

St Peter's Church PCC meeting Minutes

28th January 2025.

7:00pm – 8:30pm

Present:

Alan Garrow	Ian Birt	David Hipkin	Helen Camm
Chris Clayton (Chair)	Sian Lockwood	Catherine Medforth	John Longstaff
Falicity Moss	Mike Davies	Paul Harris	Tim Robinson
Karin Shaw	Bella Blake	Kate Blake	Jan Edwards
Leigh Thompson (PCC Secretary)		Wendy Lewis	

Apologies:

Steve Gibbin	Beverley Cooper	Catharine Davies
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1. Welcome and opening prayer

Chris welcomed everyone and led the LYCiG prayer.

2. Bible reflection

Chris led a reflection on readings from Luke 4, 16-21 which marked the beginning of Jesus's ministry and to show how Jesus is the fulfilment of Old Testament expectations. And that we are called outward as well as inward.

3. Apologies for absence

Apologies had been received and were noted.

4. Acceptance of the minutes of Septembers meeting

The minutes of the PCC meeting held on the 26th of November were unanimously approved after the correction on the name St Marys Chapel. Item 5 , and the corrected Kate's and Ian's names in item 13.

5. Matters arising from previous meeting

The refurbishment of the St Marys chapel cost has been fully covered by the Hong Kong refreshment day celebrating the Chinese New Year.

The Mission action plan has now transformed into The Big Conversation about Food.

The Role of ELM coordinator has attracted no candidates we will look at this again.

6. Volunteer Code of Conduct

Sian presented two papers

1. The final version of the code of conduct and
2. What to do if you have concerns

This final version of the code has been redrafted with input from some of the congregation and has been simplified.

The process is written in plain simple English and emphasised we're all working together. Advice was taken from the Diocese and follows their guidance. There is no appeal procedure because this isn't an employee disciplinary process.

For the security of the documents, it was agreed that there will be access levels for this folder.

7. Finance

David presented the PCC with the January Summary.

As of today, we have in the Bank £99,000 across various accounts. 2024 results are getting nearer a firm figure. The document David presented is not far off what is going to go to the accountant. There are still a few things that need to be posted. For 2024 we were looking at a budget of £161,000 deficit, we are at £62,000 deficit so we are looking at £10,000 in the right way. The main difference is income was £80,000 higher than was budgeted. Expenses were £20,000 down. Net result 2024 deficit of £62,020 which brings our reserves down to £231,980.

2025 shows that we are expecting less income, £307,873 compared to £373,017 in 2024. We don't know whether we are going to get any big legacies, we've budgeted for £22,000 difference there, One off donations £58,000 down from last year. Expenses are very similar for 2025 down by £6,686.

The big-ticket item is the Diocesan Quota. The 2025 budget comes out with a deficit of £120,000 which at the end of next year would still be just about at our critical £115,000 reserves.

The PCC accept this as the Budget for the next year.

Chris thanked David for all his hard work.

8. Fabric

Sian pointed out that Carole and the team do a brilliant job. By negotiating to leaving up the scaffolding she has saved us a lot of money, apart from that the fabric report is all just basic maintenance.

Chris mention that Asim and Nigel save us money because they often avoid the need to call out specialist contractors.

9. Breakfast club update

Alan outlined what had happened since the last PCC. Alan and Sian met with Hannah Beck in early December and advised her that now would be a good time to retire.

Hannah and Steve Gibb, who has also been a key volunteer for the past several years, reluctantly stepped down from their Breakfast Club roles on 31st December 2024.

Hannah has been the cornerstone of Breakfast Club for 25 years.

Alan noted that the funeral of Nick Starmer brought together the best of Hannah's ministry over these years. He read a message from the Prime minister, Kier Starmer, in which he thanked Hannah for the care given to his brother.

Since 1st January we have continued to serve Breakfasts Monday-Saturday and to run the Thursday MiniSupermarket. We have, however, stopped serving evening meals and Sunday Lunches. Chris Clayton has played a vital role in managing this transition. One of the aims of 'The Big Conversation about Food' is to consider the way forward in the longer term.

10. Appointment of New Parish Safeguarding Officer

Karin introduced Wendy Lewis as the replacement to Kate Blake who has resigned from the role of Parish Safeguarding Officer. Karin gave us a quick breakdown of the multiple skills Wendy will bring to this important, demanding role. Alan thanked Kate for the hard work she has done in this role over the past 6 years. Ian Burt was introduced as someone who will help us with the dashboard.

The PCC confirmed that we are happy to appoint Wendy into this role.

11. Renewal of Safeguarding Policy

The PCC agreed to renew its adoption of the policy. This is to be reviewed again in January 2026.

12. Safeguarding Report

There are no new Safeguarding incidents to report.

The PCC thanked Kate for all her hard work

13. Review of the Complaints Procedure

The PCC agreed to renew the Complaints Procedure. This is next due for review in January 2027.

14. Charitable Disbursements

Our current policy is to give 5% of our income from Planned Giving to six local and international charities. Following some discussion, a list of eight possible charities was assembled. *Subsequently this list has been reduced to six: Artizan International, St Augustine's Bradford Youthworker, Netmakers, Wellsprings Therapy and Training, Shine West Bowling, and St Andrew's Chosica in Peru. (The original list included Community Stars (Knaresborough) and In2Out (Wetherby). The omission of Community Stars was in error.*

15. Approval of Communion Adminstrant

Three people have been put forward Caroline Liddle, Mike Davies and Carmen Lam

The PCC are happy to appoint all three.

16. Main Item: The Big Conversation about Food

An interesting question is, why did people in the first century think it was a good idea to follow Jesus? and there is no obvious answer because there is little evidence to suggest there are a lot of brilliant preachers on every street corner yet the church grew rapidly in an environment where becoming a Christian could have got you into a lot of trouble. The first Christians communicated who they were, what they believed in and what they

hoped for by the way they ate. This poses the question how can we eat in a way which explains to someone who come from the outside, who we are, what we believe and what we hope for?

This partly about giving members of the breakfast club an opportunity to say 'I really miss Sunday Lunches' or the meal they miss most is Friday. So, we can think whether we've got capacity to bring some of those things back. Its more about trying to re-envision and connect every little thing we do has the common sense of its larger purpose.

17. PCC Away day

22nd March at Holy Trinity in Ripon from 9:30am till 2:00 pm. More details to follow.

18. Eco Church Update

There is no update because we still don't have anyone to fill the role of Parish Environment Officer.

We need somebody who is committed to coming into Church weekly, to load up their car and take the recycling to the tip.

19. Inclusive Church update

Mike Davies reported that an anonymous donation of £250 had been given. This will enable us to complete our membership of Inclusive Church. The next step is to build on this opportunity to communicate our desire to be an inclusive Christian community.

AOB

There was no other business to discuss.

Review of the meeting

There was a brief review of the meeting from Kate Blake.

The next meeting

Tuesday 25th March 2025
7:00pm – 8:30pm
in church.