

To / Present	
1. Diane Backhouse (PCC Sec, PSO & SC)	5. Matt Levinsohn (Chair & SC)
2. Gillian Davison	6. Pamela Rushton
3. Karen Killick (V. Chair, Deanery & Diocesan Synod)	7. Chris Vass (Warden & SC)
4. Alexandra Lamond	8. Paul Wheeldon

#	Agenda Items
1.	<p>Opening Prayers and Reflections</p> <p>Alex Lamond brought the reflection: Being a Living Sacrifice.</p> <p>After reading Romans 12:1-2 "Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship. Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will."</p> <p>Alex asked PCC what does it mean to us to be a living sacrifice? Discussion then followed: putting God first in everything and responding to God's interruptions, living His way, being available to be used in whatever way God wants us to be. Sacrifice means dead, so we are dead to ourselves and want to do God's will. All agreed it isn't easy and impossible without Holy Spirit.</p> <p>Luke 22:39-44 "Jesus went out as usual to the Mount of Olives, and his disciples followed him. On reaching the place, he said to them, "Pray that you will not fall into temptation." He withdrew about a stone's throw beyond them, knelt down and prayed, "Father, if you are willing, take this cup from me; yet not my will, but yours be done." An angel from heaven appeared to him and strengthened him. And being in anguish, he prayed more earnestly, and his sweat was like drops of blood falling to the ground."</p> <p>Jesus was the ultimate living sacrifice. When Jesus asked his Father to take this cup away he showed us that even he struggled with what was being asked of him. He needed God's help to accomplish what had been set before him – being a living sacrifice. We too should seek God in all we do and spend time in His presence.</p> <p>1Thessalonians 5:16-18 "Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus."</p> <p>Paul says we should offer ourselves with joy and thanksgiving.</p> <p>A time of stillness and prayer followed.</p> <p>Next Reflection and Prayers: Matt Levinsohn</p>
2.	<p>Apologies for absence, and declarations of interest</p> <p>a) Apologies had been received from: Adam Burns, Lucy Falcus, Simon Honeywell, Martin Howard, Geoff Jowett, Anne Rolfe, Ben Scott, Margaret Vaughan, Elaine Webster, Guy Wingate.</p> <p>b) Declarations of, Conflicts of Interest were recorded for: Matt Levinsohn as Incumbent, his wife as an employee (Receptionist).</p> <p>c) Matt reminded PCC of need for confidentiality of discussions and decisions made.</p>

