade**: Do the PCC support the idea of Calne becoming a Fairtrade town? In principle, the PCC felt this was a very good idea.

**Friends:** FOHT will be holding their annual Cream Tea on June 16th. They will hosting a Concert on September 14th. Next committee meeting is March 20th. FOSM’s next Coffee Morning is in May.

**Next PCC meeting to be arranged after the APCM**