

St Andrew's Church, Sandon
PCC Meeting Minutes
Thursday 12th December 2024 at 7.30pm
in the St Andrew's Room



The Church of England
in Essex and East London
Diocese of Chelmsford

1. Opening prayers were led by Judy Cecil.
2. Present: Janet Terry, Christine Mennie, Alison Read, Andy Horne, Cathie Horne, Richard Cecil, Judy Cecil
Apologies for Absence: David Farrar, Colin Bryan, Nick Bobeldijk, James Colbeck
Judy was asked to write to John Gruby to thank him for his contributions to the work of the PCC. ACTION Judy
3. Minutes of PCC Meetings of 7th and 21st November and 5th December 2024:
Richard Cecil proposed, Christine Mennie seconded and all agreed the minutes of the 7th November meeting with a minor amendment.
Andy Horne proposed, Cathie Horne seconded and all agreed the minutes of the 21st November meeting.
Christine Mennie proposed, Janet Terry seconded and all agreed the minutes of the 5th December meeting.
4. Matters arising: all dealt with below.
5. Notification of any other business: None
6. Parish Council: Nothing to report. James Colbeck not present.
7. Finance: Nick Bobeldijk not present.
 - a. A few questions arose for him to address:
What is the final balance from Fayre?
Are movements of funds completed as agreed in previous meeting?
Have we had an invoice for organ tuning? ACTION Nick
 - b. Richard reported we spent about £600 on electrical work, now completed, as agreed in previous PCC.
 - c. Richard spoke of the need to work on increasing giving to boost church income to fund a House for Duty priest in the future. He urged 'push rather than pull' funding, encourage people to give generously because that is part of worship, and they want to, not by persuading them. Suggested we display church cost/week by the wall box and card machine and in the weekly email.
ACTION Churchwardens
 - d. Stevyns and Perry: distribution for Christmas was agreed. Andy Horne proposed, Alison Read seconded, and all agreed we distribute the same amounts to the same people as in 2023. ACTION C/W and Nick
 - e. The 'Friends' have sent out an email giving notice of an EGM to close the group. Funds expected/proposed to go to the PCC in a restricted fund to spend on fabric.

8. Christians Together in Chelmsford (CTiC): have requested financial support, principally for the Good Friday March of Witness. Richard Cecil proposed, Christine Mennie seconded, and all agreed we give £100. ACTION Nick
9. Deanery Synod Report: Mother's Union gave a presentation on safeguarding and their support for victims of domestic abuse support, provided a poster for use on toilet doors (tear off strips with contact number to use later). Alison Read will consider how or whether to use the ideas with our safeguarding posters. ACTION Alison
Richard and Judy introduced St Andrew's proposal for discussion about provision of communion where/when clergy are unavailable. After discussion in groups a proposal was agreed to invite Bishop Guli to speak to synod on the matter. Noted this was Tim Ball's last Deanery meeting.
10. Plans for Lent and Easter 2025: Richard led discussion and we agreed services and events as on the attached spreadsheet.
11. Fabric Report: The DAC had responded regarding the Pax. Agreed the DAC be invited to visit. The sense of the meeting was preference to keep the church open every day, all day rather than have the pax on display here. We would be happy it is moved elsewhere to preserve and maybe display it.
The tower pointing work still needs attention. Agreed we invite DAC to look and advise.
Agreed we request funding for the cycle rack after Christmas with a giving 'campaign' on the weekly newsletter and also on the card machine in church. ACTION 2 C/W
12. New Minister: Judy Cecil proposed, Cathie Horne seconded and all agreed the two representatives to be involved in appointing a new priest should be the churchwardens, Andy Horne and Richard Cecil. ACTION 2 Churchwardens
13. Safeguarding Report: 'As I was preparing to come this evening, I thought it would be good to take a moment to reflect on the work of the Safeguarding teams throughout the wider Church in light of the resignation of the Archbishop of Canterbury & pray for those involved in the investigations.
Please also hold the victims and survivors of child abuse in our prayers and, as Bishop Guli said in her reflections this week, let us pray for repentance, healing and new beginnings within the church as well as with the individuals involved. Finally, this made me reflect on how important our role is as a PCC in 'Safeguarding' our church and congregation. Every little helps.' Alison Read, PSO
14. Future PCC Meeting Dates (7:30 pm) in church:
Thursday 16th January 2025 (Friends meeting is on Wednesday 22nd January)
Thursday 6th March 2025
15. Any Other Business: None
Offers to lead prayers to begin next PCC meeting: Judy will ask Nick. ACTION Judy/Nick
16. The meeting closed at 9:10 pm with the Grace.