

**The Minutes of a meeting of the Minster PCC**

**Held 6th May, 2025 at 7-30pm in The Peter Harrison Room** (+)

Present were :- Lia Argentou, Rev’d Canon Jonathan Baker, Patricia Brunt, Chris Chipperton, Paul Collins, Rev’d Eileen Wallis, Mike Dent, Jane Ewbank, Sandra Keating, Sandra King, Matthew Leivers, Rod McPhee, Hugh Meyer, Dawn Pollard, Sue Robson, Joyce Shaw, Rev’d Charlie Shefford, Marian Snowden and Kevin Wheeldon (19)

Also present were :- Kate Howell as Director of Operations, Pippa Milner as Parish Accountant, Meg Choules as Safeguarding Officer and Martin Eldred as Clerk

Rod McPhee, in the Chair, welcomed all those present and invited the Vicar to open the meeting with prayer.

**31/25 : Apologies -** were received from :- Eric Doyle, Andrew Hancock, Derek Kirby and Kate Powell (4) AWoL - 1

**32/25 : Possible conflict of interests** - none other than those recorded in the register

**33/25 : Minutes of the meeting held 11th March, 2025** – were approved as an accurate record of the meeting and duly signed by the Chair.

**34/25 : Matters arising :-**

1. **NLHF Update** – The Vicar spoke about the draft business plan required as part of the NLHF bid. **It was agreed by the meeting that this matter be delegated to the Standing Committee** as its submission date is the end of May and the PCC does not meet again until July.

Observations from the floor included - -

* The desirability of a business plan regardless of the NLHF bid
* Minster 28 is our business plan though not couched in terms acceptable to the NLHF
* The Diocesan Advisory Committee fully supports the NLHF bid

For the benefit of those not at the March meeting, the Chair explained the impact of the new VAT regulations and the short-fall in funding created thereby. The meeting was informed that the three funding bodies (TCOT, Old Fund and The Friends) had agreed, in principle to increase their contributions to cover this short-fall.

The question was posed as to what will happen if the bid is unsuccessful. In response the Vicar stated that it would be “back to the drawing-board” and fundraising for each of the elements included in the bid.

1. **Proposed new toilets update** - The meeting was informed that the Capital Works Board had requested the architect to prepare preliminary drawings.
2. **Joint Legacies Officer** – The meeting was informed that the Old Fund would prefer close liaison between PCC, Friends, TCOT and the Old Fund rather than a shared officer. It is therefore, important that the Minster appoints a Legacies Officer and the meeting was asked to consider this prayerfully.

**35/25 Report from the Safeguarding Officer** – The Safeguarding report was received by the meeting. **It was agreed that the report for the 8thJuly meeting would be circulated well in advance of the meeting.** This in order that questions, clarifications could be dealt with ahead of the meeting as the Safeguarding Officer will not be present.

**36/25 Vicars reflection and report** – The Vicar reflected on St John 6 30-40 and humanity’s need for that which satisfies, reminding the meeting that despite a feeling of want, we worship a God of abundance. He spoke of Easter, the excitement of the Easter season, the beautiful contribution made to the Easter tide services by the choir, the presence of new worshipers and the success (30 course members) of the Alpha Course.

**37/25 Finance –**

The Treasurers presented the accounts and auditor’s report for the year ended December 2024. **It was proposed D.P. and seconded C.C. that the 2024 accounts and financial report be approved. This was carried unanimously.**

The treasurers also presented their report for the first quarter of the year 2025. The meeting was informed that this reflected normality. It is to be expected that income will be down at the beginning of the year.

**The Treasurer M.L. proposed a vote of thanks to the Parish Accountant for work over and above the call of duty - - carried unanimously.**

**28/25 Director of Operations Report** – K.H. spoke to her report. Amongst points raised were :-

* The Parish Hall bell turret
* Fire Audit and Fire Assessment
* The need to appoint a Health and Safety professional
* The donation towards the Parish Hall Porch Roof

There was discussion between the Director and the Treasurers about the present Health and Safety Professional and employing Croner at a cost of £167 per month.

**It was agreed to postpone any decision until July’s meeting**

K.H. also reported on the lighting in the Minster Bell Tower which has recently been assessed and a quote obtained to bring it up to standard.

It was agreed that the Chair would approach the Chair of the Old Fund to decide which body is responsible for this work.

**It was proposed M.L. and seconded S.R. that the PCC approve a faculty application for this work – regardless of which body finances it – approved unanimously**

**29/25 “Keeping the Lights on”** – K.W. spoke briefly to introduce his paper on short-term remedial work to the Minster lighting , the paper having been distributed well in advance of the meeting.

**It was proposed M.D. and seconded P.C. that the materials be purchased immediately at a cost of approximately £2,500 and the installation take place in the near future at a cost of approximately £4,000 – carried unanimously.**

**30/25 Minster 28** – **It was agreed that the title / headline would be “SHARING CHRIST’S STORY ACROSS BEVERLEY AND BEYOND”. It was also agreed that the Vicar would produce a simplified (2 sides of A4) version for general distribution.** Minster 28 to be officially launched at the APCM on 19th May.

**31/25 AOB** –

* H.M. Relayed to the PCC thanks from Hope into Action for the PCC’s continued support. It was noted that a potential new tenant had withdrawn at the last moment so a new tenant is being sought .
* The question of a statue of the late Queen Elizabeth to fill a niche on the exterior of the NW tower was raised. It was stated that there would be no objection to this should the dedicated funding be provided.
* The Minster car-park will be closed from 8-00pm on Sunday 11th May to Tuesday 13th May for some resurfacing, mostly pot-hole filling, to be undertaken by the Old Fund.
* The Electoral Roll Officer reported that the new roll contains 258 names as opposed to 308 on the old roll. A volunteer has been found to enter the details of all those on the roll into the “I Know Church” data base.
* The Clerk reported that, with the approval of 2024’s accounts , the reports booklet for the APCM is now able to go to print – hopefully on the afternoon of 7thMay.
* There was a brief reminder about nominations for election to the PCC and to the office of Church Warden.
* This being the last meeting of the presently constituted PCC, the Chair thanked the Clerk for his work on behalf of the PCC.

There being no other business the meeting closed with the Grace at 8-40pm

Signed as approved . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . Dated . . . . . . . . . . . . . . .