

Union agrees to give credit where it is due



From left, Canon Lindsay Hammond, Sue Ferguson, Callum Knowles, the Rev Eileen Harrop, Michael Stephens, Chris Hunt and Rod MacDonald at the meeting to set up Tenterden Savers credit union

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A credit union for Tenterden will be launched next spring, after a decision at a public meeting.

Around 100 people attended St Mildred's Church on Tuesday to hear a presentation about the scheme.

Tenterden Savers will be part of Kent Savers and will offer a safer and cheaper alternative to borrowing money over other sources such as payday loan companies, doorstep lenders or loan sharks.

It is hoped it will grow into a community hub providing other services.

Canon Lindsay Hammond, the vicar of Tenterden who started the idea, said: "We were looking for support from the town and we got that on Tuesday.

"We were really encouraged and reached the con-



clusion that it is more than possible so we are definitely going ahead with a launch next spring.

"We were very pleased with the turnout and around 30 people signed up to be involved."

Presentations were given by the Rev Eileen Harrop, Cllr Sue Ferguson, Mike Stephens, who had put together a business plan, and Chris Hunt, from Kent Savers.

➡ For more information, email Mr Stephens at mjdstephens@gmail.com or Mrs Harrop at ekgharrop@gmail.com