

<b>To / Present</b>	
1. Diane Backhouse (PSO & SC) 2. Jonathan Backhouse (PCC Sec. & SC) 3. Lucy Falcus (Deanery Synod) 4. Sarah Hope 5. Martin Howard 6. Geoff Jowett	7. Alexandra Lamond 8. Matt Levinsohn (Chair & SC) 9. Pamela Rushton 10. Chris Vass (Warden & SC) 11. Margaret Vaughan (Deanery Synod) 12. Elaine Webster 13. Paul Wheeldon

<b>#</b>	<b>Agenda Items</b>
1.	<p><b>Opening Prayers and Reflections</b></p> <p>Matt opened the PCC meeting by asking - if God could answer some of our prayers what would we like him to do?</p> <p>In Exodus God had just used Moses to lead the Israelites out of Egypt and they were on their way and the route ahead was clear. Then in Exodus 14 'Then the Lord said to Moses. Tell the Israelites to turn back and encamp near Pi Hahiroth between Migdol and the sea. They are to encamp by the sea, directly opposite Baal Zephon.' (Exodus 14:1-2) – towards the people they were running from and the sea where they had got stuck. And God says, I will gain glory for myself and the Egyptians will know that I am the Lord.</p> <p>Like Gideon when his army was reduced so they didn't think they had done it all themselves. Like David and Goliath when the smallest was chosen to win the victory. Even Jesus could have made disciples of kings and rulers.</p> <p>Matt then read Psalm 46:10 "He says, "Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth."</p> <p>So at the start of this year let's remember the greatness of our God. He is the one to whom every knee will bow. All rulers. All kings. The strongest and weakest. He is the one who brings the increase. He is the one who opens eyes. He is the one who changes lives. He is the one it is our role to help his people to hunger for. And from there to follow him into the world to see it change as we stay in step with him (Galatians 5) and with the Holy Spirit.</p> <p>Matt then asked members to pray giving thanks and also bringing our requests – what are these big things, on our wish lists that we would like God to do? Members of the PCC thanked God for answering prayers, within All Saints' and the wider area. Then specific prayers were asked for All Saints' and the wider area.</p>
2.	<p><b>Apologies for absence, and declarations and conflicts of interest</b></p> <p>a) Apologies had been received from: John, Mark, Rob, Simon, Karen and Anne</p> <p>b) Declarations and Conflicts of Interest were recorded for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Matt Levinsohn as incumbent, his wife as an employee (Receptionist).</li> <li>ii. Margaret – when discussing finances/Parish Share as she is the Vice-Chair of Durham Diocese Board of Finance (DBF).</li> <li>iii. Martin – when discussing finances/Parish Share as he is an employee of DBF.</li> </ul>

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3.	<p><b>Approval of minutes of the meeting</b></p> <p>a) The PCC were asked if there were any comments, issues or concerns relating to the minutes taken at the meeting held on <b>18 July 2022</b>.</p> <p>b) No comments were received, and the minutes were approved as a true record.</p> <p>i. The PCC was asked to approve the minutes for July as a true record of proceedings, by Matt.</p> <p>ii. All in favour / no abstentions, / none against. <b>(ACTION – Jonathan - to forward minutes to Shiromi).</b></p>
4.	<p><b>Actions/Update and matters arising, not covered elsewhere on the agenda</b></p> <p>Matt updated the PCC, informing them that</p> <p>a) John Archer event will be in February rather than January – February 11<sup>th</sup>.</p> <p>b) Yellow sheets in Welcome packs need updating and have been added to the church website to record interest. Matt visits within three days and invites to a Welcome lunch. Do we want new people to be visited by a church member that lives near them if they feel comfortable?</p>
5.	<p><b>UPDATE: Chair</b></p> <p>Matt updated the PCC, informing them that</p> <p>a) A group of around 50 of us went to New Wine. It was brilliant and a great step towards being in closer relationship and including people well.</p> <p>b) Many of the youth went to Satellites and loved it. Lots of them benefitted - 5 made commitments to follow Jesus for the first time. They are looking at going next year: 4<sup>th</sup> - 9th August.</p> <p>c) Skate Park ministry is going well – need more volunteers. 4 new Year 7's have joined Youth group as a result.</p> <p>d) First Messy Church this year was on Sept 11th. Lots of new local people came along and some great conversations with people open to faith.</p> <p>e) Our Church camp went really well. Lots of new people connecting with those who have been here longer. Good times of worship and prayer. Some mixing across churches but particularly between St Paul's and us we would like more next year. Without the money we got from the diocese it would not have broken even. (£1187 from diocese - £2500 total bill). Suggestion to make a budget item. Ideally we would book early July Fri 7<sup>th</sup> – Sun 9<sup>th</sup>. Matt proposed to book as soon as possible even if costs church £1,500. All in favour / no abstentions, / none against. <b>(ACTION Matt)</b></p> <p>f) We are seeing an increase in the number of people wanting mentoring. Not as much as we want yet but getting there. Similarly we are seeing an increase in the prophetic. We again want to see more. Question: are we keeping a mentoring list? To think about. <b>(ACTION Matt)</b></p> <p>g) We have grown in the last year. Around 30 new adults have joined the church, many</p>

