

**PARISH OF STANFORD IN THE VALE WITH GOOSEY & HATFORD**  
**St Denys – All Saints – St George**

**Minutes of the meeting on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> January 2025 in the Church.**

**PRESENT:**

Revd P. Eddy (PE) <b>Chairman</b>	Mr P. Gill (PG)
Mrs M. Sinclair (MS)	Mrs S Penman (SP)
Mrs J. Shippobotham (JS)	Mrs Y Upton (YU)
Mr. N. Archer (NA)	Mrs T. Hardman (TH)
Mrs J Warren (JW)	Mrs E Ward (EW)
Mrs J Howard Jones (JHJ)	

<b>1</b>	<p><b>Welcome and Opening Prayer</b> – PE read Psalm 108 and then lit the candle, reminded everyone of God’s presence with us.</p> <p><b>Apologies for absence:</b> Mrs J. Gill (JG), Mrs. M. Galley (MG)</p>	
<b>2.</b>	<p><b>Declarations of Interest</b> - None</p>	
<b>3</b>	<p><b>MINUTES of 10<sup>th</sup> October 2024 ; Minutes of 1<sup>st</sup> December 2024 ; Minutes of 10<sup>th</sup> December 2024</b> – all had been approved electronically.</p> <p><b>&amp; Matters Arising:-</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Hatford Church Yard</b> – no further information</li> <li>• Deanery are waiting to hear back from us about the Parish Share for 2025, everything else is on the agenda.</li> </ul>	
<b>4</b>	<p><b>REPORTS</b></p> <p><b>BACFS</b> – a report of from the January meeting had been circulated. From the report -</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">1. St Denys Building maintenance-</p> <p><b>Proposal 1 for PCC : BACFS would like the PCC to accept Ashley Aimes quote of £1380.00 plus £250 for scaffolding. The work to be done in the Spring.</b></p> <p><b>Roof Repair:</b> Install 8 metres of Code 4 lead to abutment of nave roof to tower. Lead to be chased into wall and secured with lead clips and lead sealant. New lead to be installed higher than existing lead and to come out wider onto nave roof. Scaffold tower to be erected to gain access onto nave roof – £250.00. All waste to be removed. Total cost to supply and fix £1,380</p> <p><b>Proposal 2</b></p> <p><b>Bell tower window repair and restoration:</b> Breakdown of works • Remove 1 x fixed leaded light (L/h viewed from inside) and saddle/support bars • Temporarily board up opening with plywood or polycarbonate • Restore leaded light and refurbish saddle bars (or replace with new if necessary) • Re-install to window opening and finish with traditional lime mortar • Clean glass to adjacent light in situ  Estimated costs - Labour £1,040, Materials &amp; sundries £180, Total £1,220.00</p> <p>BACFS would like the PCC to accept these two quotes for maintenance work to St Denys. Proposed by JW, seconded by SP and all were in favour. An application will now be made to the PPC to see if they would help to cover the costs.</p> <p>It was pointed out here that there is a request from the PPC asking the PCC to give them an idea of possible grant applications we might need this this year.</p> <p><b>Proposal 3 for PCC : BACFS would like the PCC to accept the proposal from Ashley Amies to repair the brickwork and repoint perimeter channels - 8 days at £230 per day £1840. Ashley would do this work after the roof repair. This would come from the church building funds.</b></p> <p>This work is necessary to help prevent dampness spreading into the church building. MS proposed that the quote be accepted, EW seconded, and all were in</p>	<p><b>PG</b></p> <p><b>PE</b></p>

