The Combined Meeting of

The Parishioners

and the

Annual Parochial Church Council of

St Peter ad Vincula Church, Tollard Royal

held on 28th April 2022 in the church

Present: The Revd David Miell (DM), Chair Jackie Carlyle-Clarke (J C-C), Churchwarden and Co-Treasurer, Richard Shirley (RS) Co-Treasurer, Bonny Shirley (BS) PCC member and Minutes Secretary, Alexandra Thomas (AT) PCC Member

1. Prayer

DM opened the meeting with prayer at 7 pm.

1. Apologies

There were no apologies

3. The Annual Meeting of Parishioners to which anybody in the village is entitled to attend.

3.1 The Minutes of the previous meeting were agreed and signed having already been circulated within the Parish.

The Minutes for both meetings are incorporated in this document.

3.2 Jackie Carlyle-Clarke was duly elected, unopposed, as Church Warden. Jackie was thanked for her work in the past year, a difficult year with Catherine’s demise and DM said how we are indebted to her. J C-C explained that it is challenging being on her own, but that Alex has offered to help with her workload and in so doing, may be able to consider taking on more in the future. DM explained that a Church Warden can be elected at any time during a year, or assistance can be given less formally as a Deputy Church Warden.

DM Asked if there were any Churchwarden funds or trusts that are administered by the Church Wardens alone, RS said there were not.

1. The Annual Parochial Church Meeting

DM explained that only those people who are on the Electoral Role may attend the meeting unless by invitation.

* 1. Minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes were approved as presented at the meeting.

* 1. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising

* 1. The Annual Report of the PCC/Churchwardens

This report is incorporated into the Annual Report and Accounts 2021. RS advised the meeting that as a PCC we ensure that all financial matters are conducted on a “4 Eyes” approach given our recent history.

* 1. Report on the Electoral Roll

J C-C reported on the current Electoral Roll which now stands at 8 after wedding couples had been removed. DM advised that there is formal requirement to add wedding couples to the Electoral Roll. There are other options that would qualify couples to be married in a church without the need to be on the Electoral Roll including qualifying connections, residence, baptised in the parish, grandparents married in the parish etc.

* 1. Election of representatives to the Parochial Church Council

Nominations were received from Alex Thomas, Bonny Shirley and Richard Shirley, all duly proposed and seconded. In the absence of any further nominations, these were elected unopposed. Up to 6 PCC members are allowed providing they are on the Electoral Roll. Further members can be co-opted until the next period of election.

* 1. Appointment of the Independent Examiner

Following the death of Ms Leigh Cray, RS proposed and AT seconded the proposition that Ms Morna Marler-Roe be elected as our new Independent Examiner which was carried.

J C-C declared a conflict of interest that Mrs Marler-Roe is currently the partner of Mr C Price, sister to J C-C. DM accepted that it is good practice to declare such conflict of interest, but this was not seen as a major concern.

* 1. Financial Report on the Examined Accounts

The accounts were approved by the Independent Examiner on 30th March which were then consolidated into the Annual Report. These have been posted in the church porch as required. RS presented a summary report which is attached to the minutes. It shows a slight increase in income helped by the 2 weddings and the harvest and Christmas services. Expenditure was reduced as we decided as a PCC to continue with the Deanery Share but reduced our contribution to the Diocesan Share by just under 50%. In addition, we saved on the organist’s fees as our usual organist is still poorly and we have recently bought a portable PA speaker system which also helps with outdoor events. At year end we had an excess of income over expenditure of £2,871. Gift Aid and the 52 Club continue to provide a valuable source of income.

The CCLA Investment fund stands at £46,219 and RS advised the meeting that we must increase our efforts to spend on those building repairs that the forthcoming quinquennial report will identify having been in recent years.

RS confirmed the annual statistics report has been submitted.

* 1. Report on the fabric, goods and ornaments of the church

J C-C reported on the updated Terrier and Inventory dating from 1955. This includes photographs and values of specified items. DM suggested we approach members of the village who may enjoy keeping such historic records up to date. No items have been bought/sold in the year.

* 1. Report on safeguarding

AT and J C-C have completed, with RS/BS yet to complete, their safeguarding training as required by charity law.

DM advised the meeting that we are required to renew the forms stating we are ‘Fit and Proper Persons’ to hold office on an annual basis and will therefore require renewal this year.

DM further advised the meeting that we are requited to inform the Diocesan Office of all elected officers.

* 1. Report from the Deanery Synod

The report was presented and is attached to these minutes.

1. Report from the Benefice Council

The report was presented and is attached to these minutes.

1. Any Other business

DM advised the meeting that if, for example, Tollard Royal, Farnham and Chettle were combined as one parish, then each parish can operate independently as district church councils, but the PCC legal function operating centrally with one treasurer, for example liaising with the Diocesan Treasurer.

Discussion took place on church attendance with Tollard Royal having about 25 for Easter compared with Chettle having 50. AT suggested a Pet Service to encourage children, and BS suggested enhanced Christingle Service. DM reminisced on his village tour with BS distributing posies after the Mothering Sunday service and enjoying the introduction to the parishioners. DM offered his services as the ‘New Vicar’ to encourage attendance.

J C-C suggested a repeat coffee morning which was successful last year in the church yard, with inside the church if the weather lets us down. BS advised the meeting that the Village Social Committee is arranging a Jubilee Lunch with a beacon on Higher Bridmore the preceding Thursday. DM stated that service guidelines had just been published and perhaps a brief precursor in the church when the Jubilee books can be presented, followed by a procession to the lunch at the Cart Shed could be considered.

RS reminded the meeting of his attendance at a recent Bell Ringers teacher’s course. It is hoped 2 of the 3 previous students will be able to continue their teaching, with 2 children also showing interest.

DM stated he will soon become full time Priest In Charge of the Chase Benefice, already being assistant Rural Dean, and would wish to become more involved in the affairs of the village. He would hope to be chair of this meeting and appoint a Lay Chair to act in his absence as roles and responsibilities in the Benefice develop in the coming years.

The next PCC meeting was set for Monday 16 May 2022 at p.m. at Tollard Farm.

1. Closing Prayer