Notes from meeting between Cllr Michael Lunn (ML), Chair of Hadlow Down Parish Council (PC) and Father Peter and representatives of St Marks Church (STMC).

ML raised the following issues

PC Burial Ground – including litter

It was noted that the litter remains an ongoing issue and that there was not specific solution but all parties will attempt to clear litter debris every month to try and keep area clean and tidy.

PC Extension burial ground

Discussion took place on the PC extension burial area which the PC were attempted to clear woodland growth (willow) to maintain area and re-establish boundary fence. Discussion took place about management of the area going forward, and potential access over Church land with a digger to extract willow stumps which continue to shoot and re-coppice in the area.

Speed Indicator Device and speed measures by Church going in Westerly direction

Discussion on the new pole and explanation of the data being collated to help re-configure speed signs to be consistent and hopefully also push the signs towards Buxted.

Pedestrian and Equine Crossing from Waste Wood and Church land

The PC explained the long term desire has been to develop a dedicated equine and pedestrian crossing from waste wood/Smile Meadow and straight across into the Church land and up towards the Church, which could be supported by Community Infrastructure Levy. STMC explained that the long term use of the land is subject to the diocese but the comments were noted by Father Pete.

St Marks Church raised the following issues

Events and usage of the Church

The Church is always looking for new ways to encourage the Church for public events. The school continues to use the Church as do a craft group.

Building Safety and energy costs

It was acknowledged that the building is in constant need of maintenance, and energy costs of running church is a constant drain on resources. But biggest concern is flood and damp on the Northern Wall which is often under water when there is heavy rain. This is being looked at in co-ordination with St Marks Primary School.

Church grounds including burial ground and maintenance

Car Parking

The Church is keen to develop more parking to enable Parishioners and visitors to enjoy usage of the Church. But this is subject to discussions with the Diocese and very slow and protracted.

Entrance to Church

There is an ongoing problem with a pothole where no one is accepting responsibility. The PC have confirmed with documentation that the responsibility does not lie with them, and likely to be the housing association. This is an ongoing issue.

ACTION: Suggested that the meeting was useful, and a future meeting would be useful as an when required.