



Present	
1. Diane Backhouse (PSO)	7. Matt Levinsohn (Chair & SC)
2. Derek Evans	8. Pamela Rushton
3. Lucy Falcus (Deanery Synod)	9. Karen Snowden (Warden & SC)
4. Simon Honeywell	10. Chris Vass (Warden & SC)
5. Martin Howard (PCC Sec & SC)	11. Richard Wakefield (SC)
6. Karen Killick (V. Chair, Deanery & Diocesan Synod)	12. Paul Wheeldon

#	Agenda Items
1.	<p><b>Election of Derek Evans to PCC</b></p> <p><i>Derek was asked to leave the room.</i></p> <p>Proposed by Pamela Rushton Seconded by Simon Honeywell All were in favour of electing Derek as a member of the PCC.</p> <p><i>Derek was invited to join the PCC.</i></p>
2.	<p><b>Opening Reflection – Chris Vass</b></p> <p>Chris reflected on being an introverted Christian. We are all individuals, some like being in crowds and some like being in small groups etc.</p> <p>I have thought, can God use me? People have encouraged me and given me lots of opportunities to serve.</p> <p>We are all part of the body of the church. Mary the mother of Jesus is a good example of how God has used introverts and Jesus often withdrew to a quiet place.</p> <p>God sometimes asks you to step outside of your comfort zone.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Lean into your strengths.</li><li>• Use your personality in ministry</li><li>• Trust in God's strength.</li></ul> <p>Chris shared Mark 12v30</p> <p>The time reflection ended with a short time of prayer and worship.</p>

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3.	<p><b>Apologies for absence</b> Apologies had been received from: Ben Scott, Margaret Vaughan &amp; Guy Wingate.</p> <p>Matt declared an interest as his wife is an employee Derek Evans and Chris Vass declared their interest as a trustee of a charity supported by the PCC. Richard declared an interest as his wife is an employee Martin declared an interest as an employee of the diocese</p>
4.	<p><b>Approval of minutes of 15<sup>th</sup> September PCC Meeting</b> The minutes from 15<sup>th</sup> September were approved.</p> <p>Proposed by Matt Levinsohn, all those present at the meeting were in favour. 2 Abstentions</p>
5.	<p><b>Matters arising and Chairs update – Matt</b> It has been a really good month since we last met with a lot that is going on:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. We continue to grow with new people joining the church. This has been a real joy and has necessitated putting on another welcome lunch this time in November.</li> <li>2. The Evangelism Conference was a great success with 50 people coming to get trained up in sharing faith. We are launching hubs with the diocese to provide further support for people.</li> <li>3. Kathryn has made a great start. We are currently looking to meet with Graham who is the new guy at the diocese who can give the go ahead for us being a youth hub so we are hoping for some movement on that. We need to work out two churches to work with to help do coaching with them which is the next thing. We are seeing numbers rising on a Friday night with youth and more young people exploring faith. The question of funding for the additional staffing was raised and Matt confirmed that the additional cost would be met by funding from the diocese.</li> <li>4. Men's breakfast is making decent headway with numbers growing. 16 attended on Saturday.</li> <li>5. The Monday parents group is doing well and it is somewhere some of the new people are finding home which is great.</li> <li>6. You might have seen the LLF process has paused and perhaps halted. It will require a 2/3 majority for stand alone services. So from our perspective that feels like positive news that big change is unlikely to happen.</li> <li>7. TLG: Transforming Lives For Good. Cat would love to start mentoring children in our local schools and has a team ready. TLG stands for Transforming Lives for Good. It's a Christian Charity passionate about bringing a practical approach that builds strong connections between church, families and schools. We'd like to run their early intervention scheme which trains volunteer coaches from church to work 1:1 in school with children who are struggling and who would benefit from additional support each week with their emotional resilience and wellbeing. Their tag line is One coach, one child, one hour a week. From bereavement to anxiety, poor mental health to family breakdown, no child should have to struggle alone.</li> </ol>