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	<p>of whom have started serving very quickly and joined life groups. Matt has had individual conversations with them prior to serving. Getting anyone who wants to teach to wait. Matt is devising an Evangelical Alliance statement of faith to sign so teaching is appropriate. The Friday night Life group is growing now which has been encouraging.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>h) The Staff Management team has grown with Michelle Honeywell and Gemma Elysee coming on board so we are now a team of 4 plus Matt.</li> <li>i) The Church planting diocesan course for lay planters (1 years training) has been pushed back to January, which Adam Burns, Sandra Griffiths, and Taz Earl are going to go on.</li> <li>j) Taz and Lee have moved up to Durham to start his vicar training. They are neighbours with Ben and Emily our new curate and his wife.</li> <li>k) We have put in the diary dates for November for LLF input for the church first, and then the youth. Please pray for that.</li> <li>l) Matt met with Nicola and Stuart Main, which was encouraging. Matt mentioned doing a weekend mission up there and so they are going to look at dates potentially around Easter.</li> </ul> <p>There are some key questions for this year:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Fringe: We still have a large number of people who feel a bit periphery to the church. How do we help them to feel more part of things and plugged in? Linked to this how to we raise prominence of life groups. Anne Rolfe thought about Life groups doing Sunday afternoon socials and announcing them in church so others who want to meet the group could come.</li> <li>b) Evangelism: We are growing through people transferring from other churches, and people new to the area through our website. How can we help those of no faith or de-churched people dip a toe in? Alpha? Seeker services? Interested in your thoughts. Do we need to switch off our live streaming in order to get confidence to share stories of sharing faith? Maybe record and edit out testimonies before putting recording on website. Question asked: "When will the Pastoral team have spoken to all those not in Life Groups, that they started several months ago?" Matt said he had been told that everyone is in one/been asked. It was confirmed that this is untrue.</li> <li>c) Growth: At the rate we are growing we are likely to be full again in the next year. Possible ideas: we need to be praying whether Messy church can and should transition into a more regular afternoon service. Whether we help Encounter to go from monthly to a more regular service. Whether we plant out somewhere else as a service or a whole church. Whether to try to get children's provision alongside the 9am service to see if it can grow. We could build but I would say not yet. Churches don't grow beyond 90% capacity.</li> </ul> <p>Need to pray about three questions above and bring any ideas to next PCC. <b>(ACTION all PCC)</b></p>

