

**ALL SAINTS CHURCH, HARTFORD.
MINUTES
OF THE PCC MEETING HELD ON 28TH JULY 2025
IN THE CHURCH ROOM AT 7.00 PM**

Present: Rev'd. Geoff Boucher, Rev'd. Clifford Owen, Rev'd Steph Pedlar, Elaine Levitt, Sue Craven, Neil Pedlar, Bev McCallum, Helen Dowzall, Lesley Grant, Tony Humes, Colin Jones.

There were apologies of absence from Mary Hill and Mary Adlam.

The meeting opened with Geoff Boucher leading us in prayer.

1. The minutes of the PCC Meeting held on 16th June 2025 were approved with one amendment: (5:V) 02.08.25 was the date set for the working party to clear the overgrown area at the far end of the burial site and not the clearance of the Lobby Cupboard.
 2. There were no matters arising.
 3. Correspondence. An email was received on 23.06.25 from Genene Triggs tendering her resignation from the PCC. Geoff Boucher gave recognition and gratitude for her contribution to the PCC and her continuing enthusiasm and involvement in the life of the Church.
 4. Safeguarding. Colin Jones' notes had been circulated prior to the meeting. He reported that the summer holiday period had slowed some of the processing but all was in hand. The action plan had not changed too much with a few outstanding minor matters.
 5. Church Warden's Report. The report had been previously circulated.
 - (i) Cambridge Interiors had been paid and an acknowledgement email had been received.
 - (ii) The 5 Year Electrical Inspection had successfully taken place with a few minor points.
 - (iii) Clifford Owen has received offers to volunteer in the clearing of the overgrown churchyard area scheduled for this Saturday 2nd August 2025. He raised the following queries. Firstly, once the area has been cleared back to bare earth, how would it be maintained? It was agreed to sow grass seed. Secondly, would permissions be needed to lop the trees? It was decided that any cutting of branches that was practically possible would be fine.
- Geoff Boucher took this opportunity to ask about the recent July Newsletter. Clifford Owen reported he was very pleased and thanked those who had contributed to the varied content and would welcome any further ideas for future articles.
6. Repointing of Church Floor. The gaps between the tiles and flagstones have been further highlighted after the recent floor clean. To avoid a future problem, Brown and Ralph to be contacted for their appraisal and availability to complete the work. Proposed by Geoff Boucher, seconded by Sue Craven and all were in agreement. Colin Jones raised the safety of the wooden boards on the side aisles. These will be considered at the same time.

7. Treasurer's Report. A report had been circulated prior to the meeting and an additional report handed out at the meeting.

(i) Neil Pedlar thanked everyone for their hard work in ensuring the Cream Tea held on 19th July 2025 was a success.

(ii) The agreement with the energy supplier (Total Energies) is coming to an end and new charges will come into effect. The standing charge is reducing but the price per KW is increasing.

(iii) In the 5 week period since the last meeting of the PCC, expenditure has exceeded income and is a concern considering this is during the warmer summer months when energy costs are naturally lower.

(iv) We are considered to be the highest consumer of energy in the diocese.

(v) A discussion followed on the possibilities of reducing energy usage with a balance needing to be struck between making economies and the comfort of the parishioners and the protection of the building.

8. Deanery Synod. A correction to the agenda as Elaine Levitt had attended the Diocesan Synod on 18.06.25 and not the Deanery Synod. The minutes of this meeting had been circulated prior to the meeting. The amount of content, work and questions raised that the meeting covered was noted.

9. Rev'd Steph Pedlar's Ordination. Geoff Boucher on behalf of the committee offered our congratulations to Steph on this wonderful occasion at Ely Cathedral on 28.06.25. She thanked everyone for their support and described the whole experience as very spiritual and special. Further congratulations were offered on officiating at her first communion service the following day at St Mary the Virgin, Houghton.

10. Updating of Churchyard Notice Boards. A discussion followed on improving the noticeboards as a resource for the Church. Advertising one off events with a poster could be enhanced with information on regular events and activities with a welcome invitation to participate. A QR code directing towards the Church Website could be included. Neil and Steph Pedlar, Elaine Levitt and Clifford Owen offered to meet to plan and implement suggestions.

11. Any Other Business.

(i) Clifford Owen reported that the C of E Newspaper had temporarily ceased publication.

(ii) Work had begun on Policy Updates by the sub-committee of Sue Craven, Helen Dowzall and Elaine Levitt, and progress to be reported at the next PCC meeting. A discussion followed on the accessibility of the policies either printed or/and stored digitally and how often and when revision should take place.

The meeting closed at 8.00 pm with the PCC Committee sharing the Grace.

The date of the next PCC Committee Meeting is Monday 15th September 2025 at 7.00 pm in the Church Room.