

**St Thomas & St Mary Magdalene Parochial Church Council**  
**(Registered Charity Number 1131459)**

**PCC Meeting – Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> May 2025 at 7.00pm at St Thomas’ Church – Issue 1**

<b>Present</b>	Rev Michael Ridley (MR), Rev Ruth Gray (RG), Lee Marsh (LM), Dave Whalley (DW), Peter Speed (PS), Stuart Marley (SM), Joe Roxby (JR), Jenny Corroboy (JC), Sue Burke (SLB), Jacqui Shaw (JS), Dorothy Carter (DC), Irene Fitzgerald (IF), Janice Rowlands (JRS), Sheila Barton (SB), (JS), Peter Banyard (PB), Sarah Downes (SD), Katharine Emery (KE), Simon Goodchild (SG), Kris Bradshaw (KB), Kirsty Gill (KG).																				
<b>Opening Prayer</b>	MR opened the meeting with a prayer.	<b>Actions</b>																			
1 <b>Apologies</b>	Elaine Smith, Dorika Roxby, James Thornton, Mel Wilson, Lynda Heesom.																				
2 <b>Review of March '25 PCC Minutes and Action Log.</b>	<p><b>March 2025 Minutes</b>  The minutes were approved unanimously.</p> <p><b>Action log</b>  Updated, master held by PCC secretaries.</p> <p><b>Virtual Decisions</b>  No virtual decisions have been made since the last meeting.</p>																				
3 <b>Election of Officers</b>	<p>MR welcomed the newly elected Church Wardens and thanked again the previous Wardens for their sterling work over their 6-year tenure.</p> <p>The PCC voted to co-opt the outgoing Church Wardens, Mel Wilson and Sheila Barton, onto the PCC for a year.  <i>Proposed – Peter Banyard</i>  <i>Seconded – Dorothy Carter</i>  <i>Approved unanimously</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sue Burke will continue as Treasurer</li> <li>• Dorothy Carter will continue as Safeguarding Officer</li> <li>• Standing Committee will be Michael Ridley, Ruth Gray, Treasurer, both new Church Wardens and both PCC Secretaries.</li> <li>• Simon Goodchild will be the Lay Chair of the PCC</li> <li>• Simon Hutt will be the Electoral Roll Officer</li> <li>• Sides people at St Thomas – see list below:</li> </ul> <div style="text-align: center; border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin: 10px auto; width: fit-content;"> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: center;">Sidespersons</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td> </td></tr> <tr><td>Reg Pritchard</td></tr> <tr><td>Sue Burke</td></tr> <tr><td>Claire Hutt</td></tr> <tr><td>Barbara and Obi Bellian</td></tr> <tr><td>Sylvia Bickerton</td></tr> <tr><td>Kirsty Gill</td></tr> <tr><td>Elaine Smith</td></tr> <tr><td>Val Chew</td></tr> <tr><td>Dorika Roxby</td></tr> <tr><td>Katherine &amp; Simon Murray</td></tr> <tr><td>John &amp; Phil Wilcock</td></tr> <tr><td>Lynda Heesom</td></tr> <tr><td>Ros Whalley</td></tr> <tr><td>Sheila Barton</td></tr> <tr><td>Peter Speed</td></tr> <tr><td>Paul and Emma Gifford</td></tr> <tr><td>Susan Sullivan</td></tr> </tbody> </table> </div>		Sidespersons		Reg Pritchard	Sue Burke	Claire Hutt	Barbara and Obi Bellian	Sylvia Bickerton	Kirsty Gill	Elaine Smith	Val Chew	Dorika Roxby	Katherine & Simon Murray	John & Phil Wilcock	Lynda Heesom	Ros Whalley	Sheila Barton	Peter Speed	Paul and Emma Gifford	Susan Sullivan
Sidespersons																					
Reg Pritchard																					
Sue Burke																					
Claire Hutt																					
Barbara and Obi Bellian																					
Sylvia Bickerton																					
Kirsty Gill																					
Elaine Smith																					
Val Chew																					
Dorika Roxby																					
Katherine & Simon Murray																					
John & Phil Wilcock																					
Lynda Heesom																					
Ros Whalley																					
Sheila Barton																					
Peter Speed																					
Paul and Emma Gifford																					
Susan Sullivan																					

