

PCC Meeting 25 September 2025

1. **Opening Prayer:** Graham opened with a reading from Matthew 14 and prayer.

2. **Apologies (5):** AC, SS, KC, MP JK

3. **Present (11):** Simon Merrett. Greg Wilgar-Jones, Andrew Barnes, Roy Pitchford, Peter Chesterman, Katie Law, Dawn Hamilton, Michael Codner, Steve Matheson, Graham Hamilton, Shirley Codner(secretary), Mark Alexander

4. **Declaration of conflicts of interest with any items on the agenda:** NONE

5. **Minutes of previous PCC meeting 22 May & Standing Committee 19 Sep**

Proposed: Peter Chesterman. Seconded Roy Pitchford. Carried

Standing committee notes: accepted.

6. **Matters arising:** Family worker laptop. proposal- purchase of a refurbished Macbook Air 1 abstention all others in favour. Graham and Camilla to organise purchase.

7. **Safeguarding:** approval of Mrs Serena Hinkling-Jones as PSR

Serena Hinkling – Jones approached to fill this position, Serena has recently been confirmed and married at PPT, she is a qualified teacher and has experience of Safeguarding as part of her employment. Serena would undertake Diocesan training specific to the post.

Proposed, GH

Seconded, MC

2 abstentions all others in favour.

GH will continue to fill the role until Serena has completed basic checks in order to take over.

8. **Health & Safety Update:**

H & S plans are on-going and progressing.

9. **Vicar's report:** overview Graham circulated a written document for discussion, and highlighted the following points:

PPT Children's work is flourishing.

St Johns are starting a monthly family service at St Catherine's Heathfield.

Teign school is starting a Christian Union for students.

The Anna Chaplaincy is thriving, but short of volunteers

There are fewer small groups this year than previously.

Bookings for 'God the bible and everything' with James Cary are looking healthy.

Graham wants to run the 'Bible course', but needs a small team to lead it.

Graham stressed the importance of the imminent announcement of a new Archbishop of Canterbury and the House of Bishops decisions about PLF over the coming months.

GH will reach retirement age in 2031. Graham would like to consider a Parish Plan.

GH invited those present to comment on thoughts for the future with a view to producing a Mission Action Plan to enable planning and prayer over an extended time frame.

10. **Treasurer's Report:**

Circulated prior to meeting. In discussion some members asked for a simpler presentation of the finances, and for regular teaching on the importance of giving as part of our faith. The propriety of a budget deficit was considered, and clarification of how much of the lighting project costs came from reserves.

11. **Recruiting a Youth Worker first consideration**

Graham's paper circulated prior to meeting.

Work party (Andrew, Rosie, Sally Mark and Graham) have begun work on a job description and plans for this future role. PCC discussion included the hours required for the draft job

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description (24-36 hrs/wk) , and the effect of the hours offered on the challenge of recruitment. The level of co-operation with other churches was also discussed. The main challenge is the cost of a youth project, in comparison with other likely projects such as the next phase of heating and the bell frame repairs. The existing budget allowance for youth work in 2025 would not be sufficient. Graham has received two pledges of support for a youth worker, each of about £15,000. The working group would investigate the potential for external grant support. It was agreed that the working party would refine the job description and hours required, consult with other churches and seek funding ideas and information, with a view to informing the congregation at the next stage.

12. Outreach update: God & Bible, Bible Course, Christmas market

God the bible and everything tickets selling well.

Graham has registered PPT for Passion for life in March 2026 (cost £70), which will give us access to publicity materials and training videos. He will be attending the Evangelism conference 15th October at St Leonards. The Town Christmas Market (Sat 22 Nov) will be discussed by outreach working group.

13. Fabric matters: bell tower frame, ringing hatch, glass doors, patio area

Patio area at front of shed agreed by PCC, funds have been raised independently.

New Patio table purchase previously agreed but not ordered: Camilla to arrange purchase.

Doors, handles were agreed with builder, Kick plates on order to be fitted by MJC

The proposal for a hatch in the ringing tower floor was discussed: six voted against, and four abstained, and it was decided that this is not a viable option. Graham and MC will visit the Tower captain to explain this.

14. Church Diary: plans for Christmas

The choir have asked for a choral evensong, to be held on 30th November in place of the 5pm service. Christingle is now on 7th December. Candlelight carols 14th December

15. Dates for next meeting WED 19th November

Graham closed with a blessing.