



St Michael and All Angels, Ledbury

Minutes of Parochial Church Council – 23 September 2024

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|-----------------|---------------------|----------------|
| Present: | Keith Hilton-Turvey | (Chair) |
| | David Houghton | (Churchwarden) |
| | Cath Beech | (Churchwarden) |
| | Andrew Beech | |
| | Stephen Cheetham | |
| | Sue Cooper | |
| | William Hopkinson | |
| | Ian James | |
| | Richard Nightingale | |
| | Anne Scull | |
| | Peter Scull | |
| | Will Wake | |

Apologies: Sue Cooper, Maria Dineen, Sue Simpson

1306. Keith Hilton-Turvey opened with Psalm 15 and prayer. The PCC expressed sadness at the death of James Smith on 20 September, and prayed for June and the family.

Minutes of meeting held on 17 July and 4 September

1307. These were agreed unanimously.

Minutes of the Standing Committee on 2 September

1308. These minutes were noted.

Safeguarding

1309. Carl Steventon (Diocesan Safeguarding Officer) and Annie Lindon (Parish Safeguarding Officer) will now attend the November PCC meeting to explain the procedures involved¹.

Action: Keith Hilton-Turvey

1310. The former single page safeguarding policy summary available on the Church of England website had been discontinued. There are now links to various documents, that

¹ Since amended to the meeting in February 2025

the PCC will need to agree to follow. Andrew Beech will send the links to PCC members and a vote will be taken at the November meeting.

Action: Andrew Beech

Winter services

1311. There was considerable discontent at the Archdeacon's decision to decline the Rector's request that the 10am service be moved to the Burgage Hall for the duration of the winter. It was agreed instead that this service (and the choral evensong service) would be moved into the Chapter House. It was agreed that a paper would be written for the PCC setting out exactly how the furniture would be laid out, and how the services would operate. This will be written by a group consisting of the Rector, Churchwardens, Peter Scull and Will Wake. Given that the next PCC meeting is not until November, this paper will be circulated for agreement by email.

Action: Rector/Churchwardens/Peter Scull/Will Wake

1312. It was thought that up to four of the radiant heaters might be moved into the Chapter House to provide heat. Andrew Beech will check whether there is sufficient power supply to the Chapter House to allow for this.

Action: Andrew Beech

1313. Andrew Beech proposed, seconded by Peter Scull, that the material currently stored in the Chapter House that could not be disposed of should be stored in the south aisle for such time as the Chapter House was in use for services. This was agreed unanimously.

1314. Bishop Richard had agreed that a short communion service could be offered after the conclusion of each second Sunday lay-led service. To avoid problems during the winter, this service would commence in Spring 2025. The service was proposed by Keith Hilton-Turvey, seconded by David Houghton and agreed with one vote against and one abstention.

PCC Code of Conduct

1315. Following the May PCC meeting, Andrew Beech had circulated a revised PCC Code of Conduct. Adoption of the revised code was proposed by David Houghton and seconded by Peter Scull. It was agreed with one abstention.

Communion administrators

1316. Ian James, seconded by Peter Scull, proposed that Alison Williams be nominated as a communion administrator. This was agreed unanimously. Keith Hilton-Turvey will put her name forward for approval.

Action: Keith Hilton-Turvey

Policies and procedures

1317. Most of the policies are still works in progress. It was believed that the food safety policy would suffice unchanged. For the November PCC.

Net Carbon Zero Demonstrator Church

1318. There is still no progress in the Church of England announcing which churches had qualified for demonstrator church status.

Finance

1319. Stephen Cheetham reported that the church was on track to break even, although giving was worryingly flat. It was agreed that, whilst ideally Parish Share should be increased, the time was not yet right.

Fabric

1320. A meeting had been held with a consultant from Ingleton Wood. A report from them was expected by the end of the month. They were considering an additional possibility, namely to supply fan assisted heat to the church using the existing pipework ducts in the floor.

1321. The roof valley work was still being delayed.

1322. The ramp up to St Anne's was steep and had caused difficulties to buggy users attempting to use it. It had been removed *pro tem*. The church architect was working on a design for a new one, but consideration was also given to purchasing a mobile ramp, such as are used on the railways. This, however, would not easily be useable by someone on their own as the ramps are both heavy and bulky. Cath Beech proposed that a notice should be placed beside the existing ramps warning users to take great care.

1323. The pew faculty had been completed and approved at diocesan level. The application was now with the Diocesan Chancellor.

1324. Examination of the western upper room floor had revealed that the joists needed additional support. Ian James was working on costings for this work, which would come to the November meeting. In the meantime a notice would be posted warning people not to enter the room.

Action: Ian James/Andrew Beech

Church silver

1325. No further progress to report.

Other Business

1326. Andrew Beech asked whether it would be possible for there to be no music during Communion, as this was distracting. There was little support for this.

1327. Andrew Beech proposed that, if it were possible to identify a reliable counterparty in Tanzania, members in the churches making up Ledbury Deanery might contribute to

making good the funds stolen from Mtwara. It was agreed that he should contact the Rural Dean.

Action: Andrew Beech

Dates for 2025

1328. Meetings in 2025 will be held on:

Monday 17 February, Wednesday 19 March, Monday 2 June, Wednesday 23 July, Monday 15 September, Wednesday 19 November.

Date of Next Meeting: Wednesday 20 November. Venue to be announced.

The meeting ended at 20.45 with prayer.