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sides people at St Mary Magdalene – see list below: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Ann Jackson</li> <li>○ Mick Jackson</li> <li>○ Janet Cronin</li> <li>○ Linda Latham</li> <li>○ Louise Tomlinson</li> <li>○ Jenny Corroboy</li> <li>○ Hazel Bayley</li> <li>○ Gordon Bayley</li> <li>○ Peter Banyard</li> <li>○ Diz (Elizabeth) Banyard</li> <li>○ Carol Bridger</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><i>All appointments Proposed – Peter Speed</i>  <i>Seconded – Janice Rowlands</i>  <i>Approved unanimously</i></p>	
4 <b>Easter Worship Review</b>	<p>Positive feedback around the table regarding Easter events.  Lent course was well received.  Easter services were the most well attended to date.  The Prayer Walk was well attended.  Egg hunt was a success.</p>	
5 <b>Nurture</b>	<p>The Nurture Group will meet after half term, to study Galatians. Meetings will be in the day at 12:30 on Tuesdays at St Thomas Church and Wednesday evenings at 7.30pm at the Vicarage.  Alpha and Confirmation courses are currently being considered for September.</p>	
6 <b>Finance</b>	<p>See Treasurer’s Report in Appendix 1.</p>	
7 <b>Major Works</b>	<p>Good progress made to date and the Planning Document describing the progress to date of the grant and works has been issued to PCC.  Prepared and delivered the presentation to the congregation over lunch on 18<sup>th</sup> May. The session was well attended and received.  Questionnaire was given out at the session and SLB asked the PCC to all fill in the survey.  We are continuing with the process, the next Expression of Interest (EOI) will mid-July. If successful, we would then be invited to submit a formal application. This would be some time in future, at least a year after for development phase.</p>	
8 <b>Committee Reports</b>	<p>See reports as issued to PCC for more detailed information. In summary:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>STAG</b> – Church Warden transition is in hand. Love your burial ground will be on June 7<sup>th</sup>. Filming for ‘our eco journey’ on June 3<sup>rd</sup>.</li> <li>• <b>SMAG</b> – Upholstering of the chairs will be completed at the end of June. Need to develop a job description for Julie Bennion, so she can start stepping back. Will also need cover Hall hire responsibilities.</li> <li>• <b>YAG</b> – The Hang Out Hub usually has 3 people on duty, but today only had 2. There was a twisted ankle, with no First Aider. Standing Committee will consider the way forward to train more First Aiders. LM offered to put on another free course.</li> <li>• <b>FRAS</b> – Treasure hunt 14<sup>th</sup> June, now ready to start publicity.</li> <li>• <b>Pastoral Group</b> – Jan Austin has joined. Margaret has stepped back.</li> </ul>	

