

## Minutes of the PCC meeting November 15th, 2025, 10.00am in Church House

Rev. Rona. Started the meeting with a prayer.

**Those present:** Rev. Rona Stuart-Bourne (RSB), Nicki Edwards (NE), Harold Clarke (HC), Paul Springett (PS), Susan Wales (SW), Tone Higgins (AH), Trevor John (TJ), Louisa Hughes (LH), Roger Cowley (RC), Felicity John (FJ)

**Apologies for Absence:** Amanda Macintosh (AM). David Grant (DG); Mary Clothier (MC). David Johnson (DJ), Richard Redman (RR), Anne Salkeld (AS), Mary Clothier (MC), Trudy West (TW).

**The minutes of meeting held on 20.09.25** had been previously circulated. There were several matters arising and corrections made.

- To clarify: the Church needs an actual individual to take on the role of dealing with social media. SW has spoken to Rachel Willets (RW) (organist).
- To clarify: RW is not seeking quotes for the repair of the organ at this time. The organ is of concern but there is no money available at the moment.
- Daniel Kempf, stonemason, has been paid.
- The roof –SW has not yet sent in the List B application but has submitted the architect's report (to the diocese)
- The talk that Tony Thorp attended was about swifts, not bats.

The minutes, subject to the amendments made, were approved.

**Milborne Wick:** They had a very successful harvest supper. David and Janet Griffiths supplied the music.

**Goathill:** HC and RC took a recent evensong to which the Bishop of Bath and Wells with his family attended as part of the congregation. There is a communion service tomorrow and the carol service is on the 14<sup>th</sup>. December at 3pm. Goathill church is still awaiting to see if they get the grant of £8,000 to match the £8,000, they have raised to mend the roof (Nick Bunt is treasurer).

RSB reminded the members present to sell unwanted items to raise money for Project St. John's. She has been selling books.

**Safeguarding:** Safeguarding Sunday is tomorrow (16.11.25). At present there are no major issues to report. NE is ensuring that all churches in the benefice are up-to-date with their training.

### Deanery Synod:

**RC** attended. There is a programme of six meetings over two years on "how to get the best out of your multi-parish".

Chris Ackroyd, lay reader at Blackford, will distribute flyers for the joint benefice service on the 5<sup>th</sup>. Sunday of this month. RC also suggested that there be a joint social events calendar covering all the parishes so we can see what is happening in each other's churches. This would need to be constantly updated, probably by the parish administrator and on the website. **ACTION: RSB is to organise with Helen.**

**Sub-Committees:** The minutes of the meetings were distributed with the agenda for this meeting.

**Charity and Mission:** -to clarify- the money collected at coffee goes into church funds and is used to quickly donate when there is a big disaster.

Events: SW is to pursue contacts with the Sea Shanty Group and the Wriggle Valley Jazz Band with a view to future concerts. The Quiz night was a success despite fewer teams. A show of hands at the end suggested that fish and chips are a draw (these were not available this time). The next big event is the Christmas Lights Switch on Friday 28<sup>th</sup>.; volunteers were asked to help put up the stars installation in Church on Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup>. Of this month. Calendars will be available from now on at the back of Church after services, at the Lights Switch On and at the School Christmas Fair. FJ has already distributed some to Wayne, to Carly at the hair salon, and to Janice at the Club. NE will show FJ the sum-up reader, and this will also be available for the Bethlehem Baubles sales (**PS to ensure moneys go to the correct accounts**).

Worship: The School Christmas Nativity Service will be on Wednesday December 10<sup>th</sup>. At 1.30 pm.

Deaths: John Fanning's funeral service will be at St. Johns on Monday 8<sup>th</sup>. December at 1.30pm. Anne Hewlett's funeral will place at the Crematorium on Friday 28<sup>th</sup>. November at 10.40 am.

**Finance:** PS distributed a summary of accounts. He explained that the Parish Share bill has not yet come in, and that we will need another quick PCC to discuss this when it does (before Christmas). PS explained that, when the bill arrives, the figure will be for the whole benefice, but we must decide how we break it down for each parish. RSB explained that there is a requirement that we have to pay it but, most churches give what they can afford, so the money goes down and down. The diocese runs at a £2million deficit – The Church Commissioners need to recognise this fact!

**Project St. Johns:** DG is liaising with Tom Griffin, the Architect, who is over-seeing the project, and there will be another meeting within a couple of weeks. SW will submit a List B application so work can start. We must keep fund-raising to replace the money being paid out. RSB said that, after the roof has been repaired the electricity upgrade must go ahead (approx. £28,000) to enable green energy to be used.

**RESOLUTION: Proceed with the roof repairs to St. John's Church as per Tom Griffin's (Architect's) Report and he will oversee the project as the Project Manager. It is hoped that work will start in March 2026 and three tenders will be sought. Our List B application will be made shortly. Initially it will be funded from Church Reserve Funds and Grants will be sought, and fund-raising continues.**

*A vote was taken, and all were in favour.*

**Fabric:** Dave Gay has repaired all the chairs in the Lady Chapel and the drawers in the vestry.

The locking/unlocking of the church every day falls to NE every day. RSB recommended a rota so the burden can be spread across several people to do it a week at a time. RSB reported that a potential verger has been found, although cleaning remains an issue.

**Health and Safety:** The fire extinguishers are due to be inspected 15.12.25.

**AOB:** PS has software that he can set up where specific funds can be earmarked if needed when putting on fund-raising.

Tony Thorp has bought a new St. George's Cross flag as the last one was in tatters. A Union flag has been bought but needs tracking down.

RSB is promoting the Bethlehem Baubles because they are produced by a multi-faith team in Bethlehem, and the church earns £3.50 on each bauble. RSB is also selling off her own unwanted books

and giving the monies raised to the church. She reminded the PCC that they could be doing the same with unwanted items.

*The extra meeting to discuss the Parish Share has been ear-marked for **Saturday 13<sup>th</sup>, December at 10.am in Church House** – and we will be informed when the bill comes through.*

Drinks at Ven are after the service on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup>. December. Our thanks to Lord Allen and Michael Fisher.

**Dates for 2026:** *(all in Church House unless otherwise stated)*

**APCM: 14<sup>th</sup>. March 10.00am.** (Coffee and cake!)

**PCC Meeting** (and to sign off the accounts) **Saturday 21<sup>st</sup>. February 10.00am.**

**Saturday 16<sup>th</sup>. May 10.00 am.**

**Saturday July 18<sup>th</sup>. 10.00 am.**

**Saturday 19<sup>th</sup>. September 10.00 am.**

**Saturday November 21<sup>st</sup>. 10.00 am.**

The meeting ended with a prayer at 11.45 am.