



# St Michael and All Angels, Ledbury

## Minutes of Standing Committee – 3 February 2025

**Present:** Keith Hilton-Turvey (Rector)  
Catherine Beech (Churchwarden)  
David Houghton (Churchwarden)  
Andrew Beech  
Stephen Cheetham

887. The meeting opened with Psalm 4 and prayer.

### Minutes of the meeting on 4 November 2024

888. These were agreed unanimously and signed.

### Winter services

889. It was agreed that holding the 10.00 service in the Chapter House gave a better feeling of intimacy, and certainly the quality of the singing had improved. Numbers attending were holding up, although it was noted that many members were not attending at all because of the lack of heat in the church. Effort needed to be made to keep in touch with them.

890. The wardens will review the Christmas services.

### *Action: Churchwardens*

### Worship strategy

891. Discussion was deferred.

### Policies and procedures

892. The church risk assessment remained outstanding. Keith Hilton-Turvey will read the safeguarding policy to the PCC as usual.

### *Action: Keith Hilton-Turvey*

## **Volunteering**

**893.** It was still proving difficult to persuade people to volunteer for roles within the church. The wardens will review which tasks need to be done, and whether any can be dropped. Cath Beech wondered whether a working party might be set up to cast fresh light on the problem.

**Action: Churchwardens**

## **Finance**

**894.** Stephen Cheetham presented draft accounts for 2024, showing that the church had produced a small surplus, and a draft budget for 2025. This was largely due to a legacy, and to donations given towards the cost of the audio system. But giving by church members continued to fall.

**895.** Andrew Beech will chase E.On for repayment of the £6,600 of church funds held by them (caused by the direct debit being set at too high a level).

**Action: Andrew Beech**

## **Fabric**

**896.** Andrew Beech reported:

### Permanent heating solution

- A report from the heating consultants had not been received and was being chased. If nothing is received soon, the PCC may be recommended to write to the archdeacon pointing out the work done so far, and the fall in attendance and asking for his agreement that a faculty be sought to install a replacement gas boiler. This would guarantee adequate heating of the church this winter. The Fabric Sub-Committee were to meet that Friday to consider the matter;

### Roof valley repairs

- It was hoped that this work would proceed later this year. The church had lost touch with the inspecting architects, who had let the contract and were to have supervised the work. It may be that some other person or organization would need to be brought in for this purpose;

### Upper rooms

- Further work to strengthen the floor over the porch will be required. Costs are being investigated;

### Pews

- The joiner is expected to start work later in the month.

## **Inventory and terrier**

**897.** Work on the inventory has started.

**Action: Churchwardens**

## **Safeguarding**

**898.** Carl Steventon (Diocesan Safeguarding Officer) and Lisa Anderson will address the February PCC meeting. The safeguarding policy document will be voted on.

## **Other business**

**899.** It was noted that the Friends were also short of volunteers to take forward the improved signage project. David Houghton will speak to Tim Keyes.

**Action: David Houghton**

**900.** The church still holds some funds relating to St Katherine's Hall. Part of these will be used to pay the church's contribution to the gutter work. A decision will be needed on what to do with the remainder.

**901.** For the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of VE Day a proposal has been made for beacons to be lit throughout the country. One of these might be on the tower parapet. Concern about the fire risk to the spire was expressed. Clearance for this will be needed both from the fire brigade and from Ecclesiastical Insurance.

**Action: Keith Hilton-Turvey**

## **Date of next meeting**

**902.** The next meeting will be at 8.00pm on 3 March 2025 at The Croft, Woodleigh Road.

The meeting closed at 9.00 pm with prayer.