	<p>favour. Funding to be investigated.</p> <p>Giving the Standing Committee permission to approve work up to a set budget to be looked into for the next meeting.</p> <p><b>Faculty for the chairs and pews.</b> Heard back from DAC who ask if the chairs could either be stained darker or exchanged for darker ones. This is despite receiving advice that the lighter chairs would be best for our church. Agreed the vicar write back saying the PCC did not think so and they had been purchased on basis of former DAC Secretary advice and, are the made and colour of the vast majority of Howe chairs in churches in the diocese and in cathedrals these days.</p> <p><b>Internet Connection</b> - Grant application successful now looking at equipment. From these 3 options we are going for Option 3. Equipment being ordered and will check it provides all the connections we need.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. FTTP - Fibre to the Premises - the latest broadband that Gigaclear are installing around Stanford. This isn't available for the Church area until 1st quarter of 2025.</li> <li>2. FTTC - Fibre to the cabinet - the broadband that runs over your copper telephone line and connects to fibre in the street side cabinet. We'd need BT to run a telephone line to the nearest cabinet. This is being phased out by 2030.</li> <li>3. Mobile network - vodafone and O2/giffgaff have 4g indoors and outdoors coverage. This is good enough for the contactless giving machine. Also we could put a 4g/5g mobile router in the tower to give better signal and use a small antenna on it. This would make it more stable providing Wi-Fi for broader internet use. Vodafone also have 5g outdoors which we could pickup which could give similar speeds as option 1.</li> </ol> <p><b>Safeguarding –</b> The Safeguarding Policy had been circulated. EW address to be taken out. It was proposed by EW to accept this policy, with the amendment, seconded by JHJ. All in favour. Some peoples Safeguarding training needs to be updated. EW will let them know.</p> <p><b>All Saints – Goosey – Building work and Fundraising</b></p> <p>An update from MS had been circulated prior to the meeting. Further to this</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A plan has now been forwarded to Goosey Green Limited.</li> <li>• The reclaim VAT scheme has been extended.</li> </ul> <p>Future Fund Raising</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Plant/ Cake Stall on 17<sup>th</sup> May</li> <li>• Quiz night in Alex's Garden</li> <li>• Harvest Lunch in September</li> <li>• Christmas Cards.</li> </ul> <p><b>Deanery Synod</b> - This had been difficult as many questions about Parish Share.</p> <p><b>Social Committee Report</b> – a report had been circulated prior to the meeting. Nothing to add.</p> <p><b>New Electoral Roll</b> – information will start to be collected in March.</p>	<p>JW</p> <p>PE</p> <p>NA</p> <p>EW</p> <p>EW</p> <p>MS</p> <p>JW</p>
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<p><b>5</b></p>	<p><b>Finance Report / Update on Budget for 2025</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Review budget-</b> SP was thanked for all her work on the budget. At present on paper there will be an overall loss of £8,000.</li> <li>• <b>Service Costs</b> were highlighted. Under utilities oil and electricity costs had gone up. Parish Office costs – Phone costs were discussed as the Vicarage BT bill needs to be chased up and looked at to see if a better deal. Possibility of an Eco printer for the Vicar to cut down on replacement ink bills. A list of items with a monthly fee to be collated. Our share of the fees that are sent to the Diocesan and Deanery take nearly 2 years to come to us!! Drop in weddings and funerals result in less offset against share for us two years later, in some years this was £10k.</li> <li>• Expenditure pie chart – very useful</li> <li>• <b>Review Parish Share</b> – We can definitely pay £40,000 this year but to be reviewed in October. A direct debit has been allocated.</li> </ul> <p>PE explained the background to the potential funding trusts that could help cover the extra money needed to pay this year’s Parish Share in full. £11,000 to be applied for to the Oxford Good Shepherds Trust and The Ephesians Fund to cover the shortfall. No hidden questions we would have to adhere to and no politics in either. Both seem to be happy to give funds to aid Parishes with their Parish Share. All happy to support the vicar in applying on behalf of PCC.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Contactless Giving at St Denys</b> This is not used much at the moment. Most people at 10.15 Service give to the Church through standing orders. The box to be left out on a Sunday for Denys@4. PE to mention at the services that we do not have a collection bag passed around but contactless box and cash box by the door for any donations.</li> <li>• <b>Collection review</b> The different ideas in the <b>Mission Task Sheet</b> - Diocesan Giving Pages - were discussed.