

**Haslemere PCC**

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

**on Monday 16 September 2024 at 7:30pm**

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| **Present** |  |
| Chris Bessant | Rector (Chair) |
| Howard BodyNoel Cullen  | Churchwarden |
| Gareth David Simon Ingram Geraldine Lambrechts Katie MorganDebbie Peet Andrew SilkDavid SimmonsStephen Vaughan | Churchwarden PCC SecretaryDeputy Churchwarden |
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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:** Justin Manley-Cooper, Alistair Morgan, David Sewell, Richard Parker, Jamie Harle, Linda Feliati, Andrew Culshaw |  |
| 2. | **Minutes of meetings and Matters Arising from July 2024**Minutes approved as a correct account of the meeting. Matters arising – 4 young people taking part in the First Communion course and will take their first communion at Harvest Festival. **Minutes of meetings and Matters Arising from 2 September 2024**Minutes approved as a correct account of the meeting.   |  |
| 3. | **Rector’s Report and Updates**1. Area Dean Workload

There are 3 parishes in the diocese currently looking for ministers – Milford, Witley, and Godalming (has 4 churches in one parish). Chris has been supporting in his role as area dean. 1. St B parish care

Rosalind Rees stepping down as leader after 46 years. Runs a team of 16 volunteers to look after the church. Chris is talking to team on 2 October to take next steps to support the operational care of the church. 1. Parish Office/Administrator Review. Recently took some time with Kari to go over role description, what does she need etc. She’s ok and doing an amazing job.
2. Carpenters – Jamie Harle has moved away from the area which has meant it hasn’t taken any further steps forward. Looking for someone to take it over. Good levels of interest but need to sort the leadership. Chris to set up a breakfast to move this forward.
3. WhatsApp and Day off

Chris advised that he’s not intending to use WhatsApp as a work mode of communication. He already has 3 emails to monitor – and regularly gets interrupted on his day off. Suggested that he should set up an Out of Office message for his Friday day off to alleviate some of the pressures.  | **Chris to organise a Carpenters Breakfast to seek a new leader.** |
| 4. | **Children and Families Ministry Changes**1. Changes to provision and CAFW Staff

Recruiting at present, have had one enquiry so far. It’s being displayed on the parish website, with local schools in Haslemere, Church suite etc. Ask for prayers to fill this position speedily and successfully. Victoria continuing until the end of the year. First Sunday children’s group has been successful and don’t want to lose that momentum.  |  |
| 5. | **Mission and Parish Vision**1. The Link Community Hub: AC / DP

YFS Agreement has been signed and seal has been made - £1m is coming! Waverley funding is proving a bit more problematic but someone at the Diocese is helping to get it signed (being asked to get the agreement of the owner but this is more complicated as the Diocese is the custodian trustee and PCC are the beneficial trustees so they need to do an appendix to the agreement). Haslemere Town Council – have asked for us to show a formal record that The Link Community Hub will be operated on a Not For Profit basis. By this, we mean it will be self-supporting and money will go back into the Link. The community link hub is not a money making opportunity for the church itself, rather it will be a going concern that funds itself and money ploughed back into its running. **All present formally approved their agreement to run the Link Community Hub on a Not for Profit basis.** Going out to tender and hoping to get quotes in for Christmas with the intention on it being built next year. Need to update drawings on website. Debbie will share once these are completed.  |  |
| 6.  | **Gardening Calendar - Policy Reviews and Planned Items**1. Outward Giving Review – we are surrounded by financial aspects of church at the moment, with many fundraising events happening. Feeling there’s a crowded / saturated market within our community and people seem to be more wedded to the charities they personally support rather than the church nominated ones. For the past 2 years we’ve had to make other arrangements to cover our charitable giving. Great competition this year with fundraising for the Link. Christingle and quiz night are stable events and feel there is definitely scope for other specific charitable events.

Going forward, we need to rationlise and review the list and the work we’re doing on the Link and decide on what we are definitively engaged with – do we make our focus more on local charities? We need to consider the impact our lack of giving to some of these charities might have.  Need to revisit and review this again at our next PCC. Need to be mindful that as a Charity ourselves, people give their money to us, not necessarily with the intention we then gift on to another charity.  1. Financial Exposure Authorities – for approval.

Same as last year. **Seeking approval: Passed unanimously**  | **Action: Chris to prepare more information for further review at the next PCC meeting.**  |
| 10.  | **Regular Reports:**  |  |
|  | 1. St Christopher’s Team: JMC

Didn’t have a meeting last time around due to holidays so nothing to report.  |  |
|  | 1. Safeguarding - NC

Kari has completed her safeguarding training and waiting for her new DBS status. 98% dashboard – need to be tighter on our training. It’s a bit of a moving goalpost to ever achieve 100% but training is key. Lunch and learns sessions coming up for us on some of the training.  |  |
|  | 1. Finance: AC

No finance report this month. **Legacies:**Work is now complete by David and needs printing into packs. David will present to the congregation on a Sunday morning – possibly around All Souls Day.   |  |
|  | 1. Fabric Committee: HB/GD

No report shared. Met with RR to go over schedule of works. After a review of the list against the buildings, came to the view that there was some more pressing works (pointing in the vestry / chimney). Tender will go out for stonework quotes and churchwardens will report back to PCC. Porch is looking a bit tired so taking advice on what costs are associated with the joiner to improve it (possibly to come out of Friends Fund). Net zero work being led by Simon. Had an offer of financial support to help with the assessment and the audit will take place this autumn.  |  |
|  | 1. School Update:. CB

Nothing to report.  |  |
| 10.  | **AOB** |  |
|  | Derby Road Churchyard clearingVery overgrown and difficult to keep on top of it. Waverley come in contractually to mow the grass but there’s a lot more work to be done. Philip Hunt does a great job looking after it but needs some help (it’s more than a Saturday morning working party). Once we get it tidied up, what do we do once to keep it under control on a regular basis – hard to justify that expense on the budget line for something like this. Need to investigate what the ongoing costs of this work is likely to be in order to make a decision.  | **Action: Churchwardens to progress quotes for churchyard clearing/ maintenance.**  |
| 10. | **Dates of 2024 meetings**PCC: 18th November, 20th January SC:  |  |
| 11. | **Closing prayer, Meeting closed at 21:22** |  |