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3.	<p>Approval of minutes of the meeting</p> <p>a) PCC were asked if there were any comments, issues or concerns relating to the minutes taken at the meeting held on 17th July 2023. None were given.</p> <p>b) PCC was asked to approve the minutes for July as a true record of proceedings, Matt proposed: 7 in favour/1 abstention/none against. Motion carried. (ACTION – Diane - to forward minutes to Shiromi).</p>
4.	<p>Actions/Update and matters arising, not covered elsewhere on the agenda</p> <p>a) All of actions from July PCC have been completed.</p> <p>b) Matt and David Munby attended Applied Theology Course and have suggested partnering with TVCC.</p> <p>c) Matt gave further details regarding Kintsugi Course and potentially starting in Jan 2024 with Elaine Eley heading a team in the community.</p>
5.	<p>UPDATE: Logo</p> <p>a) Matt introduced that our logo and website don't match who we are – need to be accessible to both Christians and non-Christians and consistent for wider branding.</p> <p>b) Nethanja has redesigned Logo and explained reasons for choice of colour, font and design – consistent for wider branding and give essence of who we are, expressing our personality. PCC were shown three potential options.</p> <p>Questions followed: change in colour to reflect warmth and friendliness of All Saints', design reflects all-gathering nature and inclusion of all, third design was clinical.</p> <p>Matt proposed PCC are happy with Logo 1 and 2 designs and will delegate to a small focus group made up of different demographic in and out of church to discuss and email PCC for final agreement with choice. All in favour (ACTION – Matt).</p> <p>Thanks was expressed for Nethanja's time and work.</p>
6.	<p>UPDATE: Chair</p> <p>Matt shared there was lots to celebrate over the summer:</p> <p>a) Services in the hall were well received. Really nice to mix as a wider church family across both congregations.</p> <p>b) New Wine - 15+ people attended. Matt has booked on New Wine 2024 and will start to encourage others.</p> <p>c) Satellites - 30+ attended including people coming to faith or reaffirming faith. Looking at some baptisms in January.</p> <p>d) Connect had a brilliant time 12th September with Ukele group.</p> <p>e) Discovery church started 17th September. 80 people attended including 40 or so children. Lots of people we knew and lots we didn't.</p> <p>f) A few new youth began attending youth events.</p> <p>g) Last few Sharing Faith courses. Continue to see people growing in confidence to share their faith.</p> <p>h) Nobody new or any returning members attended Back to Church Sunday.</p> <p>i) Alpha - people are making invites. Two may be coming so far. Still praying and working on it. Discussion was held: do people have non-christian friends to invite, is it too long to commit to, etc. To gain views from congregation (ACTION – Matt).</p> <p>j) Bailey has been a great addition and is settling in well.</p> <p>k) Starting to have initial conversations about an American mission team but this time when we would like them to be here at the start of the summer to fit better with our school/event diaries.</p> <p>l) Hollybush – looking to do that again but it has to pay for itself this time around which will mean an increase in costs.</p>

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	m) Sound desk – some minor changes need to be made to its design and permanency. (ACTION – Wardens).
7.	<p>UPDATE: Financial Matt brought financial report to PCC in absence of Guy and Margaret.</p> <p>a) The monthly Finance Report was presented to PCC. The deficit continues to grow beyond that planned, due to a combination of lower income, some unforeseen costs plus a subsidy paid to run the Church camp.</p> <p>b) Key principles were discussed with respect to setting the church budget for 2024.</p> <p>c) 2024 Parish Share was discussed: £117,527. After discussion relating to budget and Parish Share Matt proposed to initially submit a Parish Share Pledge of £80,000 (submissions required by 8th October) which, hopefully, we can improve on once we have agreed a financial budget for 2024. All in favour. (ACTION – Matt/Diane to email PCC for input/agreement as only 8/18 in attendance).</p> <p>d) It was noted in the discussion that the Durham Diocese's annual income is broadly split, with around 60% being made up of grants from the national church (in effect granted from income from historic investments) and 40% being the parish share contributions from parishes within the Diocese. The Diocese does not gift its own funds to the central church (other than a small amount to support theological training nationally of curates).</p>
8.	<p>UPDATE: Deanery Synod Questions Deanery Synod questions and answers had previously been sent to PCC to make additions. Staff had also added to the report and PCC made further amendments (ACTION - Matt to send to Deanery Secretary).</p>
9.	<p>UPDATE: Policy/Procedures: Discussion was held regarding each presented policy/procedure.</p> <p>a) Risk Procedure – Gillian proposed acceptance of the procedure, Karen seconded. All in favour. (ACTION - Diane to make amendments and send to Shiromi for website).</p> <p>b) Matt thanked the team for rewriting the Risk Procedure.</p>
10.	<p>UPDATE: Safeguarding Diane updated the PCC regarding safeguarding.</p> <p>a) Discussion was held regarding recent concerns and Karen asked if Diane was being adequately supported. She answered positively and asked that PCC uphold all in prayer.</p>
11.	<p>UPDATE: Warden(s) Chris updated the PCC regarding:</p> <p>a) Thanks was given to Rob Govier for sourcing scaffolding for recent job in hall.</p> <p>b) Leak in ladies toilets being repaired 19th September (ACTION – Wardens).</p>
12.	Any Other Business
-	Close - The meeting finished with prayer
-	Date of next PCC meeting – 16 th October 2023 at 7:30pm.