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	<p>Cat has talked to a number of people who would be interested in coaching from church and a group have prayed together and chatted to a coach from TLG who answered lots of our questions and inspired us to partner with them. He described the coaching as Jesus sitting and listening to the children, bringing healing and restoration to their lives.</p> <p>Paul Sanderson (the head of Preston Primary) has talked to his SLT and family liaison worker and has said they would definitely like a team from All Saints to offer coaching to those struggling at their school.</p> <p>TLG covers 50% of the overall cost of early intervention but they do ask us to contribute the other half. There is an initial £600 one-off payment which covers the initial and ongoing training of a co-ordinator and volunteer coaches. The partnership subscription is £75 a month which covers all of the resources, support, online systems and ongoing training needed. The children's budget can cover the £600 and can contribute part of the monthly fee. It is hoped people at church will support this exciting initiative by praying, becoming a coach or supporting financially.</p> <p>A senior pastor from Bracknell says: "We want to be a church where the local community would feel a sense of loss if we ceased to exist. TLG helps us to achieve that vision by making it so easy for volunteers in our church to help some of the most vulnerable children in our community."</p> <p><b>It was proposed by Pam Rushton and Seconded by Chris Vass that the one off fee would be paid from the Childrens budget and that the monthly fee would be paid by PCC. Details of TLG will be shared with the congregation and they will be encouraged to support TLG financially. All were in favour.</b></p> <p>8. Evangelical Alliance:</p> <p>Matt was at a church leaders meeting a couple weeks ago hearing from the EA. They provide all sorts of resources for churches to help promote the Christian faith, many of which could be useful for our small groups. They are also active in parliament as a Christian voice there. They also have a page for finding churches which are evangelical that you might want to go to. There are twenty churches across our area and none of them are Anglican.</p> <p>The cost of joining the EA is £1 per congregation member to belong to it.</p> <p><b>It was proposed by Matt that we join the EA at a cost of £180. All were in favour.</b></p>
6.	<p><b>Warden Update – Karen / Chris</b></p> <p>1. The application for work to the trees around church has been submitted to Stockton Planning development services. The application is being examined and they aim to decide our application by 5<sup>th</sup> December 2025.</p>

#	Agenda Items
	<p>2. A new outside notice board has been bought to replace the one on Yarm road. Peter will put this in place. Quotes are being sought to replace the wooden fence on Yarm road.</p> <p>3. All remedial work on the roof has been completed and gutters cleaned out.</p> <p>4. There has been some water leaking into the library by the door. It was inspected by the roofer but considered to have happened during the storm due to strong wind blowing rain through the skylight on the roof. The wall has been dried out. Peter will monitor to see if water returns.</p> <p>5. The cracks in the plaster under the left side screen have been looked at. The wall seems dry underneath and this is thought to be further related to the previous work done to fix damp in the organ cupboard. Peter will renew the plaster.</p> <p>6. It has been noticed that only one of the boilers in the tower appears to be operating rather than both of them alternately during low usage and together during colder weather. Peter is to investigate initially.</p> <p>7. Recent break in took place. The intruders came in through the hall window and also through the office window. An old ipad was stolen and some loose change from the office as well as two boxes of sweets from the youth room. The incident has been reported to the police but there is no plan to make an insurance claim.</p> <p>Various suggestions were made regarding improved security.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Locking the door at the top of the ramp to prevent access to the whole building.</li> <li>○ Install a fence at the end of the hall to prevent access to the north side of the church.</li> <li>○ Install simple CCTV system.</li> </ul> <p><b>It was agreed by all to install a CCTV system up to the cost of £300 and to look at fencing as part of other fencing at the east end of the building.</b></p> <p>8. The downstairs flat has a damp issue again and the council are wanting us to resolve the issue as soon as possible. We have had two quotes for a new damp proof course in the downstairs flat but it appears that part of the work may be covered under warranty from previous work carried out in 2017. Matt Falcus is going to contact the previous contractor to follow this up.</p> <p><b>It was proposed by Richard Wakefield and seconded by Simon Honeywell that we proceed with the necessary works up to a maximum cost of £3600.</b></p> <p>The issues of damp have been ongoing and have increased since we installed the double glazing. It was noted that the tumble dryer and dehumidifier are not believed to be used very often and we are not sure how much the building is heated. It was suggested that we could potentially pay for the heating to ensure that the building</p>

