

St Margaret's Church – Crick
 Minutes of the Meeting of the PCC
 Wednesday 20th March 2024, 7.30pm, The Old School.

	Agenda Item
1.	Opening Prayers: A video was played by a man called Rich Mullins and it was followed by reflection and prayer.
2.	Attendance: Rev Jo, (Chair) Lyn Johnson, (secretary) Hazel Gault, Ian Jones, Jacqueline Smith, Kent Polley, Zona Dipple Apologies: Rev. Graeme, John Rogers, Gemma Drakeford
3.	Minutes from 24/01/24: Agreed true record
4.	Matters Arising not on the agenda: None
5.	Actions from 24/01/24: All completed JS researched the diocese website re use for events.
6.	<p>Vicar's Feedback: Dear PCC,</p> <p>As you can see I am not with you all this evening. This is because, as part of her training, Jo leads some PCCs with me present, and some without. May our Lord guide you all this evening.</p> <p>I was reflecting on a video by a fantastic man called Rich Mullins. Can someone play it please on their laptop for everyone. Then just reflect for a few moments. The link is:- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YxsH57lyO_U&t=1s</p> <p>The diocese is about to enter a huge period of change. This is normal whenever a new diocesan bishop is appointed. A profound culture change usually takes place during these times. This can be encouraging for some, and unsettling for others, and our Lord works through it all as we pray and trust Him. He loves you.</p> <p>I am shortly taking a sabbatical. It was actually due in 2020, but I could not swan off during COVID. Then it would have been equally wrong to take a sabbatical until I have been with you all for three years. But just think, God does not take a sabbatical! He will be with you and Rev Jo every step of the way. Our Lord has sent Rev Jo to us. Support her during this time - remembering that she needs your wisdom, kindness and love as much as the rest of us.</p> <p>This is also a time of change for David Milne. After many years of service as Treasurer, he is going to enjoy someone else serving in that way. I am sure that I speak for all of us when I say that he deserves our deep thanks. We pray for him, as letting go is a big thing.</p> <p>Rev Kris has now departed. He actually stayed six months longer than planned. He was truly humbled and blessed by you all. Please take much joy from that. Please remember the SHINE team. It is a significant thing to continue into this new chapter without Rev Kris.</p>

	<p>Glen has now had his meal out. The receipt has been given in, and I presume that he has had that reimbursed. He has done, and is doing such a fantastic job.</p> <p>Bless you all, Rev'd Graeme.</p> <p>Rev Jo added a very big thank to Dave and Sue for their 24 years of service and they were wished well as the step back from some of their responsibilities. A prayer was said for their continued health and peace.</p>																																																																																																																								
7.	<p>Children's ministry: It has been a big change following the departure of Rev Kris but the team has stepped up and Catherine and Katie Burchnell are now supporting the work with Zona and Barbara. Jayne Dunkley has also joined them.</p>																																																																																																																								
8.	<p>Churchwardens' Report:</p> <p>1. <u>January/February services</u></p> <table border="1" data-bbox="443 864 1326 1935"> <thead> <tr> <th>Month</th> <th>Date</th> <th>Service</th> <th>Adults</th> <th>Children</th> <th>Comments</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Jan</td> <td>3rd</td> <td>HC midweek</td> <td>12</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>7th</td> <td>Morning Praise</td> <td>26</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>8th</td> <td>Funeral</td> <td>43</td> <td></td> <td>Margaret Dorman-Frost</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>10th</td> <td>HC midweek</td> <td>10</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>14th</td> <td>Holy Communion</td> <td>25</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>17th</td> <td>HC midweek</td> <td>10</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>21st</td> <td>Shine</td> <td>24</td> <td>8</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>24th</td> <td>HC midweek</td> <td>9</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>28th</td> <td>Songs of Praise</td> <td>32</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>31st</td> <td>HC midweek</td> <td>7</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Feb</td> <td>4th</td> <td>Morning Praise</td> <td>52</td> <td>22</td> <td>Baptism Henry Smith</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>7th</td> <td>HC midweek</td> <td>9</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>11th</td> <td>Holy Communion</td> <td>34</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>13th</td> <td>Funeral</td> <td>75</td> <td></td> <td>James Lindsay</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>14th</td> <td>HC midweek</td> <td>11</td> <td></td> <td>Ash Weds</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>18th</td> <td>Shine</td> <td>40</td> <td>21</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>21st</td> <td>HC midweek</td> <td>10</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>25th</td> <td>Songs of Praise</td> <td>30</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>28th</td> <td>HC midweek</td> <td>11</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>1. <u>Archdeacon's Inspection</u></p>	Month	Date	Service	Adults	Children	Comments	Jan	3 rd	HC midweek	12				7 th	Morning Praise	26				8 th	Funeral	43		Margaret Dorman-Frost		10 th	HC midweek	10				14 th	Holy Communion	25				17 th	HC midweek	10				21 st	Shine	24	8			24 th	HC midweek	9				28 th	Songs of Praise	32				31 st	HC midweek	7			Feb	4 th	Morning Praise	52	22	Baptism Henry Smith		7 th	HC midweek	9				11 th	Holy Communion	34				13 th	Funeral	75		James Lindsay		14 th	HC midweek	11		Ash Weds		18 th	Shine	40	21			21 st	HC midweek	10				25 th	Songs of Praise	30				28 th	HC midweek	11		
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The Archdeacon's Inspection will have taken place on Saturday 16th March. The inspection is being done on behalf of the Archdeacon by Chris Banks, Deanery Synod Secretary.

