

TIDENHAM PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL (PCC)

Annual General Meeting 2025

DRAFT Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Sunday 11 May 2025 at 12:00 noon in Tutshill Church following the morning service.

Chair: Churchwarden Brian Duerden welcomed everyone to this Annual Church Meeting, as we are currently in vacancy without a vicar. Revd Nicki Bullivant read from Hebrew 12 and opened in prayer.

Copies of the 6-page Agenda and accompanying reports had been distributed to everyone on Mailchimp and to those present who needed a copy. Electronic and Hard copies of the Trustees' Report and Annual Accounts for 2024 have been available on request for some time from the Parish Administration Assistant and the PCC Secretary.

A new church electoral roll had been created by PCC on 22 April and copies had been posted on all church notice boards. As no errors had been advised the new roll came into effect on 10 May.

Attendance The meeting was attended by thirty one (31) people on the church electoral roll: -

Janet Banks	Brian Duerden	Roger Martin	Della Rimmer
Linda Bulmer	Marjorie Duerden	Wendy Merrick	Robin Riordan
Irene Cade	Emma Durbin	Wendy Moppett	Susan Riordan
Margaret Coombs	Angela Fryer	Mary Murphy	Marilyn Turner
Paul Coombs	Fiona Gardiner	Andrew Palmer	Melanie Walton
Derek Cramp	Iain Gardiner	James Parsons	Alex White
Jean Cramp	Susanna Jacks	Julia Parsons	Bill White
	Molly Mayo	Kathryn Payne	Tanya White

One (1) person who is not on the church electoral roll also attended: - Revd Nicki Bullivant.

Apologies Twenty Six (26) people on the church electoral roll sent apologies: -

Christine Ball	Marilyn Henderson	Jan Lock	Ann Rymer
Royston Ball	Oliver Hinton	Polly Morgan	Rosalind Seward
David Burr	Leonie Jones	Colin Pears	Bob Smith
Joyce Burr	Peter Jones	Emma Phillips	Henry Wills
Nichollette Flatman	David Keen	Jen Phillips	Chantelle Wynn
Peter Gilchrist	Eleanor Kenyon	Dianne Royle	Jacob Wynn
Sarah-Jane Gilchrist			Lewis Wynn

Apologies have also been received from Revd Miri Keen.

Annual Meeting of Parishioners (formerly known as the Easter Vestry Meeting)

1. **The draft minutes** of the Annual Meeting of Parishioners held on Sunday 14 April 2024 had been available for many weeks for public inspection. They were proposed as a correct record by Tanya White and seconded by Margaret Coombs. The proposal was carried unanimously. Brian then handed the meeting over to Revd Nicki Bullivant for the election of churchwardens.

2. Election of two (2) Churchwardens

Revd Nicki Bullivant advised that only two (2) nominations had been received: Brian Duerden and Robin Riordan, so they were duly elected. She acknowledged the significant amount of time both Brian and Robin had devoted to their challenging churchwarden duties over the last twelve months, and extended her personal thanks to them in addition to that of the whole parish. Revd Nicki Bullivant then handed the chair of the meeting back to Brian Duerden.

Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM)

1. **The draft minutes** of the previous APCM meeting held on Sunday 14 April 2024 had been available for many weeks for public inspection. They were proposed as being a true record by Paul Coombs and seconded by Julia Parsons and passed unanimously.

2. **Parish Reports for 2024**

Brian Duerden referred to the Agenda and summarised the written reports, which included: -

- information on the new church electoral roll which applied from 10 May 2025,
- the proceedings of the PCC, which had met on ten occasions
- a summary of the PCC's financial situation for 2024, and an update on the current situation: giving to the general fund is down and utilities charges are significantly up. Brian thanked PCC Treasurer Paul Coombs for reading the utility meters each month, as we now receive accurate invoices from SSE.
- the 16-page Trustees' Report and the Annual Accounts for 2024, which PCC had reviewed and approved on 4 March 2025. The annual accounts had been signed off by Andy Royle, the Independent Examiner on 17 March 2025.
- information on the fabric of our churches,
- proceedings of the Deanery Synod,
- safeguarding *and*
- reports from the *Wellbeing Chaplain* and the *Children, Youth and Families Missioner*.

Brian advised that Electronic and Hard Copies of all these documents were still available from the PCC Secretary or Administration Assistant.

Questions from the floor

Molly Mayo asked if the Diocese had reflected on the absence of a full time priest by reducing our £73k parish share for this year? Brian advised they had not done so, but we are not obliged to pay our parish share in full. At its next meeting on 13 May, PCC would decide what we should pay.

Angela Fryer asked if she could gather a small group of people to offer help in raising the profile of Chase church, now that the PCC had recognised there was a need to carry out maintenance work to ensure its future use. Brian welcomed Angela's offer of help, noting that a similar group of local volunteers existed for Tidenham church.

Brian Duerden agreed with Iain Gardiner's proposal to formally thank James Parsons for his work in successfully project managing the repairs to Tidenham Tower.

Susanna Jacks asked how money in the Fabric funds was distributed to each church building. Brian advised that the financial summary in the APCM Agenda did not show every restricted fund and that in addition to the parish-wide restricted fabric fund, there was also a restricted fund for each church building. Full details are set out in the Annual Accounts. This meant that any money given for a specific building could be used only on that building. Money in the parish-wide *designated* fabric fund could be used at the discretion of the PCC, while money in the parish-wide *restricted* fabric fund could be used only for one of our three church buildings.