#	Agenda Items
	<p>was kept warm if the the tenant was happy to pay a slightly higher rent. This to be considered further.</p> <p>The wardens were thanked for all that they do in looking after our buildings.</p>
7.	<p><b>Financial update including Budget – Matt (due to Guy’s absence from the meeting)</b></p> <p>The end of September Accounts had been circulated ahead of the meeting and Guy had highlighted the points of interest:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Still maintaining a healthy surplus due to the reduced staffing costs.</li> <li>• Church centre lettings up</li> <li>• Grants down (this reflects less NI rebate because we were one member of staff down)</li> <li>• Utilities down despite extra payment made for missing water bill (strange it is down but we have paid all bills this year)</li> <li>• Maintenance down but saving will be reduced by year end with some projected bills being paid.</li> <li>• Youth work shows £1600 spent to date but there were just under £900 of invoices to pay so read spend is in order of £2500. A sum of £500 transferred to Youth Account (new dedicated account)</li> <li>• Almost £6000 outstanding payments for church mission, awaiting list of how to pay to who from mission group.</li> </ul> <p>Draft A of 2026 Budget had been shared with the PCC prior to the meeting and was presented for discussion as a final budget will be agreed next month.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assumptions on spending items noted in print out.</li> <li>• Awaiting final confirmation of government minimum wage increase.</li> <li>• Although we are underspent on utilities in 2025, Guy has kept the budget amount the same for 2026.</li> <li>• Deficit in 2026 of £25.4k which is fine given balance we have (driven by staff salaries and Parish Share). We will need to think about reducing the deficit in the 2027 budget other wise we will possible start to encroach on our contingency reserves.</li> </ul> <p>It was noted that the expenses are set at the same rate as 2025 and it was suggested that perhaps they should increase in line with inflation. Matt explained that Ben is likely to be moving on next year to a new post and it is likely that there will be a gap before we have another curate.</p> <p><b>Mission Giving</b></p> <p><i>Derek Evans &amp; Chris Vass declared an interest as trustees of the Beacon Foundation Uganda.</i></p> <p>The mission giving group proposed the following for the second half of our mission giving for the year.</p> <p>UFM Worldwide. Mark and Gill Newham £1500  OMF International Carolyn Kemp £1500  African Pastors Fellowship Dave Steadman £1500  Mark and Anna Burgess £1500</p>

