



**CHRIST CHURCH DOWNEND PCC**  
**Monday 23rd March 2026 at 7.30pm in the Garden Room**

**Minutes**

**Those Present:** Paul Peterson. Philip Rowe. Nigel Stowe. Maggie Nichols. Sally Green. Debbie Pastwa. Dan Watts. Ali Rowe. Bryan Ashton. Andy Pound. Mark Tanner. Nick Gale from 8pm.

**Guests:** Peter Albon Crouch. Laura Green

**Apologies for absence:** Katie Allen. Roger Cholmondeley. Linda Lloyd. Richard Bacon.

**Opening Prayers.** NS reflected on the Spiritual MOT exercise being championed during Lent.

4 things we may be thinking.

1. Didn't know it was going on.
2. Ignored it.
3. I heard it did nothing.
4. Do something and change.

Revelation 2:5 - Do the things you did at first.

1 Thessalonians 5:17 - Pray without ceasing.

'Prayer shapes the people we are.' A line from DW's sermon on Sunday.

A fresh call to prayer as a church and as individuals. NS prayed.

**Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 21st January 2026**

Approved and signed.

**Matters Arising:**

CAP Joint Centre Manager salary - this will continue to be paid as normal following further conversation with Sally Grier.

**New and Ongoing Business.**

**Buildings Update.**

Peter Albon Crouch.(Chartered Building Surveyor) reported on recent investigations  
There is a large damp patch on the North Wall and 2 damp patches in the Garden Room.  
One patch was found to be as a result of a slipped tile - now replaced.  
Damp in the cupboard - the problem is with the hopper outside. A vent is needed in the

cupboard door. (Wardens to follow up)

A cherry picker was hired to look at the roof. No cracked tiles. No obvious cause. The surveyor will give us a written report, but further investigation required.

MN has obtained a quote to hire a tower. Cost approx £200.

DW proposed we go ahead with further investigations and the hire of the tower. All in favour. Work inside the Garden Room to be carried out.

**Action: MN to contact the carpenter. Wardens to further investigations**

Thanks passed to Peter Albon Crouch for his support and for attending the meeting.

### **1. Christ Church Vision Update. DW.**

- Plans for Lee Abbey - now just a few vacant rooms. 11 families are now signed up. Generous response to financial appeal - help has been given to some families and individuals.
- DW stated that only 1 person has asked for a meeting for a spiritual MOT.
- Youth Worker Progress - Unfortunately even with all the leads we had there is still no progress towards an appointment.  
DW reflected on what NS had referred to in his prayers. We need to further commit to praying for a Youth Worker.
- Praying the Psalms over the summer. 8 Week sermon series with reading plan.

AR asked if the proposed salary for the Youth Worker could be looked at.

**Action: DW & PP to meet and discuss and bring to the next PCC.** Will look at all employment options

Pause from the Agenda to pray for God's provision of a Youth Worker.

### **2. Staffing Update.**

Staff salary proposal. Uplift of 3.2% in line with CPIH from 1st April. Those staff on minimum wage to have hourly pay increased to £12.71 per hour.

Proposed PP. Seconded BA. ALL in favour.

**Action: PP to inform admin team**

### **3. Giving 4 Life. Treasurer's Update NG**

Annual Account progress report. All financial Reports submitted to Burton Sweet on schedule and should get feedback from them this week.

Trustees report needed by 29th March 2026 - NG and PP to complete.

Final outturn - 8K deficit on general fund.

Transfer of 5K from General Fund to Parish Hall AMP Fund - Agreed by standing committee as

contribution towards Heat Pump project.

The standing committee had agreed between meetings that money from the Southgate legacy fund be used to clear the AMP fund deficit (33k approx), largely built up due to work on the south tower.

Proposed that the PCC ratify this decision to use the Southgate fund to clear AMP funds.

Proposed NS. Seconded DW. All in favour

Funds Overview. Everyone to be aware of pressure on reserves. Over the next 3-5 years there may be more pressure if there is significant expenditure required on the building and higher Parish Share requests.

Gabrielle has put in a lot of work over the last few months to complete financial reports. Thanks go to her, Jo and Beth.

**Action: PP to write note of thanks on behalf of the PCC**

DW mentioned that there will be teaching on giving as part of a vision sermon series in May. This will include a clear overview of key areas of income and expenditure.

**4. Parish Safeguarding LG**

DBS Checks completed - 2 more completed. Still awaiting paperwork from 4 people. 2 no longer require DBS checks.

Review Safeguarding Action Plan. LG summarised her written report.

LG shared that there was often a low response rate to emails sent to people about training requirements. NS emphasised the shared responsibility of the whole PCC for ensuring good safeguarding practice and suggested that LG give the standing committee a list of those that need training for the standing committee to chase and follow up.

**Action: LG to provide list for Standing Committee review**

Review List of Church Activities.

Suggested we add Bell Ringing. Various discussions. Agreed not needed.

Parish Weekend added. Approved by PCC

**5. Wardens Report. MN & BA**

Security Expenditure.

MN explained there has been no decision on the grant application. It was agreed that we continue to wait for an outcome.

Deputy Warden recruitment and training.

Lee Hill, Robin Newman, David Churchman have been recruited.

**6. Deanery Synod. AR**

AR gave a report of the meeting held in February 2026 where the focus was on youth and

children.

AR continues to be involved in the group looking to appoint the next Bishop of Bristol. An appointment should be confirmed by the summer.

### **7. Off site youth activities for approval. PP.**

Rooted Youth Activities for the summer term:

Ten Pin Bowling 7th May.

Chip Shop Survey 21st May

Games in the park 4th June

Wide game 18th June

The Mix 3rd July

PCC approved these activities to be covered under our insurance.

### **8. Correspondence and AOB**

MN reported that we have been awarded £1,500 for Warm Space.

PP reported that we have also been awarded £500 from South Glos Council Sparks Fund towards our 'Let's Celebrate' Weekend in May

PP left the meeting and there was a discussion on Paul's sabbatical.

**NS closed the meeting with a prayer.**

**Date of next meetings** - Wednesday 6th May 2026 at 7.30pm in the Garden Room  
APCM Sunday 17th May 2026



**6<sup>th</sup> May 2026**