

ALL SAINTS CHURCH, HOLBEACH
PCC MEETING
MONDAY, 8th JUNE 2026
7.30 p.m. Deanery Office

Present: Roger Jennings (Chair), Chris Penney, Mick Boylan, Jackie Sheldrake, Ingrid Jennings, Janet Glenister, Carole Warner, Gill Graper (Secretary)

In attendance by invitation: Kim Biggs

1. Opening Prayer

2. Apologies for Absence: None

3. Minutes of last meeting: (April) and Matters arising, not being dealt with later in Agenda.

Minutes for the PCC meeting held on 8th April were signed as being a correct record. These will be placed in the folder in church.

Matters arising: all will be covered under other business on the Agenda

4. Correspondence (*copies may be viewed in the Minutes file in church*)

- Diocese of Lincoln Safeguarding News
- Church Buildings Team Bulletin June
- Visitation and Swearing in of Churchwardens 25th June

5. Churchwarden's Report

1) The repair works to the gutter etc on the North aisle roof is expected to be commenced during week commencing 15th June.

This is now taking place this week (8th onwards)

2) We are in receipt of the £3k grant towards the cost of purchasing heated pew cushions. I wish the PCC to determine the type and colour of cushions they wish to have purchased. The options are either cushions that are sat on or cushions similar but also have a back to them. I attach literature from the manufacturers to assist.

The costs of these are as follows; Nimma Chair £196.04, Munich Pew £128.84 and the difference between a chair and pew cushion is that a chair has a 10cm wider cushion. The difference between the two types is that a 'Nimma' cushion has a back.

After lengthy discussion and consideration of the best way to spend the money a proposal was put forward. Details of the cushions are in church file.

It is proposed that two types of heated cushions are purchased: 8 for individual seats and 10 pew cushions, in dark blue colour.

Proposed: Jackie Sheldrake Seconded: Janet Glenister

All PCC members in agreement

3) I have placed an order with G H Security Systems of Spalding to install a new roof alarm system in September and will be giving GBSG, our current supplier, their requisite three months' notice on 30th June to terminate their contract on 30th September. *The new system will be installed whilst the old system is still in place.*

4) I attach a revised Parish Profile for your consideration and approval in order that I can amend that created by the Diocese. It is more up to date and correct in terms of our current position.

The lengthy Profile had been read by PCC members and Roger is undertaking the job of making all the necessary changes, from what was produced last year. PCC expressed huge thanks to Roger for undertaking this massive task. The post will be advertised nationally, after everything has been approved by the Diocese and then sent back to All Saints for final approval.

5) The voting for Lincolnshire Co-Op Community Champion is now live until 14th June for a grant of up to £1,000 towards the costs of the food etc and I would encourage you, your friends and family to vote for us if they have a Co-Op Dividend Card.

6) I have received a quotation for improvements to the Audio Visual system in the church from Keystone Sound Systems which I would like your comments and or approval for. Initially I wish you to approve the expenditure for items (B) and (C) as item (A) requires a broadband connection that we currently do not have. There are limited options to the church in regard to the latter but one potential solution may be to seek a faculty approval for a GPS based system.

Following discussion and explanation of the benefits of the systems a proposal was made.

It is proposed that items b and c from the quotation from Keystone Sound Systems should be accepted:

Proposed: Carole Warner Seconded: Ingrid Jenings

All PCC members in agreement

6. Vacancy – *This had been discussed in a previous item 5.4, as to what the next steps are.*

7. Forthcoming events

Confirmation regarding two events in June and arrangements for serving refreshments:

- Deanery Synod Meeting on Wednesday, 17th June – refreshments before the meeting which starts at 7.30. Roger, Chris, Mick and Gill will all be present
- Archdeacon's Visitation service on Thursday 25th June @ 7.00 – more helpers will be required as there are likely to be many people from across the Deanery for this service

8. Flower Festival Report

It was agreed that this had been a very successful event, certainly due to a huge amount of work and excellent organisation undertaken by Christine Penney, Doreen Naylor and the PCC wish to record their immense gratitude for all the efforts made..

Thanks are also recorded to Christine for the excellent Reception held on the following Saturday to which all helpers and flower arrangers had been invited.

PCC also wish to acknowledge how grateful they are and delighted with the financial result.

9. Treasurer's Report

Please see attached copy of Financial statements for 1st January – 31st May 2026

As a result of the income from the Flower Festival; no contribution needing to be paid to the Diocese at present; support from Mary Bass Trustees and the huge amount of work completed by Chris Penney to ensure all churches in the Deanery are contributing towards work done by the Deanery Administrator, the financial statement looks more positive at the present time.

Thanks expressed to Chris for all the work he does as Treasurer for All Saints.

A discussion followed regarding the Co-op contribution given to the church which was awarded for choir expenditure. Kim would like to buy new robes for the 7 regular junior choristers. She will get a quotation for this and send to Gill for approval.

10. Safeguarding – nothing to report

11.A.O.B.

- **Stewarding in summer holidays/ church opening**

A letter had been received from a local person who expressed a very angry response to not only the closure of the church at certain times but also criticism of the way the church is being managed. This has proved to be hurtful to the Churchwarden and PCC members, but some of what was expressed in the letter is totally inaccurate and shows a lack of understanding of our present situation and what we are dealing with. Gill has agreed to reply to the letter and express our annoyance and disappointment that someone, who is not a member of the congregation, should write such an unpleasant letter.

