PCC Minutes, 15th June 2026

Present	
1. Diane Backhouse (PSO) 2. Chisomaga Chinwuba 3. Derek Evans 4. Lucy Falcus (Deanery Synod) 5. Simon Honeywell 6. Martin Howard (PCC Sec, V.Chair & SC) 7. Karen Killick (Deanery & Diocesan Synod)	8. Matt Levinsohn (Chair & SC) 9. Pamela Rushton 10. Karen Snowden (Warden & SC) 11. Ben Scott 12. Margaret Vaughan (Deanery & Diocesan Synod) 13. Richard Wakefield (SC)

#	Agenda Items
1.	**Opening Reflection** – Somaga Chinwuba Somaga shared her experience from a few weeks ago when she was organising an event at University for the Global Health Society and was tasked with organising speakers for the event. She managed to get the local MP and a specialist in psychology who was able to fly in from London. She explained that after getting the high profile speaker she was worried that she they wouldn't have enough people attending, however her mum reassured her that it would be OK. The event went really well and having a smaller group meant that the students were able to ask more questions and have some really good discussions. Sometimes things we think will be impressive are not what God wants us to focus on. Somaga referred to the passage where the widow gave her last two coins but in reality gave much more than the rich men. She shared 1 Cor v.27-31 God uses things that we think are less impressive. A short time of prayer took place before we had a time worship together.
2.	**Apologies for absence** Apologies had been received from: Guy Wingate & Andrew Eley
3.	**Approval of minutes of 18th May PCC Meeting** Proposed by The Chair, all those present at the meeting (12) were in favour; 1 Abstentions
4.	**Matters arising and Chairs update** – Matt Matters Arising 1. Ben has been signed off. He has finished training which is great news. 2. Bible Society launch happened Sunday night. For those who did not make it Matt shared details of the events that are planned. • Monday 13th July 7pm – Training run by the Bible Society. • Thursday 16th July – Training on how best to use the Luke/Acts Gospels and start conversations with others. • Thursday 10th September 7pm – Round Table Bible Conversations in the hall.

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	• Saturday 12th September 5pm – Grill a vicar and a burger (BBQ followed by Q&A) • W/C 13th September – The Bible Course running for 8 weeks We need to make postcards. We are also going to think about repurposing some of our current events. 3. The evening Alpha has finished and went well. Small but good. The daytime Alpha is going great. 7 people on it. Really positive. 4. We are waiting for the council still to update for the 12th July park day. If it comes back negative we will probably do a joint 10am service followed by picnic and games in the park. 5. The Heights Church are coming 11th July to the 20th . We are finalising the plan for them. 6. Church camp currently has 33 adults and 23 kids. All in hand. That does mean on current costs : £1370 donations plus some who did not say how much. Hollybush cost 2600 + silent disco at 150. In 2025 we subsidised it by £1340. 7. Our advert for a new curate has gone live on the diocesan website. 8. We have had 70 forms back or online returns for the survey. The window is open until 5th July. After that I will bring analysis to the July PCC. 9. After half term we launched a second youth kintsugi group which has been brilliant. Madi, Rachel and Matt are heading it up. Our youth numbers continue to increase with 77 last Friday, and we are giving out more bibles. 10. Some of the amps are not working in church. Nathan has offered to fix them when he has time in July.
5.	**Calendar** – Matt We briefly reviewed the events the calendar for the last year and noted the following points. • It has been positive that we have publicised things earlier. • We have had a good balance of social and teaching events. We spent a few minutes looking at the draft calendar for 2026/27. • Possibly some social events linked to the youth hub. • Consider another Talent Evening or Musicals Event • Holiday Club is the 1st week of the Easter Holiday Matt is going to collate the calendar for next year.
6.	**Library Proposals** – Simon Simon shared a summary of a meeting that had been held with Kathryn, Cat, Mikey and Andrew, to discuss the potential use of the room. Potential Uses 1. Youth use the library on Friday evenings mainly as a quiet space. 2. Youth don't have an immediate need to use the library on Sunday mornings, but this could change quite quickly if the current trajectory of growth continues. 3. There is a possibly that Gems could be split into 2 groups with the older group of reception age combined with year 1 from Trailblazers. If/when this happens, the

