



Present	
1. Diane Backhouse (PSO)	7. Pamela Rushton
2. Lucy Falcus (Deanery Synod)	8. Karen Snowdon (Warden & SC)
3. Martin Howard (PCC Sec & SC)	9. Chris Vass (Warden & SC)
4. Geoff Jowett (SC)	10. Margaret Vaughan (Deanery & Diocesan Synod)
5. Karen Killick (V. Chair, Deanery & Diocesan Synod)	11. Paul Wheeldon
6. Matt Levinsohn (Chair & SC)	12. Guy Wingate (Treasurer & SC)

#	Agenda Items
1.	<p>Opening Reflection – Geoff Jowett</p> <p>Geoff explained that the end of March brings about the 31st anniversary of him taking early retirement from being a manager at Hartlepool NPS.</p> <p>In the May they started a 3-month residential missions training course with Kingdom Faith. The course was led by Bryan and Judith Spence an amazing couple who without doubt had the most spiritual effect on their lives of any ministry over the years.</p> <p>The one thing Bryan impressed on us was “WHAT IS GOD SAYING” you don’t move until you know. To the extent that preparation for speaking at meetings was cut down to 15 minutes before the meeting, Geoff you’re speaking just ask God. And it worked especially on mission, 2-3 meetings a day preparation in the conventional sense was impossible.</p> <p>So, how is this relevant for tonight?</p> <p>The question is are we hearing Gods voice for us as individuals, families, church or are we in the business of life just getting on with things expecting God to bless what we do rather than walking in blessing because we are following his directions and will.</p> <p>Geoff shared some verses:</p> <p>Proverbs 3:5-6 The Message</p> <p>John 10:27 New King James Version</p> <p>John 12:49-50 New King James Version</p> <p>God speaks in many ways, an audible voice, through the bible, dreams and visions, the prophetic, pictures and even trances. (Simon Peter about Cornelius).</p> <p>Ezekiel in chapter 37 is told by God to prophesy to the dry bones, which he did, and the bodies came together but there was no life.</p> <p>It needed the breath of the Holy Spirit to bring life to the word of God.</p> <p>It’s the same for us.</p> <p>So, his question for us all tonight is are we listening to what he wants to say, seeking his agenda in the midst of all our business. And when he speaks are we allowing the Holy Spirit to bring life to whatever God says.</p>

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2.	<p>Apologies for absence Apologies had been received from: Jacob Howard, Ben Scott, Anne Rolfe & Simon Honeywell</p> <p>Matt declared an interest as his wife is an employee Martin declared an interest as an employee of the diocese Margaret declared an interest as Lay Chair of the DDBF</p>
3.	<p>Approval of minutes of 9th December PCC Meeting The minutes were approved subject to two amendments that had been shared ahead of the meeting.</p> <p>Proposed by Chris Vass and seconded by Guy Wingate, all in favour, 3 abstentions</p>
4.	<p>Matters arising and Chairs update – Matt</p> <p>Matters arising and Chairs update – Matt</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ruby was appointed as the interim assistant Youth Pastor. Her pay will be back dated to Jan 1st and will be employed until mid-July • Matthew Moore (TVYFC Serve Team) is arriving 31st Jan and will be with us until 28th July. • Kintsugi- Have changed minimum level of giving per year to £360 or £30 a month. We have written back to ask for £250 as jury out on effectiveness so far. The quality of the information and resources that they provide is very good and it is hoped that we will be able to make use of the youth course that they have. It can be a good link into church for many with a clear focus on God’s love. The question was raised about safeguarding and Matt confirmed that their procedures were very thorough. • Jennie Dix has agreed to take over the responsibility of overseeing the kitchen. • It was suggested that we move the APCM to 6th April instead of 27th as we have a CAP speaker booked in for the 27th April. The PCC were happy to support that change, however this year we need to renew the Electoral Roll so we will need to start this earlier, the proposed timetable for this is as follows. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Notice up by 6th Feb ○ Announced at all services on 9th & 16th Feb as a minimum ○ Inform all on the existing roll ○ The new Electoral Roll closes at least 15 days before and suggest 16th March. ○ Displayed from 21st March (names only) and no names can be added after this. • Matt has written to those wishing to be involved planning men’s ministry. • The follow up from Christmas did not work as we had planned but we had 3 people wanting to explore faith and this is being planned with the individuals. • Focus for this year will be continuing to help people find their place in the church and using our existing ministries well. • Continuing to work on planning an Easter holiday club • Pastoral team and life group leaders both have met over the last week. Good support is going on and Stuart & Ruth are also meeting with each life group leader • Any feedback you want to give me?

