



**Minutes of PCC Meeting
18th March 2026
Lady Chapel**

PRESENT Stephen Webster (SJW), Annabel Copeland (AC), Claire Weston (CW) Pam Weatherington (PW), Louisa Baker (LB), Louise Foote (LF), Sian Fytche (SF), John Grubb (JG), Sally Saunders (SS), Fiona Fraser (FF), Sarah Vogt (SV), Kim Treverton (KT).

APOLOGIES Rob Dillarstone.

OPENING PRAYER

SJW opened the meeting in prayer.

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

None reported.

MINUTES OF MEETING 20th January 2026

Unanimously accepted as a true reflection of the meeting. (Proposed LF; seconded KT).

MATTERS ARISING

None.

GROWING FAITH ADVENTURE

- **Youth Minister Recruitment**

No applications had been received so the role is being re-advertised with a new closure date of the end of April. SJW said we may find someone via another route for instance colleges / other Churches / Souster / New Wine website.

AC said she had heard from a young adult this morning with a view to a possible internship from September – the candidate will explore this with the Diocese. This candidate will not need accommodation as they live locally. SF said the cost would be approximately £4K pa.

The PCC will continue to explore by keeping the job open. FF asked if we could merge the roles (Youth Minister and possible intern) and all agreed we would continue to explore all options.

- **Chattabox and Chattabox+ Plans**

SF said chattabox had attracted some 30 people and had sent flyers to schools. Up to 1 May prices would remain at last years levels.

Chattabox + - not many places left and there would be a waiting list. ASMC said there were a good number of leaders and campers, and the event would be co-led by ASMC and SJW. We had received a £2000 gift from the Feoffees and also had in hand funds disbursed to St Peter's from OCYA for youth ministry such as Chattabox+. There would be a bursary available for those who could not afford the outlay.

The Souster Youth Trust will lead the evening teachings, and Angie Newell will lead the food co-ordination.

SJW led the meeting in prayer to give thanks for Chattabox.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer unable to attend. Q4 exit on a 25K surplus (funds in bank 25K higher than previous year. Any questions to Rob or Lindsey. We had lots to give thanks for but still had underlying challenges. An update on regular giving from Kath Tonks was circulated – we can keep on encouraging giving. We are not spending as much this year as we have no Youth Minister at present.

FF asked how much the mission giving was. It is the same formula as previous years – FF can ask Lindsey how much is given broken down by mission so in turn people can inform their mission how much is given to them. SF will ask Lindsey.

After some debate about income going down by 9K but the balance carried forward being up by 24K, then PCC approved the accounts to go forward for audit. Proposed CW; seconded SF; all agreed.

ALPHA AND CONFIRMATION

The Bishop is leading a confirmation service on 17 May at 10.30. 5 people are being confirmed. SJW is also hosting an Alpha course. LF will e mail the Deanery Synod lay chair so the Deanery is aware of these events.

SERVICE WARDENS AND COMMUNION ASSISTANTS

Would all the PCC be prepared to be communion assistants - OK for KT, PW, CW, SS, LF and in addition Caroline H and Ron D. SS asked for training to see what's involved.

NEW PCC MEMBERS

A schedule of PCC meetings was circulated (start at 19.30 hours) – could we think of anyone who would like to be on the PCC?

Some maybe due for re-election this year – on checking it appears that the three year term runs out this year for CW. It is to be made clear that PCC members need to be DBS checked and to do safeguarding training. In addition, the Church Wardens need to be proposed annually.

BUILDING MATTERS

JG said the kitchen had started and that Neil F the project manager was doing a good job. One or two things had been uncovered, but the contingency would be sufficient to cover these.

Heating – new radiators had been installed contactor was coming in on 19 March to resolve a few outstanding issues.

Tower safety – the architect is going to check on new wires. There will be a test on the bolts to ensure they hold the wire in. Cost of just over £2000 – the Friends are funding the rest of the work so we will be asking them for an extra £2000.

QI inspection of spire (not inspected for some 40 years since 1983). The architect and facilities manager were talking to steeplejacks.

There was a cost of some £10,900 plus VAT (so total approx. £14,000). There is a possible crack in the stone work of the spire and this needs assessing to ensure ongoing safety. This will use up the QI budget.

The proposal was to go ahead with the spire inspection – proposed FF; seconded PW -all in agreement.

Inspection of roof – architect cost could be approx. £5000, but the spire was a greater priority than the roof, so look at roof in 2027. There would be a budget for roof repairs in due course to give an idea of expenditure over the next five years.

There was also the possibility of drainage work at the West end wall – the plaster needed patching up.

Retained land (old vicarage) - the architect had said there were a number of options. SJW is to take forward and will speak to the new owners on how to move forward. A suggestion of a possible store or office accommodation is in doubt as in addition to there being no power or water supply, the land is consecrated.

ASSOCIATE VICAR SABBATICAL

This has been agreed in principle. ASMC will begin her Sabbatical on Easter Monday and return on 6 July. ASMC will enjoy spiritual refreshment / renewal. She will also take part in an online prayer retreat and take time to read some epistles. There will also be a trip to Greece (to the Church that St Paul went to).

ASMC will also take the opportunity to explore what other Churches are doing to minister to children and young families – especially on days other than Sundays. There will also be time for rest. We pray that ASMC connects with God during this time of Sabbatical.

Tiny Tots – ASMC has found others to help SJW

Messy café Church – Georgina will lead.

Youth Ministry – Dave Harding -West Porch Café; Rooted – Louisa Baker; Chattabox++ - Sally Hopkins; Chattabox + SJW; School assemblies – SJW.

SJW led us in prayer for AC.

SAFEGUARDING

LF drew the attention of the PCC to St Peter's action planh.

LF recommended that St Peter's adopt the Church of England Safeguarding Policy – rather than continuing to have a separate independent safeguarding policy. LF proposed we move to the main C of

E policy – it would entail no significant difference to current practice and would ensure ongoing compliance and appropriate updating.

Proposal – that the PCC agree to move from the benefice safeguarding policy to the Church of England policy.

Proposed – LB; seconded JG; all in favour.

Proposal – that the PCC accepts the list of approved activities. Proposed – CW; seconded LB; all in favour.

With regard to non – Church activities (for example Beavers / Guides and other outside hirers – they must have their own policy, which will need to be consistent with ours, and operate under it when on ten premises. LF will check if Oundle School (Thursday Concerts) should complete a booking form – or by other means indicate safeguarding compliance.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

Nothing to report (the first aid kit and accident book are temporarily sited in the vestry while works carry on).

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

On 28 June our new Curate Jess is being ordained at the Cathedral. Arrangements for a 10:30 service in Oundle on that Sunday are being explored.

The meeting then closed in prayer at 21:00.

Signed.....

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Date.....