

**ST MARY THE VIRGIN CHURCH – WEST MALLING**  
**Minutes of the meeting of the PCC held in the Church Centre**  
**on Tuesday 10th November 2015 at 8.00 p.m.**

**PRESENT:** Revd David Green (Chairman), John Musker (Churchwarden), Lesley Bays (Treasurer), Deb Sutch (Secretary), Canon Alan Vousden, Colin Bays, Gail Crutchfield, David Day, Bruce Dickson, Rob Hancock, Isobel Macdonald, Andrew Mills, Christie Ransom and Anna Tunnicliff.

2. Apologies were received from Ralph Alliston, Becky Clifford, Margaret Moore, and Leo Sharp.

## **8. Fabric**

### **8.2. Capital Project and Church Centre**

8.2.1. The Chairman reported that the Public Meeting and presentation with the Parish Council had gone well although some vociferous opinions had been expressed at times, and that the Planning Application has now been submitted. It is on the TMBC website for a consultation period beginning on 18th November.

8.2.2. Isobel said that letters needed to be submitted to TMBC next week, and that Andrew Mills has prepared a draft letter of support which could be used as a template for those who are unsure how to express their support.

8.2.3. Because they are a consultee, there will be a meeting with West Malling Parish Council on 1st December at West Malling C of E Primary School in Norman Road at 19:30, and the Chairman urged as many PCC members as possible to support the sub-group. Initial feedback suggests that TMBC may require additional information to justify the 'loss of community facilities' (although in reality, the current situation is that nothing is being lost and no organisations would be without a home), and TMBC would also like to discuss the mix of units on the site. Feedback from the public has been mixed, but several messages of support have been received from the wider community. A planning decision could be reached before Christmas, so (if the PCC was minded to sell) the Church Centre would be on the market early in the new year.

8.2.4. The sub-group requested PCC agreement to work on a feasibility study for work in the church and to get quotes from three architects for the study. The Chairman noted that it had been decided by the PCC to look at keeping alterations to the church within the existing footprint of the building, and to consider full proposals with costs in due course when we have a better sense of our plans. Rob asked about insulation, and this will also form part of the research. The PCC agreed unanimously to proceed with the feasibility study, and accept its costs.