</li> </ul> <p><b>Regular Giving</b>  <a href="#">Motivating giving to church</a>  <a href="#">Promoting regular giving</a>  <b>Parish Giving Scheme</b> – this used direct debit giving and will include a cost of living increase. Could be an option for new givers and does include gift aid. People can set it up and opt in themselves. SP to investigate this further.  <a href="#">The theology of giving</a>  <b>Cashless Giving</b>  <a href="#">Contactless donations</a>  <a href="#">Online donations &amp; QR codes</a>  <b>Fundraising</b>  <a href="#">Fundraising (Capital Appeals)</a>  <a href="#">Friends schemes</a>  <a href="#">Legacies</a> – need a leaflet to inform this idea to people.  <a href="#">Lotteries &amp; raffles</a>  <a href="#">Gift Aid &amp; Gift Aid Small Donations Scheme (GASDS)</a></p> <p>A leaflet explaining the different ways to give money to the Church to be looked into.</p> <p><b>Wedding Payment</b> – A wedding in 2023 still has not been paid for despite many</p>	<p><b>PE</b></p> <p><b>SP</b></p> <p><b>PE</b></p> <p><b>PE</b></p> <p><b>SP</b></p> <p><b>SP/PE</b></p>
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	<p>efforts to secure payment. It has now come down to the possibility of a small claims court procedure. It was proposed by SP and seconded by EW that this course of action be started. 10 members agreed to this action, 1 against.</p>	<b>PE</b>
<b>6</b>	<p><b>Reordering Plans / Process</b> - more detailed information at the next meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Energy Audit – this had been circulated to everyone.</li> <li>• Wi-Fi St Denys – in hand.</li> </ul> <p>Still waiting to hear from the DAC and hope for a consultation visit very soon.</p>	
<b>7</b>	<p><b>Services - Review Christmas Services</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Lighting of Tree</b> –With the use of more microphones the music could be led by Village Voices rather than recorded music.</li> <li>• <b>Carols by Candlelight</b> – Village Voices thanked for a lovely Carol Service at St Denys. Goosey was packed. Parking caused a few problems, A PA system to be added next year and possibly ask the children to dress up. <b>Next year have Hatford on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> December ( as 7<sup>th</sup> too early) ; Goosey on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> December and St Denys on 21<sup>st</sup> December.</b></li> </ul> <p><b>Lent / Easter Services</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Maundy Thursday</b> – Washing of hands and Communion Service.</li> <li>- <b>Good Friday</b> – Hour at the Cross to be at Goosey this year, then rotating around the three church buildings in future years, subject to PCC review.</li> </ul>	
<b>8</b>	<p><b>Distribution of the Elements at HC</b></p> <p>A paper about the distribution of the elements had been circulated. It was agreed to keep things the same for the time being, so that before the next PCC meeting, the congregation can be asked about what they might prefer.</p>	<b>All</b>
<b>9</b>	<p><b>Vicar's Report</b></p> <p>This had been circulated to all members. The main points were::</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A questionnaire to all congregations about where people are with their faith.</li> <li>• A joint homegroup during Lent.</li> <li>• Men Only – looking to start a new group.</li> <li>• An away day for PCC on a Saturday.</li> <li>• An away day for parishioners. Speaker and venue being looked into. Will need to include some provision for children.</li> </ul> <p>Faith in later life being investigated.</p> <p>Thoughts, information and resources gleaned from PE's Sabbatical being introduced as ministry and opportunities progress.</p> <p>Services Development – Need to work together to develop the present services in all 3 places of worship.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chapels are very reliant on Veronica. PE exploring a possible additional LLM support.</li> <li>• 10.15 – a worship time called 'Just Praise' from 10-10.10am to take place before the morning service, using 2 or 3 YouTube songs, followed by 5 minutes reflective silence.</li> <li>• Denys@4 development – still trying to get some mission partners to come. Parent talk / Marriage Course /Internet safety/ CAP course to be introduced as joint ventures with the school. Very hard to maintain weekly commitment given all the school holidays and then getting families back</li> </ul>	<b>PE</b>

	<p>when they've had no previous church/Sunday culture.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• St Denys Youth Club - being looked into.</li> </ul> <p>Corporate Prayer – how can we creatively get this going? PCC asked to consider</p>	
<b><u>10</u></b>	<b>AOB</b> - none	
<b><u>11</u></b>	<b>Future meetings: 18<sup>th</sup> March, 20<sup>th</sup> May, 15<sup>th</sup> July, 21<sup>st</sup> October. 18<sup>th</sup> May APCM</b>	
<b><u>12</u></b>	<b>Closing prayer by saying The Grace together.</b>	