

ST MARGARET CHURCH, ADDINGTON
Minutes of Parochial Church Council Meeting
Dated Tuesday 14th April 2026
7.30pm in Church Room

**ACTION
BY**

Graham Halliday-Saddler opened the meeting with a reading from Isaiah followed by prayer.

1. **Apologies for absence:** Rev. Helen Burn, Sally Goodman
2. **Present:** Graham Halliday-Saddler (Churchwarden), John Humphrey (Churchwarden/Treasurer), Brenda Humphrey (Secretary), Nicola Budgen (Safeguarding Officer), Tony Chapman, John Dudley, Rita Drayson, Judy Grimes, Christine Halliday-Saddler, Laraine Jalili-Hodges.
3. **Minutes of Meeting** dated 3rd March 2026 (copies circulated) were agreed as a true record.
4. **Matters Arising:** Tarmac to car-parking area could cost in the region of ten and 12 thousand pounds and we would need permission from Seekers Trust. It was agreed that the Church Wardens would obtain a price initially.
5. **Mission:**
Easter Sunday service: Encouraging to see families with children attended. (approx. 15 children).
Celebrate: It was agreed that we would like to incorporate Celebrate in the Café Church service of 14th June. Christine Halliday-Saddler to discuss with Carole (who will be taking the service) and the band.
6. **Safeguarding:**
Nicola Budgen (Safeguarding Officer) circulated Appendix 1: The Code of Safer Working Practice and this was agreed by all present. She handed to Judy Grimes a Role Description sheet for Time to Talk Lunch.
7. **Finance:** The Treasurer had circulated his report to 31st March 2026 which was approved.
Charities: The Treasurer proposed that the charities for 2026 would be Tear Fund, Fields of Life, Salvation Army and Kenwood. This was seconded by John Dudley and agreed unanimously. Donations will be paid when the Gift Aid money is received. He pointed out that this year's £1000 had been paid to Tear Fund in advance to take advantage of the double-up offer.
CCLI Licence fees are due and it was agreed to keep the licences as previously.
Churchyard Grant: The Treasurer has written to the Parish Council asking if they would kindly give £500 grant towards upkeep of the churchyard.
Repairs to East Wall: Total cost was £23,280. This was £5,000 below the budgeted cost.
Utilities: The Gas and Electricity have been transferred to Octopus. We still have to read the gas meter and the Wardens agreed to do this. Previously Rita Drayson was responsible for reading this meter.
Annual Accounts: The Treasurer had circulated copies of the accounts for year ending 31st December 2025 which will be presented to the APCM in May. Laraine Jalili-Hodges proposed that these accounts be accepted, seconded by Christine Halliday-Saddler and agreed unanimously.

JH/GH-S

CH-S

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8. Church Wardens' Report

Watton Chapel Window—Stonework around the window is crumbling. Wardens are arranging a quote for the work needed.

Postbox—We now have a postbox by the lychgate which enables us to now have a postcode which is ME19 5BQ.

August Service—This year we will have an Open House service on the fourth Sunday in August (23rd August).

GH-S/JH

9. Any Other Business:

Step to Chancel—The Secretary read an e-mail from Pam Begbey expressing concern that some people find it difficult to use the step to the chancel and suggested some sort of support be installed. After discussion the PCC felt that this would be rather difficult to do but pointed out that the ramp into the Church Room provided an alternative route to the chancel without encountering a step.

Common Cup—Graham Halliday-Saddler requested that we return to taking the Common Cup at Communion. After discussion it was agreed to email those on the electoral roll to ask for their opinion on the re-introduction of the Common Cup or staying with Intinction as at present.

10. Date of next Meeting: APCM dated Sunday 24th May 2026, in the Church after the 10am service.

There was no further business and the meeting closed at 9.05pm.