PARISH OF CALNE AND BLACKLAND Minutes of PCC meeting held on Thursday July 19th 2018

Present: Stan Anniss, Jenny Colby, Isabella Gage, Alex Grenfell, Lucy Hemmings, Revd. Bob Kenway, Revd Teresa Michaux, Mary Pilcher-Clayton, Hugh Pilcher-Clayton, Lucette Rees, Jane Ridgwell, Jack Robinson, Graham Spencer Stan Woods – guest, representing Fairtrade and to pass on information about the organisation and how the parish of Calne and Blackland can play its part

Apologies: Richard Aldhous, Jonathan Billings, Morcia Booton, John Gibson, David Munday, Eddie Sims, Derek Warnett, Kevin Wells

The meeting began with Stan Woods explaining how Calne hopes to become a Fairtrade town and what this involves. If all the catering outlets use Fairtrade ingredients and the shops stock a range of Freetrade goods this all helps towards the goal of becoming a Fairtrade town. For our part, the churches and Church House could use coffee, tea, sugar and biscuits which are sourced from Fairtrade, and also Fairtrade wine if that were being served at any time. We were asked to consider the proposition and if we felt we could commit to becoming part of the Fairtrade movement, to make a formal statement to that effect. As a result of the discussion which followed, this proposal was made:

We commit the churches of St Mary’s, Holy Trinity and St Peter’s and Church House to be part of the Fairtrade agreement, using Fairtrade coffee, tea, sugar, biscuits and wine when serving refreshments Proposed by Bob Kenway Seconded by Mary Pilcher-Clayton All PCC in favour

**Minutes** of meeting held on May 23rd were agreed and signed.

**Matters Arising:** It was pointed out that Jenny and Eddie (new members of the PCC) should read the Safeguarding document.

**Treasurer’s Report:** Graham announced that he will be standing down as Treasurer from September. He was thanked warmly for all his hard work in running the parish finances, keeping excellent records and ensuring the PCC were informed. Graham felt that the PCC should be more willing to play an active role within the parish, and be more in control. Graham feels frustrated at the lack of progress in sorting matters out, especially the question of the benefice administration. Graham reiterated that the budget set is only a guide and reminded the PCC that if they had any queries he was only too happy to reply to them. A new Treasurer is now being sought and Lucette will speak to John Kilbee (Diocesan office) to see if he can be of any assistance.

**Benefice Administration:** A working group met on June 29th to start sorting out some of the difficulties, especially the problems with the office technology. James Meek of Gridserve has been very helpful and he will be asked to continue working to resolve the difficulties created by having a conflict between new software and older equipment. There is a need to see how this will be financed - the other PCCs in the Benefice have agreed to support.

**Building Strategy:** There has been no meeting since the new architect was appointed **ACORNS** met and agreed that, after the harvest period, there should be a celebration coupled with a recommitment to our giving, culminating in a Pledge Sunday on November 18th. This will require a lot of organisation and information will need to be circulated.

**Service times at Holy Trinity:** The Family Service on the first Sunday of the month will now take place at 9.15am followed by refreshments at 10am. Morning Prayer will be at 10.45am.It was pointed out that this coincides with the Family Service held on the first Sunday at St Peter’s. It was felt that a review of services across the benefice and relating to young families would be in order. Messy Church and SMUFs must also be included in this.

**Safeguarding:** Information about training was requested in the form of a written report to the PCC

**LPAs:** David Munday has now been commissioned and Debbie Sealy and Judy West are undergoing training

**Schools:** Marden Vale Academy had a ‘difficult’ Ofsted; there have been numerous resignations but a new head teacher has been appointed for a year, as well as a new deputy head and numerous new teaching staff and a SIP (school improvement partner) has been appointed. Jenny Colby, who already helps with reading and is involved with Open the Book in Marden Vale, is to join the Governors and Hugh is part of the local Advisory Board.

Proposal: Jenny Colby should be put forward for the post of Governor at Marden Vale Academy Proposed by Bob Kenway Seconded by Jane Ridgwell All PCC in favour

It was suggested that more people might like to join in the group who pray quite regularly in Marden Vale Holy Trinity Academy need a new governor following the resignation of Gill Salisbury.

**Buildings Maintenance:** There are graves in Holy Trinity churchyard which do not conform to the regulations for a variety of reasons. It is proposed that there should be a further meeting of the PCC in the churchyard for PCC members to see at first hand what the problems are and also to view the graveyard as it is being proposed that it should be closed. This meeting will take place on Thursday July 26th at 7pm. The upper room in Church House badly needs some redecoration and refurbishment. The plasterwork is currently being repaired but it would be most helpful if a party of volunteers could be raised to help with painting etc. At some time soon, new kitchens, both upstairs and downstairs in Church House, will be necessary. It has been suggested that the people who regularly use Church House should form a Friends of Church House group.

**Calne Partnership of Churches:** The group met last Thursday and discussed the idea of having Street Pastors in Calne. These operate in Chippenham where drug use is an issue. It was agreed that the needs and issues in Calne should be examined before a decision as to how best the churches can help is made. It is proposed that Jenny Colby should become a representative on the Calne Partnership of Churches committee Proposed by Bob Kenway Seconded by Teresa Michaux All PCC in favour

‘Open the Book’ is going very well in Marden Vale Academy and Holy Trinity Academy Initial plans are being developed for the next Lent course, to be on the topic of ‘The Environment’ and to which the Bishop is being invited.

**Friends’ Groups:** September 15th: Open Day at St Mary’s and St Peter’s as part of Heritage Week A PCC representative is needed to be our link on the FOSM Committee

**The next PCC meeting will take place on Thursday September 27th (Church House)**