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6.	<p><b>UPDATE: Financial</b></p> <p>In John's absence, Margaret updated the PCC, informing them that</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Income and expenditure to end of August had been sent out and shared the key factors of the current status. Giving slightly higher than budget due to gift aid and a number of smaller income streams. Expenditure is up due to on-going maintenance tasks and slightly higher staff salaries than budgeted however still ahead of budget with a better deficit than originally budgeted for at this point. We have had a very blessed year so far.</li> <li>b) Matt to bring finance to church during October. <b>(ACTION Matt)</b></li> </ul> <p>Living Wage Foundation was discussed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>c) Margaret said the living wage has been updated. She explained the new current rate is being raised from £9.90 to £10.90 (about 10%). Relevant salaries will be raised from October. Other salaries will be reviewed later in the year (Jan 1) in line with budget setting.</li> <li>d) Details redacted for confidentiality.</li> </ul> <p>Parish Share Scheme was discussed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>e) A confidential data set has been shared with the PCC before the meeting. For transparency this information was shared for all parishes across Stockton.</li> <li>f) Margaret explained it's purpose, both positive and limitations around the Parish Share Scheme, which results in a Guided pledge.</li> <li>g) Confidential discussion was held about the Parish Share Scheme.</li> </ul> <p>Geoff proposed to pay the Parish Share as requested, Paul seconded. All in favour / 1 abstention, / none against.</p> <p>PCC to send a letter to Bishop Paul regarding thoughts around Parish Share.</p>
7.	<p><b>UPDATE: Safeguarding</b></p> <p>Diane updated the PCC, informing them that</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Confidential Report needs updating for next meeting and Safeguard process flowchart will be finalised. <b>(ACTION Diane)</b></li> <li>b) Diane raised new volunteer concerns – there are new volunteers that she is not aware of taking up roles that need safeguard training and/or DBS checking as not informed and not all rotas are kept on Church Suite. <b>(ACTION Diane)</b></li> <li>c) Pam reminded that in other areas, e.g. scouts, schools, without training or DBS checks they would not be allowed in buildings and it is important we do the same. PCC were in agreement.</li> <li>d) Need to be able to say they can be taken off rotas until DBS checked and safeguard trained to appropriate level.</li> <li>e) Jonathan to share link to the Safeguarding podcast by Unbelievable relating to</li> </ul>

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	churches/Christian organisations ( <b>ACTION Jonathan</b> )
8.	<p><b>UPDATE: Staff Management</b></p> <p>Elaine updated the PCC, informing them that</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Two new volunteers have joined SMT.</li> <li>b) Jonathan asked if DBS/safeguard trained – need to sort training for one volunteer. (<b>ACTION Diane</b>)</li> </ul>
9.	<p><b>UPDATE: Warden(s)</b></p> <p>Chris updated the PCC, informing them that</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Repairs to skylight completed by John Whitfield (roofer) with 15-year guarantee.</li> <li>b) Repairs to front door completed - £180.</li> <li>c) A gully needs repairs – quote £450 with 10-year guarantee. Sweetings did not respond to earlier request to check guarantee. QI inspection indicated that gutters need cleaning out - £240 quoted. Chris proposed spending £690 to repair gully and clean gutters, Pam seconded. All in favour / no abstentions, / none against. (<b>ACTION Wardens</b>)</li> <li>d) Matt F sent details of damage in shower in flat causing leakage through tiles and ceiling. To be investigated and quote sought. (<b>ACTION Wardens</b>)</li> <li>e) Building group will meet to discuss QI and prioritise actions that need undertaking. (<b>ACTION Building Working Party &amp; Wardens</b>)</li> <li>f) David Belmont has sent the digital plans for REACh project.</li> <li>g) Chris attended a meeting on the theft of metal from churches ran by insurance company. Margaret mentioned that we have had lead stolen from guttering a few years ago.</li> <li>h) Anne had requested the Environmental group starts a wildlife area on church grounds.</li> <li>i) Chair for office has arrived.</li> <li>j) Ladders - no further actions so far.</li> <li>k) Lights in hall – waiting until money is available.</li> </ul> <p>Questions/corrections have they been answered/amended on QI – Chris said these had not been actioned so far – (<b>ACTION: Wardens</b>)</p>
10.	<p><b>Working Parties discussion and Update</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Will follow up next time due to absences and timing - invite Matt to the meeting.</li> <li>b) Martin shared a draft calendar for the social group. Jonathan asked if it could be made digitally available. Will be on Church Suite.</li> <li>c) Elaine shared that the Environmental group had met and asked about Harvest festival – to go to Ragworth Community Grocery. Article to be in October programme.</li> </ul>

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11.	<b>Any Other Business</b> a) Geoff asked if there was an update on the health and safety policy. Matt added that the risk assessments have been updated except for Jan's, to be put on G Drive. Nathan will then review these. b) Margaret said John is asking if any one was interested in being Treasurer.
-	<b>Close</b> - The meeting to finish with the Grace
-	<b>Date of next PCC meeting</b> – 17 <sup>th</sup> October 2022