

Minutes of the Parochial Church Council (PCC) Meeting

Date: 19th January, 2026 **Location:** The Main Hall

Chair: Reverend Matt Hodder **Secretary:** Sarah Campbell

1. Attendees and Apologies

Present:

Reverend Matt Hodder (Chair) Sarah Campbell (Minutes)

David Campbell (Treasurer-elect / Guest) Robin Page, Ian Dunn (Churchwarden)

Sue Brooks, John Reid, June Binfield, Andy Parkin, Mary Bridges, Roy Brown, Liz Earll

Hilary Kendrick, Rita Dunn, Lloyd Stickells, Richard Baker, Katherine Parker-Vaughan

Apologies:

Reverend Alice Bates, Sylvia Mills (Churchwarden)

2. Opening and Welcome

The Chair opened the meeting with a prayer and the collect from the previous day. He welcomed the committee to the Main Hall, noting the change in location due to other bookings in the small room.

3. Appointments and Introductions

Sarah Campbell was introduced as the minute taker for this meeting. She is exploring the possibility of becoming our new PCC Secretary. A conversation with Sue Brooks will take place following Sue's return from holiday.

David Campbell was introduced as the incoming Treasurer. Robin Page will finalise the 2025 accounts before a phased handover. The formal transition will conclude at the APCM in May, with Robin on hand to support from then onwards.

4. Approval of Previous Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on November 27th were reviewed.

Matters Arising: Robin Page noted an outstanding action regarding a larger collection box for the parish office. The Chair apologised for the delay, noting that "Christmas got in the way," and committed to following up.

Approval: Proposed by June Binfield, seconded by Sue Brooks. Approved unanimously.

5. Confidential Item:

6. Fabric and Churchyard Report

Tree Maintenance: TDC proposed pollarding 80 lime trees in the churchyard at their expense. Proposal:

Robin Page (RP) proposed that the PCC accept the TDC proposal.

Seconded: Andy Parkin (AP). Result: Approved unanimously.

Maintenance & Carbon Footprint Reduction: Solar panel installation confirmed as a priority. Work on draft-proofing doors, LED lighting, and pipe lagging (approx. £1,500) is in hand.

Bells & Cycles: Actuators will be installed for nighttime silencing. A bicycle rack for the bell ringers was Approved, with discussions to take place about location and safety.

7. Financial Report

John Reid reported a small year-end surplus of £4,343.66. Robin Page projected a loss of £15,000–£19,000 for the coming year. It was noted that whilst service collections were down from our projections for 2025, overall donations had gone up by £5k.

8. Fundraising

Boot Fairs: Noted for January, February, and March.

Open Gardens (Proposed by SB): Sue Brooks proposed an "Open Gardens" event for June 5th–6th.

Conditions: SB requested proceeds go specifically to the Youth Group. Passed by the Committee. Action:

Check dates against Reading Street's schedule.

Donations: £40.00 given by SB to the Youth Group today.

Summer Fair: Confirmed for Saturday, 27th June, 2026.

9. Halls

Renovations: Portland toilets renovated at a cost of £27,000. Offset by grants: £5,000 from Bernard Sunley and £4,300 from the Village Tour.

Donations: North Foreland Golf Club has offered a gift of chairs matching the Mulberry Room.

10. Deanery

Upcoming Services & Meetings:

Confirmation Service: To be held on February 28th at St Luke's Church.

Deanery Meeting: "Welcoming the Stranger" meeting scheduled for June 20th.

Outreach: The upcoming prayer course by Reverend Alice will be offered wider to the Deanery.

11. Electoral Roll

It was noted that there are currently 145 people on the Electoral Roll.

12. Ministry, Mission, and Worship

Service Attendance: Significant increase in attendance for Advent and Christmas services.

Prayer Ministry (Rev. Alice): The pew sheet prayer list is being revised to focus on acute illnesses. A separate list for long-term illness will be managed by a home-prayer group.

13. Accident Reporting

One accident was reported to the PCC. A member of bridge club tripped in the mulberry room. No action was needed.

14. AOB

The upcoming APCM at the beginning of May was noted as the formal date for the changeover of roles.

15. Close

The meeting closed with "The Grace."

Next Meeting: March 16th, 2026, in the Main Hall.