

The Minutes of a meeting of the Minster PCC
Held 14th January, 2025 at 7-30pm in The Peter Harrison Room (+)

Present were :- Lia Argentou, Rev'd Canon Jonathan Baker, Chris Chipperton, Paul Collins, Rev'd Eileen Wallis, Eric Doyle, Jane Ewbank, Sandra Keating, Sandra King, Derek Kirby, 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 Account, Meg Choules, as Safeguarding Officer and Martin Eldred, as Clerk

Rod McPhee, in the Chair, welcomed all those present and invited Rev'd Eileen to open the meeting with prayer.

01/25 : Apologies - were received from :- Andrew Hancock (1) – 5 AWoL
The resignation of Catherine Drake was noted.

02/25 : Possible conflict of interests - none other than those recorded in the register

03/25 : Minutes of the meeting held 19th November 2024 – were approved as an accurate record of the meeting and duly signed by the Vicar as Chair of the November meeting

04/25 : Matters arising

1. **Car Park Lease** – There was no progress to report. The Director of Operations was asked to pursue this.
ACTION - Director of Operations
2. **Legacies Officer** – The possible candidate mentioned in November was not interested. The vacancy remains.
3. **The Week of Prayer** – This is in hand. A programme has been drafted and an advertising flyer produced.
4. **Chalice Assistants** – The list submitted to the Bishop of Hull was approved (see file copy)
5. **Income from Minster tours** – Following on from November's meeting where this was raised, SR requested an accurate account of income generated by Tours of the Minster. **Action - Parish Accountant**

05/25 Standing Committee : The PCC was content to endorse the re-appointment of the Director of Operations for another year, February 2025 to February 2026 as approved by the Standing Committee.

06/25 There followed a brief discussion regarding this post.

It was proposed SWK and seconded ED that the post be made permanent. This was carried with seventeen (17) votes in favour, two (2) against and no abstentions. LA and ML wished their vote against to be recorded, as to vote in favour was not consistent with their advice as Treasurers, given the current budget proposal. The additional cost of £40,000 per annum would expose the Minster to significant future financial risk.

Substantive Business

07/25 – Finance : The Treasurer distributed a paper, additional to the proposed budget previously circulated. Amongst his remarks were :-

- The £ [REDACTED] deficit identified in November's draft budget has now been reduced to £ [REDACTED]
- An extra £ [REDACTED] of income has been identified from Enterprise, lettings, fees etc.
- There is still a need to make £ [REDACTED] worth of savings.
- The Minster has significant fixed costs.
- £ [REDACTED] in personnel
- £ [REDACTED] Free will offer
- £ [REDACTED] in governance and support
- £ [REDACTED] for utilities
- Some budgets have been trimmed by around [REDACTED]%. The Treasurers thanked those staff for their help and engagement in doing so.
- Adjustments have been made to the Minster's own external giving.

- The aim of a balanced budget will be achieved through reduced costs and increased income via areas such as direct giving, enterprise events, letting fees.
- The Minster's investments are being reviewed.

DP spoke about Gift Days for external partners.

ED spoke about the biblical principle of tithing and the power of prayer.

The Vicar confirmed that a Gift Day is to be held in 2025, around harvest time.

It was proposed CC and seconded ED that the proposed budget be approved and adopted.

This was carried unanimously.

At this point the Chair informed the meeting of DK's intention to step back from the many activities in which he has been involved and to concentrate on the future of the Parish Hall.

07/25 Capital Projects : This is redacted as the matter is commercially sensitive.

08/25 Vision Strategy 2028 : The Vicar distributed hard copies of the Strategy and gave an over-view.

Amongst the points made were :-

- The original Vision Strategy was a post pandemic creation of 2021.
- The progress made over the past four years.
- Leadership of the different work streams is almost complete.
- The work streams have been adapted to take account of the achievements of the last four years.
- The intention is to bring into the teams people with appropriate skills as circumstances dictate.

The Vicar took the meeting through the different work streams, observing that No 4, Music, is a new one. He observed that the original Strategy was Minster based whereas V.S.28 talks about the churches within the parish.

It was agreed that PCC members would "read, mark and inwardly digest" VS28 and a full discussion would be the main focus of the March PCC meeting. ACTION – All PCC members

09/25 Vicar's Report and Reflection : The Vicar commented on the two Alpha Courses run in 2024 and that out of them had come baptisms, confirmations and new house groups. He felt that 2025 would be a year to focus on discipleship. Amongst other things mentioned were :-

- House Groups
- The Spirituality Group
- A planned retreat
- Charlie's imminent departure on paternity leave
- The Vicar's extended study leave / sabbatical in July, August and September of this year.
- The proposed Congregational Lunch to celebrate his and Sue's Ruby Wedding Anniversary.

He reflected on Sunday's reading – the baptism of Christ and how in this God is revealed as the Trinity.

Through the work of the Holy Spirit others, indeed all, are invited in.

10/25 : Safeguarding – The Safeguarding Officer spoke to her report and highlighted –

The event at Toll Gavel Methodist Church

Members who are not up to date with their training

The secure storage of safeguarding records

The instance of one of the virgers being confronted with a threatening person whilst working alone was raised by PC

The Director of Operations was asked to present, at the March meeting, suggestions for safe working alone practices.

ACTION – Director of Operations

The Chair, once again, reminded PCC members of the importance of undertaking the appropriate safeguarding training , stating that those, who by March, had not done what was required of them would be asked to consider their position as members of the PCC.

11/25 : Director of Operations Report

Highlighted were (i) the removal of the Parish Hall bell turret (ii) the additional costs incurred by vital roof repairs, extended scaffolding costs and the ERYC's requirement for architect's drawings (iii) a new contract for lettings.

12/25 : Enterprise – The Christmas Tree Festival had been a huge success dismissing any fears over it only lasting five days this year. The Enterprise Committee's terms of reference have changed with the removal of Visitor Ministry from its orbit.

It was agreed that new standard glasses be purchased despite an historic decision that glass drinking vessels were not to be used in the Minster. Similarly the serving of red wine was approved despite an historic embargo.

13/25 : Faculties –

Tickton, St Paul's, is working through the snagging list with its newly installed boiler
Work on Woodmansey, St Peter's level access should start in mid February

14/25 : The Shop Report was received

15/25 : Mervyn King was thanked for his "Digital Minster Report" but more for the hard work he undertakes in all things IT – wise.

16/25 : Electoral Roll – It was reported that the roll stands at 308.

The meeting was also reminded that 2025 sees the sexennial creation of a new Electoral Roll. Work will begin in February. The Electoral Roll Officer will work closely with the Parish Office.

17/25 AOB – There being no AOB the meeting closed with The Grace at 9-30pm

Next Meeting of the PCC March 11th, 7-30pm in the Peter Harrison Room

Approved

Dated