2. **Quinquennial report**

Chancel ceiling: Work completed and invoices paid.

Nave ceiling plaster fall: Approval to proceed given by Archdeacon. Date for works to start awaited.

Roof works: The previously agreed repair works to the lead on the nave roof have still to be done. We have reminded Simon Elbrow that these works need to be done at the same time as the nave ceiling repairs

Clearing of guttering and downpipes: Premium Guttering inspected the gutters and downpipes on the nave and lower roof areas on 27th February and found them to be clear. Photos were taken for reference. We will instruct this contractor to undertake an inspection annually after the Autumn leaf fall is over.

Bier House: We have contacted the Diocesan Registry for clarification regarding the bier house, in particular whether it forms part of the churchyard and therefore that its maintenance is the responsibility of the Parish Council under section 215 of the Local Government Act 1972. The Registrar's direction is that the Bier House is not a disused dwelling and its purpose would have been to store the biers for funerals and possibly even used as a mortuary. As such it is very much part and parcel of the churchyard and its function as a burial ground for the parish. We have written to the Parish Clerk.

3. **Fabric sub-committee**

The Fabric Committee met on 6th March.

4. **Fundraising**

The Afternoon Teas on 9th March for Mothering Sunday was another excellent team effort. We welcomed 56 adults and 13 children and raised £434 net of expenses.

5. **CCTV**

A proposal for a CCTV system has been prepared for the PCC

6. **Insurance cover when the church is not in use for services, i.e. when open and unattended**

We spoke to Charlie Hunt at Trinitas Insurance Brokers on 6th February. He confirmed that the church is covered being open 24 hours day. The

fact that we've had anti-social issues isn't material to the cover provided. We must keep valuables locked away but otherwise we are OK. On the anti-social issues we have been experiencing, his advice was to offer a youth club to encourage respect for the church and the building. We are doing the right thing as far as informing the Police.

7. Would running St Margaret's Harvest Festival on 6th October affect the annual count of attendance re Parish Share?

We have clarified the calculation of Parish Share with the Diocese. Part of the Parish share is calculated by Average Sunday attendance, but it's not taken from the October count.

Therefore, we recommend that St Margaret's Harvest Festival for 2024 takes place on Sunday 6th October with our Harvest Supper on Saturday 5th October.

8. Rectors' Board

The new Rectors' Board has been erected in the North aisle and it was dedicated by Rev Graeme at the Songs of Praise service on 25th February. Our thanks to John Winn for his donation that has paid for the new board.

