

THE PARISH OF ST PETER – IN –THANET

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL HELD ON
THE 3rd APRIL 2025**

Present

S. Mills (SM), L. Stickels (LO), J.Binfield (JB), R. Page (RP),
I. Dunn (ID), M. Bridges (MB), R. Brown (RBro),
H. Kendrick (HK), J. Reid (JR)

Rev A.Bates

S.Brooks (Mins).

CHAIR; Rev Matt Hodder

1. WELCOME

Rev Matt welcomed all attendees, and Rev Alice led us in prayer. She gave thanks for our meeting together and asked for guidance in our decisions, especially as we approach Easter.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

K. Parker Vaughan, A Parkins, R Dunn and R. Baker.

3. MINUTES OF THE PCC MEETING HELD ON 29th JANUARY 2024

The minutes for 29th January were proposed as correct by ID. This was seconded by Rev Alice and agreed unanimously.

4. MATTERS ARISING

A confidential item was discussed.

Our silverware is stored at Canterbury Cathedral. We now need a faculty to extend the loan agreement for a further five years.

The PCC of St Peter in Thanet approves the continued storage of the following items at Canterbury Cathedral under the terms and conditions supplied by the Cathedral.

Catalogue Ref: CANCA/1379

Catalogue Ref: CANCA/1380.1

Catalogue Ref: CANCA/1380.2

Catalogue Ref: CANCA/1781.1

Catalogue Ref: CANCA/1781.2

Catalogue Ref: CANCA/1782.1

Catalogue Ref: CANCA/1782.2

Catalogue Ref: CANCA/1783

Catalogue Ref: CANCA/1381

The resolution was proposed by SM, seconded by MB and carried unanimously.

Rev Alice had suggested at the last PCC meeting that the Rev Matt, currently Priest in Charge, should become Vicar. ID has raised this matter with the Archdeacon who has confirmed it may be possible to lift the suspension, but this would need to be raised with a Diocesan committee, but the committee meets rarely. Updates would be sought in due course.

5. SAFEGUARDING

Our Safeguarding Officer, Chris Knight, will offer the mandatory training for PCC members in person in a session to be arranged after the APCM .

6. PCC COMMITTEES

Ministry, Mission and Worship Committee

Our last meeting was an informal gathering to discuss the vision and values of our parish. The confirmation service took place on 16 March, with Bishop Rose. It was very well attended and Bishop Rose led a very warm and inclusive service. The Bishop's visit lasted several days and she was very pleased and impressed

with the involvement of local schools with the church.

Rev Matt raised the matter of leaving the church open and unattended during the day. This is something which is being encouraged by Bishop Rose, the Diocese of Canterbury and the Generous Giving Team, as well as being promoted by Ecclesiastical Insurance. Church. This was discussed extensively. Some issues to be considered were the removal of valuables, hours of opening and checking the building before locking up. A risk assessment will be needed. It was felt that the benefits would far outweigh the risks. Rev Matt pointed out that there were regular activities in the church, especially during the summer, when the Village Tour used the building. He will also ask regular users of the churchyard to visit the building briefly as they pass. ID proposed that the church should be opened every weekday morning, from about 10am to 12 noon, seconded by Roy B and agreed unanimously.

Halls Committee

The minutes have been circulated. JR gave updated figures. Toilets in the Portland Centre need refurbishment, at an estimated cost of £27,126 from Gardeners. JR proposed that this should be accepted, seconded by JB and carried unanimously. More chairs are required for the Main Hall, as we have 112 chairs but a capacity of 150. In addition some of the existing stock needs replacement. JR proposed the purchase of 50 new chairs at a cost of £2,157, seconded by Rev Alice and agreed unanimously. Richard Baker has applied for a grant from the Bernard Sunley Foundation to help with our costs.

ECO Church/Churchyard

Rev David Tate is working on an app to identify the trees in the churchyard

Finance Committee

The accounts have been circulated. Rev Matt signed off their official acceptance. The Parish Share has been reduced by £6,000 to £91,000 per year. We will receive a legacy of approximately £80k from the estate of Daniel Monaghan. Rev Matt noted that the PCC can consider what use can be made of legacies not restricted to fabric

Fabric Committee

The minutes have been circulated. AP confirmed that the lightning conductor has been repaired and work on the trees is completed. A report is being compiled about the options for heating. Kevin Tucker, from the DAC, will also be visiting to

to consider net zero heating options. Rev Matt proposed the appointment of a structural engineer, from Morton Partnership, seconded by ID and agreed unanimously. RP proposed acceptance of the appointment of a quantity surveyor to price the costs of new toilets and a hospitality area of £2437, seconded by JR and agreed unanimously.

Fund Raising

Report circulated in advance and accepted. We have held three boot fairs, with one more to come. We have a quiz in May. New question setters are required for the next one. Rev Matt thanked Roy Brown and Laura Kirk and their team for all their work.

Garden of Remembrance

All work done, no further updates.

Social Committee

The Hassocks and Haystacks talk with refreshments was successful. The committee will provide Hot Cross Buns on Good Friday.

8. DEANERY SYNOD

The main event was the Bishop's visit which was very successful. Rev Matt attended a Deanery Synod meeting about generous giving recently.

9. HEALTH AND SAFETY

A minor cut to a finger at the Lunch Club was reported on 3 February.

10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is the APCM on 18 May.

11. AOB

Rev Matt confirmed that no PCC renewals of the PCC membership are due. We currently have three vacancies for the new APCM, but this is dependent on the number on our updated Electoral Roll. We have a three year rule, which is often extended. Rev Matt would like to raise the conversation of length of a PCC membership at the first meeting following the APCM.

During the Easter period, approximately 1,600 children will have had contact

from the church. There are many schools in the Parish and Rev Matt has undertaken frequent visits. The cub scouts have also done work on a Faith Badge. Rev Alice thanked Rev Matt for his school work and suggested that we may need a school team as the volume increases.

12. THE GRACE

The meeting closed with the Grace.