

ST MARGARET CHURCH, ADDINGTON
Minutes of Parochial Church Council Meeting
Dated Thursday 23rd October 2025
2.00pm in Church Room

**ACTION
BY**

John Humphrey opened the meeting with prayer and reading from Luke 18:1-8.
The PCC gave thanks for answered prayer of new families attending Café Church.

1. **Apologies for absence:** Rev Helen Burn, Laraine Jalili-Hodges, Graham & Christine Halliday-Saddler.
2. **Present:** John Humphrey (Churchwarden/Treasurer), Brenda Humphrey (Secretary), Nicola Budgen (Safeguarding Officer), Tony Chapman, John Dudley, Rita Drayson, Sally Goodman, Judy Grimes.
3. **Minutes of Meeting** dated 2nd September (copies circulated) agreed.
4. **Matters Arising:** There were no matters arising from the Minutes.
5. **Mission:**
Judy Grimes reiterated the need to reach out to the village.
The church family supported the McMillan Coffee Morning in the Village Hall by having our 'after service' refreshments there. We also entertained 26 under 5's from the Montessori School who bought their Harvest gifts and sang songs with Rev Helen.
Discussion took place about how best to communicate with the villagers and it was agreed that we should ask the Parish Council Clerk to advertise the Remembrance Service which takes place on the Village Green. The Secretary to produce a leaflet to go round the Village Green and surrounding area.
6. **Home:**
Children's Church: It was requested and agreed that Children's Church should not be on the same day as Messy Church.
Remembrance Day Service: This will take place on Addington Village Green on Sunday 9th November 2025 at 10.45am. This was approved by the PCC.
Village Voices: John Dudley to undertake a risk assessment on their activities.
7. **Safeguarding:**
Safeguarding Officer, Nicola Budgen, reminded that the purpose is to promote a healthy and safe culture within our church. She went through the Action Plan (copy previously circulated) together with Safeguarding Worksheet 1A. The PCC considered some of the strengths of our culture as being the variety of service, being open and genuinely welcoming. The weaknesses discussed were that as we are not central in the community we are not reaching out sufficiently and communication with the community is poor.

BH

JD

.....2

8. Finance

Treasurer's Report (copy previously circulated): The Treasurer proposed that **the Savings Account which matures 30th October 2025 be reinvested with Charity Bank for one year fixed rate of 3.61%.** This was seconded by Tony Chapman and agreed unanimously.

Friends of Kent Churches: We have received £90 in respect of the Bike ride.

Pilsden: As a result of our 'double up' of the Harvest collection we have sent £340 to Pilsden.

Team Treasurer's Report: At the meeting of 21st October, 2025 the details of the report were amended and will be distributed as soon as it is received. Our percentage share of the team costs has increased slightly, as it is based on previous year's unrestricted income.

It was agreed that our Treasurer should request that all yearly accounts of the benefice are readily available. There is a surplus in the Team Costs account and the Treasurer proposed that **the surplus amount for the team costs be returned to the PCC in the proportion it was paid and the money for the redecoration of the West Malling Vicarage is saved.** This was seconded by Sally Goodman and agreed unanimously.

JH

9. Church Wardens' Report (copy circulated)

East Wall Repointing—John Humphrey proposed that **we instruct the Architect to obtain quotations from the companies recommended by him, Southern Stone, Astral Ltd and Prestigious Stonemasonry.** This was seconded by Tony Chapman and agreed unanimously.

Café Church: We need more volunteers to provide breakfast. Costs can be reclaimed.

The Warden thanked Sally Goodman, Graham Halliday-Saddler and Judy Grimes for tidying the vestry.

10. Any Other Business:

Harvest Lunch—The numbers were down on those attending the lunch compared with those attending the Harvest Service. It was agreed to have the lunch next year but maybe try a different table layout so that people are better integrated.

11. Date of next Meeting: Tuesday 25th November 2025, 7.30pmm in the Church Room.

There was no further business and the meeting closed at 4.20pm.