PCC discussed whether it is still necessary to keep the church closed in school holidays, except for two hour periods each day. At present it was agreed that a stewarding timetable would be produced for late July and August. Hopefully there will be enough members of the congregation willing to do duties, as two people need to be in attendance when the church is open.

- **Church booklet and QR codes – Jackie Sheldrake**

A meeting had taken place with Jackie, Geoff, David and Gill to move forward to the final stage of the church information project started last year. Jackie explained that the information required for the QR codes needs to be carefully checked. Also the information on the South Holland Heritage website needs redrafting.

The booklet written by Jackie had been very successful and most members of the regular congregation had bought copies. Copies are still available for sale and are kept in the sacristy.

- **Home Group Report - Carol Hellen**

The online group continues to be well supported with 6 regular attendees. The group appears to work well online, and it is hoped that this mission-based project could be expanded: it could be access by anyone in the Deanery. We are now running the group in a hybrid manner with at least one member of the group being present at The Deanery Office to facilitate the session as well as being online for those that prefer to join us this way.

The aims and aspirations of the Home Group:

The Group has successfully completed the Bible Society course simply called The Bible Course: [The Bible Course](#). Which was briefly interrupted by our Lent resources which had us return to the combined resource for Advent and Lent: [Set Our Hearts on Fire - Advent and Lent Course - Diocese of Lincoln](#).

Over the last few weeks, we have been using a new study course called: [Pilgrim Places, Holy Lives: A Gospel Journey with the English Saints](#). We have all thoroughly enjoyed learning more about our English Saints and pilgrimaging with them around the country, finding out new things about them and our faiths heritage. We only have one more week left then we will be moving onto a new study course.

Please speak to Carol Hellen if you wish to join us online. We meet every Wednesday at 6:30pm and share our faith in fellowship for a couple of hours.

The Home Group members continue to support the Church with stewarding on the 3rd Saturday of the Month. This is currently followed by a Bible Study group from 12 noon – 1pm using the resource 'Meals with Jesus' at which we share and serve simple food to go with the session. We hope that numbers for this 'fresh expression' will grow, currently we have just 2-3 people attending. Likewise, if you would like to join us on a Saturday morning, lunchtime please get in touch with Carol again for more information and resources. We look forward to welcoming you soon.

[Home Communion is available to any members of the parish / congregation who are unable to attend services.](#)

- **Choir Report - Kim Biggs**

- On Saturday 2nd May, Neil and I took members of the Junior Choir to Peterborough Cathedral, where, after a picnic tea on the lawn, we were given a tour of the Cathedral by Canon Rowan, during which the juniors particularly enjoyed seeing the dedication to Katharine of Aragon and hearing about the significance of pomegranates being laid there; the magnificent fan vaulted ceiling at the East end of the Cathedral, and the very impressive, enormous full-scale cast of Patagotitan Mayorum, the largest known dinosaur, which was on display in the Cathedral that month.
- After the tour, the juniors were able to sit in the quire to hear older choristers from local churches (mainly St Wulfrum's, Grantham) sing the service of Evensong. Our juniors were amazed by the acoustics and inspired by how well the dozen-or-so youngsters sang, accompanied by a similar number of adult singers. The event was organised by Future Voices - part of the Voices South division of the RSCM.. We had a super day, and our juniors were a credit to All Saints.

- Also in May, four of the juniors were awarded their first RSCM (white) medal, having achieved all their targets for this. We have another chorister who is still working for this award, while the four girls have now moved on to working for their light blue award. There are two younger members who will be starting work on their white award soon.
- We are now preparing for another mini-festival on Saturday 20th June, when we will host the juniors from Boston Stump for the afternoon, plus one from Holbeach St John's. The festival will end with a short service at 4pm, led by Micki Carey-Slater, for which everyone will be welcome, and we hope to see lots of our All Saints community there. **We need one or two helpers (DBS registered) for the afternoon, mainly for preparing squash and biscuits for the singers. Please let me know if you can help.**
- We have, unfortunately, fewer members in our senior choir now, and took the decision to only sing anthems at one or two services each month for the moment. I am encouraging (and training) our juniors to sing the anthem at one extra Sunday service to the Café church service each month, but of course attendance is always dependent on the commitment of their parents.
- The recent hymn-singing event was only attended by two additional people to choir members, but was in the week following the flower festival, when so many people had given so much time to church already. We'll see how the event goes on Thursdays 25th June and 23rd July, before making any decisions as to its future!

• **School Visits**

<i>Monday 29th June</i>	<i>Holbeach Primary Academy – not a service</i>
<i>Tuesday 30th June</i>	<i>UAH – exploring the church building all day</i>
<i>Monday 13th July</i>	<i>UAH – Y9 exploring the church building all day</i>
<i>Thursday 16th July</i>	<i>HPA – end of term service a.m.</i>
<i>Tuesday 21st July</i>	<i>William Stukeley - end of term service a.m.</i>

UAH 6th form art students visiting church during the school day to prepare for project work and hopefully a new display in the church

• **Officers**

- Chris Penney gave advance notice that he would not be standing as Treasurer for the year 2027 – 2028. He advised that it would be sensible to seek a replacement before the end of the financial year.
- Roger Jennings confirmed that he will not be seeking re-appointment as Church Warden at the next APCM.

12. Date of next meeting: Monday 27th July, 7.30 p.m. in Deanery Office

13. Closing prayer was said. Meeting closed at 21.07