**NOTES FROM THE P C C MEETING HELD ON 20th FEBRUARY 2025**

**HALL HIRE CHARGES** - AGREED that from September 2025, the rate charged to the Nursery School would be increased but only by the amount needed to cover increases to electricity and water charges.

**AWAY GIVING 2025** – AGREED that the open collection would be donated to the following charities on the dates shown

Lent Smartie Tubes (Demelza): 5 Oct (Harvest - Poverty & Hope).

***Abroad*** - 27 April (Friends of the Holy Land); 7 September (Hope Gardens, S.India);
26 October (Diocese of Bo, Sierra Leone);
***Home -*** 4 May (Gravesend Daytime Hub); 15 June (R N L I); 13 July (Samaritans).

**MISSION, OUTREACH & YOUNG PEOPLE**

**a) Sunday School** - Fr Michael said that the twice-monthly Sunday School was doing well thanks to Ann Ashurst and Amy. The congregation was augmented with parents on those days.

**b) Vision – Change, Serve & Grow** – Fr Michael said that he had attended a Clergy Chapter meeting recently attended by Bishop Jonathan at which the Vision had been discussed. The Bishop said that the first priority was serving the Kingdom of God and the Vision did not rely on directives from the Diocese; he supported the work of individual parishes.

**SAFEGUARDING** - Fr Michael said that two new helpers with Sunday refreshments would need basic awareness training and this was in hand. Janet Trevor had advised him that a Lead Recruiter was required to deal with the vetting of volunteers. Fr Michael said that if anyone wished to be considered for this role, or at some time in the future, for a Parish Safeguarding Officer they should contact himself or Janet. Bishop Jonathan had said at the Clergy Chapter meeting that parishes, whilst observing all the safeguarding legislation and procedures, must have a culture of awareness and vigilance and Fr Michael echoed this view which needed to be absorbed by the whole congregation.

**WORSHIP & MINISTRY** - Fr Michael said that love, compassion and humanity and the need to be inclusive and welcoming to those seeking God took precedence.

**FABRIC**

**a) Porches** – Barbara said that one quote for removal of the church south side porches had been received. Another quote was awaited before we could submit a Faculty application.

**b) Hall Floor** – The lottery grant for the work would include screeding the existing floor and overlaying with industrial-grade linoleum and include the emergency escape lobby and the ladies’ toilet area. It was hoped that work would be done during the Easter school holidays. The tiles in the entrance area needed a fresh coat of red tile paint.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

**a) Deanery Synod –** At present it was noted that we had no lay Deanery Synod representatives and this would be an agenda item at the APCM.

**b) Defibrillator** –An external defibrillator (as installed at Christ Church) would cost around £1,500. As there were many types of defibrillator further information would be sought on the best one ro choose. The cost would be covered by a recent donation in memoriam.

Mike Welch 4/3/2025