Kent, John and Andrew

This was accepted and appreciated for its usual comprehensive overview. The Crick Harvest supper was confirmed as 5th October 2024 with the harvest service on 6th. The other churches in the benefice will each do a different week.

9.

Safeguarding:

CONCERNS and ALLEGATIONS:

Thankfully we have had no recent reported concerns or allegations, since the last PCC meeting.

POLICIES and ACTION PLANS;

Following the review and approval of the Data Protection and Retention, and Responding to concerns or Allegations policies, at the January PCC meeting. I have updated the Parish Dash Board.

I have completed the Safeguarding Action Plan, as per our discussion and agreement at the last PCC meeting.

TRAINING and DBS CHECKS:

Currently the following training courses are yet to be completed:-

Church Wardens: Leadership Training.

Tower Captain: DBS Check together with the necessary Safeguarding Courses. (I have recently reminded Nick Hyam).

Currently Barbara Brazier's DBS renewal is being processed; she is transferring her registration from Yelvertoft to Crick. We will also have six further renewals due in September and October this year;

Zona in September; Lyn, Kent, John, Hazel and Dave in October.

Zona has been approved and registered as Deputy Recruiter.

Ray Smith

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10.	<p>Little Saints: Little Saints is going well as always. We've had a slight drop in numbers some weeks, but it's still worked well. One week we just let the children play while the 2 Mums that came had a cuppa and they said it was just as nice! One of the Mums who left the village last year has been looking for something similar to LS and as there wasn't anything close to her, she started her own group with the same format as we use. It was wonderful to hear! I'll be doing the Easter Trail again this year, but I'm nervous to leave the chocolates/treats in the porch. I'll chat to the parents and maybe I'll drop an "Easter trail" pack to them with the sheets, chocolates and stickers and they can take it along with them. Zona Dipple</p>
11.	<p>Deanery Synod: This was held via Zoom on 18th January. The speaker was Haydon Spenceley who is the Vocation Director of Formation and Ordination. He spoke thoughtfully about the call to a life of faith and was asked what was going well in the life of our church. Nationally vocation is not doing so well, however, in our diocese the situation is much better, with many more people coming forward for discernment for ordination or other ways to serve. He shared the 6 principles for ministry</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Love for God• A call to ministry• Love for people• Wisdom• Fruitfulness• Potential <p>He recommended that PCCs should take some time to look at these six qualities to remind themselves of their mission and contribution to them. Lyn</p>
12.	<p>Fabric Sub Committee: The committee met on 6th March It reviewed what had been done to date.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• the chancel ceiling has been dealt with which was the most pressing H/S issue• Glen Smith has been able to repair some of the long list of priorities, such as the drainage gravel and the clearing of guttering - lower.• More recently, in response to the vandalism issues, Andrew and Ian have put together a proposal for CCTV.• We updated the spreadsheet from the quinquennial.• There was an issue with the architect because he was off sick• Moving forward we are contacting Bowdon and Ward re roof and parapets H/S• We are liaising with the Diocese to ensure we are following its protocols• There was a discussion about the graveyard issues in the quinquennial and what the parish council has done/still needs to do to date. It was