Della Rimmer asked if there were plans to ask the church community to increase its giving in view of the reduction in church collections for the general fund. Brian advised that the PCC is planning a push to increase giving, and asked people to review their standing orders. Della advised that donations for coffee after Tutshill Sunday services were also down despite a recent increase after churchwarden Robin Riordan had made an announcement. Robin agreed to repeat his request for people to consider increasing their coffee donations.

3. Election of PCC Members

Seven (7) spaces on the PCC were available. One (1) written nomination was received prior to the meeting: Paul Coombs. Two nominations were received verbally at the meeting: Marilyn Turner was proposed by Fiona Gardiner and seconded by Marjorie Duerden; Susan Riordan was proposed by Molly Mayo and seconded by Marjorie Duerden. The meeting agreed unanimously to all three nominations so Paul, Marilyn and Susan were duly elected to serve on the PCC until the 2028 APCM. Brian thanked Oliver Hinton, Polly Morgan and Marilyn Henderson who had stepped down this year, and thanked all the church officers for their hard work over the past year.

4. **Readers** who are licensed to the parish may become PCC members as determined by the APCM. Our Reader James Parsons is licensed to Tidenham Parish. He is a member of Forest South Deanery Synod until the next elections in spring 2026, so he is already an ex-officio member of the PCC.

5. PCC members from 11 May 2025 onwards are: -

Ex-officio members:	Revd Nicki Bullivant Molly Mayo	Brian Duerden James Parsons	Robin Riordan
Elected members:	Paul Coombs Nicholette Flatman Iain Gardiner	Andrew Palmer Emma Phillips Susan Riordan	Marilyn Turner Tanya White

6. Appointment of Independent Examiner

Brian Duerden thanked Andy Royle for performing this key task for the 2024 financial accounts and confirmed that Andy has also agreed to undertake this duty next year for the 2025 financial accounts. Fiona Gardiner proposed and Roger Martin seconded his appointment. Agreed unanimously.

7. Brian Duerden's concluding remarks

Brian thanked everyone across the Parish for all their hard work in being God's people in this place. He thanked his fellow Churchwarden, members of the PCC and the Staff Team for their hard work, support and continuing God's work here in the Parish.

Brian asked that we acknowledge and thank: -

- Our Associate Priest, Revd Nicki Bullivant for taking over Revd David Treharne's role as the pastoral lead for the parish. This resulted in a significantly increased workload for Revd Nicki, as it was in addition to her substantial ongoing work as Wellbeing Chaplain to Tidenham Parish,
- Our very capable team of ordained priests who hold the Bishop's Permission to Officiate, who since July 2024 had increased their duties to lead Sunday, weekday and occasional services,
- Emma Durbin our Children, Youth and Families Missioner, who is stepping down this summer,
- Non van den Braak, whose tireless work behind the scenes over many years has been recognised by the Diocese, in that on 17 June she is being admitted to the Company of St Kyneburga in a service in Gloucester Cathedral led by Bishop Robert,
- All our very talented singers and musicians, who help us worship God with their varied musical styles from traditional to modern via the organ and double bass to violins and guitars
- Paul Coombs for his continuing efforts to make the Parish accounts accessible,
- Rosalind Seward for her role as Parish Safeguarding Officer,
- James Parsons for his dedication and work as a Reader, and his management of our buildings
- Julia Parsons, Polly Morgan and Kathryn Payne for leading Pastoral Care work within the Parish, plus the many volunteers who assisted them,
- Bill White for manging the CCLI contract and Tutshill's PA system,

- Tanya White for renewing our Fairtrade certificates and editing the Link Magazine,
- All our Fairtrade representatives, who promote Fairtrade products,
- David Burr for maintaining the excellent records contained in the Log Book and Terrier,
- Alex White for imparting his technical wisdom and gardening work in St Luke's churchyard
- Cate Phillips and Vic Duke and our Bellringers at Tidenham
- Iain Gardiner for offering to resume the role of PCC Secretary *and*
- all the other people without whom Tidenham parish would not operate – one of the first tasks of the new PCC is to agree who does what and the latest list of contacts for "Tidenham Parish Church" runs to seven A4 pages. Copies are available from Iain Gardiner or Annabelle Stephens our Administration Assistant who is also stepping down this summer.

Brian asked the Parish to continue working together as the body of Christ, to share stories, do relationship well with God and each other, to encourage each other, forgive each other, work together, to pray together and to be aware of God within us, amongst us and around us.

Molly Mayo thanked Revd Nicki and the churchwardens for all their diligent activity over the past twelve months to ensure that the Parish continued to flourish.

8. Other Matters of General Church Interest

Revd Nicki has received a letter from Revd Brother Tom Clammer OC advising that he wished to step down from the Sunday services rota, though he would retain his Permission to Officiate. This decision came about for a number of reasons, not least that his parish in Salisbury is entering vacancy in July and the Bishop of Salisbury had asked him to assist the parish. Revd Nicki thanked Bro Tom for his significant commitment to Tidenham parish over many years.

Brian urged the Parish to fan the flame of God's love with hope for the future and Robin concluded the meeting with a blessing and the Vacancy Prayer.

The meeting closed at 13.15pm