#	Agenda Items
	<p> Tees Valley Youth for Christ £750  Compassion £500  Ragworth Grocery Message Trust £250  Safe Families £500  A Way Out £250  Frontiers £250  Beacon Foundation Uganda £250  Angel Tree £250  Oikos dental project £250  Totalling £9,250 </p> <p><b>Matt proposed that we accept the proposed mission giving and all were in favour.</b></p>
8.	<p><b>Safeguarding Update</b> – Diane</p> <p><b>1. Actions taken since last PCC:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Parish Dashboard was updated – now at 84% progress.</li> <li>A further email was sent to 8 volunteers to remind about request made for completion of Safeguard training. None responded, therefore, Matt emailed on 13th Oct and 4 responded.</li> <li>From Parish Dashboard ‘Promoting a Healthy and Safe Culture’ activity and Safeguard Hub Service Agreement were sent to PCC for discussion.</li> <li>All, except one, ministry leads have returned their updated ministry team lists.</li> <li>Diane attended a recent PSO Get Together where items were discussed: INEQE Audit Report: Data and email security – diocese to recommend policy and guidance to parishes, looking at integrity of Parish Dashboard entries, e.g. through Archdeacon inspections, establish central PSO safeguarding skills record/knowledge database. Training updates – RADA, Masterclasses.</li> <li>Diane has attended 2 out of 6 extra masterclass training sessions for PSO with the diocese: Navigating the Web and Defining Vulnerable – Adult Safeguarding.</li> <li>Two further risk assessments are undergoing final formatting: Pastoral Ministry and Baby Group.</li> <li>CofE Code of Safer Working Practice has been updated and added to policies link on church website.</li> <li>Diane attended Gems this morning followed by Children’s Team meeting to give safeguard updates and answer any concerns.</li> </ol> <p><b>2. Future actions needed:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Diane to contact Ministry Leads to request them to disseminate the CofE Code of Working Practice to their teams and raise awareness that RADA (Domestic Abuse) training will need to be completed by some of their teams during November. Diane to email individuals.</li> <li>Some new ministries need to write a risk assessment - Diane will email for these as well as contacting Kathryn to discuss Youth RA.</li> </ol>

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	<p>We have been asked to sign a Safeguarding SLA for the provision of the safeguarding dashboard etc. that we use. This had been shared with the PCC ahead of the meeting and does not have a financial commitment.</p> <p><b>It was agreed that Diane would sign the agreement on behalf of the PCC.</b></p> <p>The national team have changed the cohort of volunteers who now need to complete the Domestic Abuse Training. It now need to be done by all children's workers, clergy and those with a Bishops licence. This is quite a large group in our church and Diane to liaise with the diocese to see if an in person session could be arranged for us. The communication of this and completion of the training is to be a focus for the month of November.</p> <p>A worksheet on Promoting a Healthy and Safe Culture had been shared with the PCC ahead of the meeting and the PCC discussed the two key questions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What are some of the strengths of our church culture?</li> <li>• What are the main weaknesses of our church culture?</li> </ul> <p>The PCC discussed the the above and felt that we had many strengths in terms of the teams that we have within the church. The PCC felt that the strongest strength is our PSO who ensures that everything that needs doing is done.</p> <p>In terms of weaknesses the PCC felt that due to large numbers of volunteers communication is more of a challenge than in a smaller church. It was also noted that as Diane generally attends the 9.00 service, the links with the 10.30 service are slightly more difficult. It was suggested that a possibility could be to appoint a safeguarding link for the 10.30 service.</p>
9.	<p><b>Calendar 2025-26– Martin</b></p> <p>The following activities are planned for the coming year and following PCC members agreed to take a lead on the planning of the events.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 30 Nov - Games Night, Bake Off &amp; Activities – <b>RW &amp; ML</b></li> <li>• 24 Jan - Barn Dance – <b>Pamela Rushton</b></li> <li>• 21 March - Murder Mystery Event – <b>Simon Honeywell &amp; Martin Howard</b></li> <li>• 23 &amp; 24 May - Church Fete – <b>TBC</b></li> </ul> <p>Matt informed the PCC that him and Jill Mumby would be starting some meditation evenings in November.</p> <p>Judith Evans is also developing a small team to organise Ladies events.</p>
10.	<p><b>Any Other Business</b></p> <p>None</p>



## PCC Minutes, 20<sup>th</sup> October 2025

#	Agenda Items
11.	<b>Working Parties</b> A final opportunity was given for PCC members to work with other work party members and agree on format of presentation to PCC in November. Summary documents are to be sent to PCC Secretary by Sunday 9 <sup>th</sup> November so that they can be sent out with the agenda.
-	<b>Close</b> - The meeting finished with prayer at 9.24pm
-	<b>Date of next PCC meeting</b> – Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> November  Opening reflection to be led by Margaret Vaughan