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	upgraded library would be a suitable location for the older group, but the location would probably need to be available every Sunday. 4. The new room would need to be suitable for all potential users for meetings, break out rooms, quiet space etc. Physical Changes 1. Initial proposals would be a stud wall probably 1.8m from and parallel to the nave wall to allow for easier turning for mobility scooters and child buggies into/out of the nave. This would create a room and corridor. The new room door would preferably be opposite the door from the nave for easy access for scooters and buggies. 2. Lowering the ceiling (possibly suspended with ceiling tiles) possibly just below the existing sloping sections of the ceiling which would result in the ceiling obscuring the top part of 2 of the windows. An option would be not to lower the ceiling in the corridor. 3. The stud wall and/or the door could contain an opaque glass panel(s) to allow light into the corridor created by the wall. The stud wall, door and glass panels would need to reduce sound from and into the new room. Reducing sound was highlighted as very important, Youth/ children need to be able to feel relaxed in this space and not need to be 'shushed'. 4. The corridor between the door into the nave and the end wall would become a large cupboard and probably the location for the large safe. The door location for this cupboard depends on the large safe location. (we would seek advice from Architect) 5. Radiators will be replaced and relocated. Heating pipework will be relocated below the floor. 6. Solid (wood/laminate type) floor and carpet both have pros and cons. 7. Inclusion of a kitchen (similar to the meeting room) was considered but rejected because of the proximity of the centre kitchen. Requested Features 1. Storage along the wall with 2 windows (possibly low enough to be used as seating) is likely to be needed for some toys for Gems older group and small items for youth. There is no need to provide for large items e.g. table tennis tables in the room or the cupboard. The existing void above the safe/hearth could be made into a lockable cupboard. 2. The youth room was created so that youth feel like they are at home whilst at church. The woodwork (doors, storage, glass panel frame) to be similar to existing doors. The colour palette for decoration is important and should be warm and neutral. Any bolder colours can be in furniture or furnishings. The lighting should include a dim option. 3. A TV screen (similar to the meeting room) and a white board are required (suggest located on wall where bookcases are currently), the room is not big enough for a projector, also reduces cost. Plenty of sockets are required including USB and USC sockets. 4. A sound bar would be useful. 5. Furniture would need to include comfy chairs (possibly sofas), tables including some suitable for children. 6. Blinds required for external windows but probably not vertical ones. Assumed that at least the lower part of the external windows would be opaque. Timeframes

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	1. The Diocesan Advisory Committee next meets on 14 July and then 1 September so opportunities for submissions are limited. An early submission would indicate whether any changes or specifics are required but would need to be sufficiently developed to comply with building regulations. 2. The dates for carrying out the work will need to be carefully considered to minimise disruption particularly at busy times e.g. end of October (Glow Party), Christmas, Easter and when holiday clubs are planned. The work period is likely to be relatively short but may be extended by the heating installation and electrical circuits. 3. Plans and work schedules would be required for a cost estimate and quotations. Once proposals have been finalised using professional input it might be possible for All Saints to project manage but using professionals with indemnities reduces All Saints liabilities. It was proposed by Simon Honeywell that we appoint an architect to produce some plans and a specification for the work up to a maximum cost of £1,500 (inc VAT). All were in favour.
7.	**Financial update** -Martin (on behalf of Guy) No change in basic message from last month. 1. Income is up as mentioned last time. 2. Maintenance is slightly over budget, primarily driven by early working. Year to put up new wooden fence by main road. 3. Solar energy reimbursement is down compared to budget but just about to submit another claim. 4. Kathryn and John Belmont will start claiming back Youth Hub expenses soon so that will help as we are presently paying for that without reimbursement. 5. Guy will shortly be processing remaining mission to our various mission partners for January to end June budget - sums agreed by PCC earlier in the year.
8.	**Safeguarding Update** – Diane Backhouse • Dashboard is currently at 95% which is a slight drop from 97% but this is due to the dashboard notw being linked to data held in the Safegurading Hub. • Whilst the dashboard and hub are linked in terms of data, the content is not and therefore no confidential data is available to others in the diocese. • All DBS checks are now up to date and many are now subscribed to the update service. Churchsuite has also been updated with DBS records. • Termly meeting between Diane and Matt takes place next week. • Safeguarding audit of the teams to take place over the summer ready for September. • No safeguard concerns this month.
9.	**Wardens Report –** Karen Snowden Details of all of the window options had been shared with the PCC prior to the meeting.

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	The preferred option was to go with the aluminium frames as they would match the frames in the church centre and have the same arched design and reflect Edwardian Style of the existing windows. It was agreed that Karen would get a final quote for the aluminium frames and bring this to the July PCC meeting. As the change of windows will change the appearance of the building it was agreed that we should check with the planning authority if planning permission would be required as we are in a conservation area. The PCC thanked Karen and Chris for all the work they have put into obtaining quotes for the window.
10.	**Net Zero Update – Martin** Martin reminded the PCC of the Net Zero Action plan that was put together about 2 years ago which focussed on the following areas for the future. • Doubleglazing the windows of the nave – in progress • Increase the number of solar panels • Install battery storage to allow us to make maximum use of the electricity generated. • Replace the hall heating with a low carbon system. It was suggested that as well as increasing the number of solar panels it might be worth considering replacing the existing panels as they are almost 20 years old and new panels will be significantly more efficient. The hall heating has needed a number of repairs in recent years and is now over 20 years old, therefore it was agreed that we need to start planning for a replacement. The question of grants was raised and Martin informed the PCC that the CofE Decarbonising Church Grants are potentially available of up to £50k for partial decarbonisation and £80k for full decarbonisation, however these grants are limited in number. We now have a regional Net Zero Fundraiser who is looking at how churches can access other funding pots. It was felt that the PCC does not have capacity to drive this forward on their own and that other members of the congregation may be keen to form a small team to investigate options further. PCC members to approach those who might be interested and also announce in services after the summer.
11.	**Any Other Business** • Karen Killick raised concerns about how we are supporting those with SEN needs and making sure that appropriate provision is in place. This needs more consideration and to be discussed further in the future.

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	• Pamela raised again the need to improve the external lighting outside the meeting room. • Derek asked if the bible reading could be included as part of the live-streaming so that the sermon makes more sense in context. It was agreed that it makes sense to start the life stream prior to the reading.
-	**Close** - The meeting finished with prayer at 9.10pm
-	**Date of next PCC meeting** – Monday 20th July Opening reflection to be led by Andrew Eley