	<p>noted that the parish Council has a record of the listed monuments and it is its responsibility to test for their safety and maintain them. The FSC will write to the Archdeacon regarding this.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clarification is being sought from the Parish Council about its public liability insurance cover for the graveyard. • There has been a House of Lords amendment to a bill which now allows churches to apply to the LA or Parish Councils for grants to help with the church building maintenance. <p>Kent Polley</p> <p>We have not yet got an architect to replace John Barker. One of the recommended architects is ill and signed off at the moment so there is still a search on to find an alternative professional.</p> <p>There is a lengthy report completed by AH into the impact and response to vandalism (discussed in the PCC meeting).</p> <p>The maintenance of the gate into the church is excellent and its new colour had been much complimented. The PCC wanted its sincere thanks given to Glen Smith for the meticulous restoration of the gate.</p>
<p>13.</p>	<p>Church Security:</p> <p>AH and IJ have been looking at the church security.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keys in the vestry are vulnerable when the Bell ringers are upstairs and the east doors are open. It was proposed that we purchased a key safe (LJ) seconded DM agreed unanimously. • AH did a detailed analysis of the vulnerable places for CCTV cameras and is now looking to use a wifi extender from his house to the church to enable this. • DM shared the generous offer from the family of Margaret Dorman-Frost. In memory of their mother they would contribute to some church security. • A discussion followed about how using an individual's wifi would be protected within the St Margaret's safeguarding procedures. Further research will need to be done with RS our safeguarding lead. • The costs will be around £220 for the wifi extender, £310 for cameras plus the costs of the cable. • Rev Jo will look into the need for a faculty to enable this to be actioned • It was proposed by KP, seconded by ZD to pursue this. Agreed unanimously. • Thank you was given to Ian and Andrew for their hard work.
<p>14.</p>	<p>Treasurer's update – including Parish Share:</p> <p>It is a case of steady as she goes. We are still on course to fulfil our parish share provided there are no major surprises. Up to date accounts will be provided at the meeting as usual.</p> <p>The plate and Goodbox donations are down. Could there be more encouragement for giving at services?</p> <p>The CAF banking is taking some time to set up and JR and LJ will be signatories. It will be necessary for all other contributors to the PCCs previous banking system to be contacted prior to them moving across to the new bank.</p> <p>The accounts for 2023 have now been audited and have passed. They will be presented at the APCM.</p>

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15.	<p>Stewardship update: Planned giving</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• One person has left the Parish Giving Scheme since the last report.• Another person has approached me to make a tithed offering to St Margaret's. This doesn't yet reflect in the figures below. I continue to make personalised approaches.• We have 32 members on the Parish Giving Scheme and 3 people who pay by standing order direct to St Margaret's. The Gift Aid on the latter is claimed annually.• 14 members on the Parish Giving Scheme have agreed to annual inflation increases.• Based on a rolling 12-month period the revised average monthly and annual totals, assuming no other changes, are now £3,022/month/£36,264/year.• Our Parish Share for 2024 is £32,239.65 <p>Card reader</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Our card reader has been live from the beginning of September 2021.• In 2021 there were 172 transactions totalling £1,290. Average of £7.50.• In 2022 there were 254 transactions totalling £1,688. Average of £6.64.• In 2023 there were 371 transactions totalling £3,574. Average of £9.63.<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ For Sunday and Wednesday offerings there were 207 transactions totalling £1,625. Average of £7.85○ For fundraising events:<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Mothering Sunday teas 23 transactions totalling £592▪ Coronation weekend BBQ 45 transactions totalling £326▪ Scarecrow weekend BBQ and teas 85 transactions totalling £830▪ Harvest supper 11 transactions totalling £201• In 2024 to end of February there were 15 transactions totalling £98. Average of £6.53.<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ For fundraising events:<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Mothering Sunday teas 12 transactions totalling £335
16.	<p>AOB</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Church gate notice board- The black noticeboard is now warped and can't be opened. FOSM is offering to purchase a new one of a similar size that will be waterproof. It can be used by the PCC and FOSM.• Private baptism - Could the worship band sing for a private baptism and if so, what would be the cost? It was decided to do more research into the logistics of it and whether the family would want the uniqueness of the band.• The 'Thy Kingdom Come' season is to be marked by a pilgrimage walk around the borders of the diocese. Our benefice date for the walkers is 17th May, with the intention that Bishop Debbie will join them. However, she is not available. A service/gathering will be expected at

	the end of the day. The walkers need somewhere to stay. Rev. Jo will find out further details and contact PCC to confirm so that we can organise a friendly gathering.
17.	Dates of next meetings (AGM 24/04/24) 22/05/24, 17/07/24, 25/09/24, 27/11/24

The meeting ended at 9.pm with a prayer.