

# Minutes of the Upper Itchen Benefice Forum Meeting

Held on Monday 5th June 2017 at Old Alresford Place

Present: Rev. Graham Bowkett (Chairman), Jan Brookshaw (Associate Priest), Caroline Strudwick (Curate), Bruce Newson (LLM), Lenore Prideaux, James Stanley (Beauworth), Alex Hardie, Richard Cotton (Bramdean), Rosebie Morton, David Elton (Hinton Ampner), Alastair Gossage (Kilmeston)

In attendance: Gillian Gray Knight (Secretary); Julian Hartwell (Treasurer), Jenni Black, Members of Beauworth, Bramdean, Cheriton, Hinton Ampner, and Kilmeston PCCs.

1.	<u>Welcome and Prayers</u> led by Bishop David
2.	<u>Visit of Bishop David of Basingstoke</u> to talk about the Common Mission Fund 85% of Winchester Diocese funds are raised from parishes annually. The Upper Itchen has been a very generous donor to the Common Mission Fund to date. The fund is required to support all areas, including those currently unable to raise the necessary funds to support an incumbent. There is the challenge of providing ministry and mission to the younger generations for whom church is not relevant. The third challenge is the ageing ministry team and training new priests. These are all being addressed but funds to continue this development need to be found. The Upper Itchen, in view of the previous levels of funding, has had the Common Mission Fund contribution amended by a reduction of about £10k for 2018. However, the Bishop asked that the parishes consider freezing the giving at the current levels, rather than accepting the reduction, to support the ongoing work of the Diocese.
3.	<u>Apologies for Absence of Benefice Representatives</u> were received from Paul Raworth & Phil Brett (Cheriton).
4.	<u>Minutes of the meeting held on 13th February 2017</u> were tabled, having been circulated. The minutes were approved and signed as a true and correct record of that meeting.
5.	<u>Matters Arising</u> None were raised.
6.	<u>Rector's Report</u> was tabled, having been previously circulated (attached). The cards for the WhoCares? Initiative were in hand. There will be various collection points for the completed cards - Hinton Ampner, Cafe on the Green and Cheriton Shop for example.  GB proposed the adoption of the Revised Pattern of Core Services dated May 2017, seconded Caroline Strudwick.
7.	<u>Financial Report</u> and accounts for the part year to 31.05.2017 were tabled, having been circulated (attached). There were no issues raised.
8.	<u>Deanery Report</u> was presented as part of the Rector's report (attached).  DMPC representative : Lenore Prideaux, proposed by Gillian Gray Knight, seconded by Jan Brookshaw, was appointed.
9.	<u>Visit to Lambeth Palace</u> This pilgrimage was now planned for Monday 11th September 2017 for 20 people on a first come, first served basis. Bookings were invited before the end of the evening. Bring a packed lunch.
10.	<u>Date of the Next Meeting</u>  Monday 30th October 2017 in Old Alresford Place at 7.15 for 7.30 p.m.  Further dates for 2018 : Mondays 5th February, 4th June, 29th October at OAP (tbc) ABCM : Monday 12th March at St. Michael's, Cheriton

11.	<p><u>Any Other Business</u></p> <p>a) Each Parish received a letter of thanks from Bishop Tim for contributions to the Common Mission Fund and likewise from the Church Mission Fund.</p> <p>B) Caroline Strudwick encouraged parishes to develop more prayer chains, following Thy Kingdom Come. Anyone interested in taking part should contact her.</p>
12.	<p><u>Break for PCC Meetings</u> at 8.00 p.m.</p> <p>Beauworth - Chapel; Cheriton - Sumner Room; Bramdean - Garden Room; Hinton Ampner - Garden Room; Kilmeston - Dining Room</p>
13.	<p><u>Forum Representatives Reconvene for Closing Discussion</u> at 9.30 p.m.</p> <p>Revised Pattern of Core Services: one amendment was put forward to the effect that Beauworth would have a 9.00 a.m. first Sunday service in July not August. With this amendment, the motion proposing the adoption of the Revised Pattern of Core Services was approved by all, including Tichborne, who had sent prior approval.</p> <p>Regarding the Common Mission Fund:</p> <p>Beauworth will freeze their share and reconsider in October.  Bramdean would retain the current level but will accept the reduction in 2018 as during the major building work they will be unable to respond to the Bishop's request.  Cheriton would like to see the exact figures but in principle would support the revised figure which, for them, will represent an increase.  Hinton Ampner will increase their share.  Kilmeston are giving it consideration.</p>

There being no further business the meeting was concluded at 9.30 p.m.