Parish of Bentworth, Lasham and Shalden (BLS) Minutes of The Meeting of the PCC Monday 19 May, 1700 Wallgarden Cottage, Lasham GU4 5SD by kind invitation of Sarah Miskella

1. **Present:** Revd David Chattell (DC) Chairperson; Cathy Boyes (CB) Safeguarding Officer, left at 1730; Cathy Dumelow (CD); Mervyn Dunwoody (MD) arrived 1810; Kirsty Ennever (KE); Sarah Miskella (SM); Liz Preece (LP); Peter Rankin (PR)
2. **Apologies**: Michael Campbell (MC); Antonia Goor (AG)
3. **The meeting opened** with a prayer led by DC
4. **Safeguarding Plan:** CB led a review of the BLS Safeguarding Plan. Most of the required policies, procedures, role requirements, training, information displays, recruitment and reports have been completed. Outstanding issues are: 1 PCC DBS update; 3 PCC training sessions; bellringers’ DBS updates. The PCC also needs to review their approach to Promoting a Healthy and Safe Culture which will be an agenda item for the next meeting. CB will circulate a document to support this discussion and she was thanked for her work and leadership in this area.
5. **APCM Results and Responses:** This was deemed to be a success with allroleselected, and an attendance of 21 parishioners and 10 apologies. The presentation on the Diocesan Usage of Funds elicited much lively and informative discussion and DC was thanked for leading this session.
6. **Incumbent Vacancy Update:** The Parish Profile which has been written by PR, MD, Sue Hubbard and Robin Kemp (POTR representatives), has been sent to the Archdeacon for his approval ahead of the Section 11 meeting where the document will be ratified by the PCCs. This meeting will also appoint 4 representatives to be part of the selection process for the new incumbent. The Section 11 meeting will be chaired by MD. The Archdeacon is keen to accelerate the process as he knows of possible candidates who are keen to move to this Diocese.
7. **Walking the Wessex Way:** DC confirmed that the Parish Profile greatly contributed to the essence of this project as it showed the spiritual temperature of the Benefice.
8. **New Service Booklet**: CD will distribute draft booklets for PCC comment but it was decided that the final edition should await the new incumbent’s input.
9. **Financial Update:** The finances are tracking at 7% below the predicted budget. If this trajectory remains and we continue to pay the CMF at the current rate (70%) we will be £1,000 to £2,000 under budget.
10. **Appointment of Independent Examiner:** This is proving difficult and MD is actively looking for someone to fill this role.
11. **Stepback August Fellowship Month:** DC has suggested a month of increased fellowship with churches sharing services. The suggested pattern for BLS is detailed in the table below.
12. **AOB:** Shalden has had a very positive Quinquennial Inspection (QI) with a few minor issues: asbestos report; PAT testing; H&S audit. The inspecting architect praised the condition of the church. PR also reported the sad new of the death of Jim Nash, a long standing Shalden resident whose funeral will take place on 13 June.

CD noted that Revd Ingrid Owen-Jones is still cited in the Villager Magazine as the Pastoral Care contact for Bentworth. CD and LP will ask Revd Ingrid if she is happy for this to continue.

SM expressed concern about the proximity of a tree to the church building. It was suggested she contact a tree surgeon for advice and should a Faculty be needed PR offered to assist in drafting this.

1. Future Dates

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| Future Dates |
| Wednesday 28 May 1900 | Zoom Meeting | PCC Section 11 Meeting |
| Thursday 10 July, 1700 | Bentworth Church  | PCC Meeting  |
| Sunday 20 July pm | Old Park Farm, Beech GU34 4AP | Parish Tea Party |
| Tuesday 22 July 1030 | Bentworth Church | Parochial Visitation |
| Sunday 3 August 1000 | Lasham Church | BLS Communion |
| Sunday 10 August 1000 | Bentworth Church | BLS Communion |
| Sunday 17 August 1000 | Shalden Church | BLS Communion |
| Sunday 21 August  |  Holy Rood Church | POTR Communion |
| Sunday 28 August | St Lawrence Church | GAP Service |

1. **Future Agenda Items:**

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| Safeguarding and training -Promoting a Healthy and Safer Culture.  |
| Service Pattern for Stepback August and beyond.  |
| Incumbent vacancy update |
| Financial update |

1. **Closing Prayer:** The meeting closed with a prayer led by DC
2. The meeting closed at 1840 with thanks to SM for her kind hospitality.