	<p>Cheer bags have been done, as has the visiting. Things are progressing well but more members are needed. The Group meets on the last Thursday of the month, new members welcomed, MR asked the PCC to consider joining if interested.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No <b>Deanery Synod</b> in period, next meeting is in July. DS noted we have 3 members and 1 space, which Sarah Downes has volunteered to fill.</li> </ul> <p><i>Proposed – Sheila Barton</i>  <i>Seconded – Dorothy Carter</i>  <i>Approved unanimously</i></p> <p>On 20<sup>th</sup> July there will be the Deanery Even Song at the Chapel at Arley Hall. There will be a picnic at 5pm followed by the song.</p>	
9 <b>Safeguarding</b>	<p>DC said she is almost there with the new DBS requirements and that people should be receiving emails soon.</p> <p>All PCC members will need to do Basic, Foundation, Safe Recruitment and Domestic Abuse training.</p> <p>The PCC discussed who in addition would do the safeguarding training e.g. Sunday School Teachers? Dorothy will investigate.</p> <p>On the 10<sup>th</sup> of June at Chester Cathedral there will be an evening Service, which will include the presentation of new safeguarding material. All welcome.</p> <p>There will be a service at STT on the 16<sup>th</sup> of November, which will focus on safeguarding but from the positive context of encouraging the right culture of support and ‘looking after each other’ within our congregation.</p>	DC to confirm who in addition to PCC members should do the safeguarding training.
10 <b>Eco Church</b>	<p>Work is in hand to keep the momentum around Eco Church, as described in the STAG report issued to PCC.</p> <p>St Thomas’ is supporting ‘No Mow May’.</p> <p>There was a discussion on whether a Blister Pack box could be purchased (c.£200) potentially sponsored by the community. STAG will consider this further.</p>	
11 <b>Curate</b>	<p>RG said thank you to everyone for ongoing support, noting its been a year since her Priesting and ‘it takes a church to raise a Priest’. RG is getting ready to complete her 2<sup>nd</sup> year report with VM and then will be meeting with the Bishop to discuss progress in September.</p>	
12 <b>Walking Day</b>	<p>Planning has started. Methodists are leading the parade. The Indian Band is attending and amplification has been ordered.</p>	
13 <b>AoB</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Archdeacons Visitation will be on the 5<sup>th</sup> June in Whitegate. Sidespeople are invited. Our new Church Wardens will get Sworn In at this event.</li> <li>• Mick and Anne have decided to finish as coordinators of the 100 Club at end of year. Many thanks for their efforts, which have raised</li> </ul>	

	£22,000 over the last 16 years. The SC will consider whether the 100 Club should be managed as a Reserved Fund moving forward, as part of the church's accounts, which would make traceability and audit easier moving forward.	
14 <b>Next Meeting</b>	The next PCC meeting will be on Tuesday 29 <sup>th</sup> July.	

**Meeting Closed at 8.30pm**

**Signed: ML Ridley.....**

**Kris Bradshaw, 22/05/2025**

**Date:**

# Appendix 1

## Treasurer report to PCC on 20/5/25

Please find attached the SOFA reconciled to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025. We are early in the year and there is little to report at this stage, due to timing we have not been able to reconcile April.

### Income

The kitchen in the church hall is completed – just awaiting a new pedal bin and new blinds. The £5000 donation has more than covered the works and the gift aid will be in addition and to be used for General funds.

Planned giving and plate collections are increased. We have not done the GA Q1 claim yet- all info is with Joanne so we can complete now I am back from holiday. PG increased pledges seem to be being honoured as far as we can tell, the annual increase was £7434 from the returned pledges (plus GA) around £600pcm we have had increased PG over 3 months of £1525 – around £500pcm

You will note a figure of £720 St Mary's house income- this is from the solicitor and dates back to a previous tenant's first month's rent.

The other trading activity amount in restricted funds relates to Little Sunbeams – we have agreed to manage their finances as a restricted fund due to issues they were having with banking – as approved by PCC in 2024

### Expenditure

Parish share is increased by £189 per month and church running costs remain a challenge. Increased gas prices in the church hall have not commenced yet, the existing fixed price contract ends 14<sup>th</sup> August after which prices will increase. We approved a new 3yr contract at PCC last year and although the unit price is higher 7.6p cf to 3.68p the standing charge is considerably reduced 30p per day cf to £1.96 so we do have the ability to limit the increase by being frugal with the heating.

The increase in running costs is working out at £1000 pcm which was what I had predicted in the Extraordinary Items budget.

We are running a small surplus of £2067 as of 31/3 cf to £161 at this point in 2024

### Cash at bank on 18/5/25 is as follows:

NW 2	£5439
CAF 2	£47,762
PFF	£8797
CCLA	£92,574

Total funds                    £154,572 – not all of this is General Fund on 31/3 there was £132,929 in GF

Sue Burke

Parish Treasurer