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5.	<p>Youth Pastor Update - Matt</p> <p>We have two candidates for Youth Pastor position and the candidates have been invited to interview on Saturday 1st February. The PCC viewed the proposed schedule for the day and suggested some changes to the schedule.</p>
6.	<p>Christmas Services -Matt</p> <p>The numbers attending each of the Christmas services over recent years had been shared with the PCC ahead of the meeting. The carol service in 2023 was on a Saturday and this did not seem to work. Overall numbers attending the Christmas services are better this year. We did a service for Junction Farm and for the Links this year and want to spread that further. The children's service earlier (discovery style) was probably the only one we would want to tweak significantly for 2025.</p> <p>Initial plans for Christmas 2025 are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Saturday 6th December – Children's Celebration / Christingle – link with Brownies & Guides • Sunday 7th December – Youth Celebration • Sunday 14th December – Carol Service • Sunday 21st December – After Church Party – TBC • Wednesday 24th December – 4.00pm & 11.30pm • Thursday 25th December – 10.30am
7.	<p>Financial Update – Guy</p> <p>The end of year figures had been circulated to the PCC prior to the meeting. Guy explained that the final figures will be slightly different due to some adjustments but that the overall messages were the same.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A £21k surplus. • End of year reserves of £63k less £2k owed to creditors. <p>Guy thanked Margaret for her support with the formatting of the accounts for the charity commission.</p> <p>We have two restricted funds, Building Improvement & Life Exhibition.</p> <p>Once the accounts have been finalised they will be circulated to the PCC before being sent to the independent assessor.</p> <p>The Charity Commission reports will be submitted later in the year.</p> <p>The youth room fund has had £940 remaining for a number of years and it was agreed that the new Youth Pastor to be made aware of it when they start.</p>

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8.	<p>Policy Update – Martin</p> <p>Prior to Christmas the following policies were discussed and agreed via email.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complaints Handling & Whistle Blowing Policy • Recruitment of Ex Offenders • Safer Recruitment <p>This was ratified at the meeting for the purpose of the minutes.</p>
9.	<p>Safeguarding Update – Diane</p> <p>Situation Report</p> <p>1. Actions taken since last PCC:</p> <p>a. Diane reviewed safer Recruitment Policy and Procedure, Recruitment of Ex Offenders Policy and Whistleblowing Policy prior to being sent to PCC in December for addition to Youth Matt and Diane held a safeguard meeting on 06.01.2025 and discussed plans for 2025.</p> <p>b. Matt and Diane have reviewed the Parish surveys sent for the Independent Safeguard Audit of Durham Diocese this year and are going to bring to the church with some guidelines.</p> <p>c. Diane has updated Parish Dashboard in line with All Saints’ Action Plan which was sent to PCC (12.01.25) for consideration and approval at Jan PCC meeting.</p> <p>d. Diane has updated All Saints’ Church Activities list (including active and inactive activities) which was sent to PCC (12.01.25) for consideration and approval at Jan PCC meeting.</p> <p>e. Diane has updated the Volunteer Guidelines and Safer Recruitment Process Outline in readiness for Feb PCC meeting.</p> <p>f. Diane has begun to contact ministry leads to request updated ministry team lists, risk assessments and job role descriptions as well as making them aware of future changes to SRPM process over next few months.</p> <p>g. Diane checked 110 staff and volunteers on the DBS update service and 70+ are now signed up.</p> <p>2. Future actions needed:</p> <p>a. To complete risk assessments for all church activities.</p> <p>b. PCC to review and approve Volunteer Guidelines, Safer Recruitment Process doc and Safeguard Matrix at Feb PCC meeting.</p> <p>c. To continue updating Parish Dashboard as work is accomplished, considering new National Safeguard Standards being introduced from December, with an 18-month allowance to be fully compliant.</p>



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10.	<p>Social Update & Church Camp – Martin</p> <p>The Barn Dance on Saturday 25th January currently has about 80 people booked to attend.</p> <p>Church Camp at Hollybush has been booked for 5th & 6th July.</p> <p>Instead of New Wine this year it was suggested that church members to be encouraged to consider attending Keswick this summer. Dates are either Sat 19th to Fri 25th July, or Sat 26th July to Fri 1st Aug.</p> <p>Our calendar has Mens & Ladies events scheduled for February but events have not as yet been planned.</p>
11.	<p>Warden Update – Chris / Karen</p> <p>Sound Desk – Kevin is currently preparing the wood for the sound desk</p> <p>Lighting Update -The hall lighting has been changed and the new LED lighting units are proving to be very effective.</p> <p>Hall Floor – The floor will be refinished in February.</p> <p>Flat 558B – Our tennant has not been well and now finds it very difficult to walk. The Local Authority are going to be making some minor modifications to the entrance to make it easier for him to get in and out of the door. The modifications will be fully reversible.</p> <p>Flats – Rents have been increased in line with inflation.</p> <p>The hall boilers have been repaired but possibly some further attention is required as it was not working fully recently.</p> <p>Carpet for Nave – A faculty is being submitted to the DAC for formal advice.</p> <p>The PCC proposed the laying of carpet tiles to the whole of the Nave and to submit a faculty for permission to carry out this work Proposed by Karen Snowden, Seconded by Guy Wingate, All in favour.</p>
12.	<p>Any Other Business</p> <p>There was no other business.</p>
-	<p>Close - The meeting finished with prayer at 9.05pm</p>
-	<p>Date of next PCC meeting – 17th February at 7:30pm</p> <p>Opening reflection to be led by Anne Rolfe</p>