

TIDENHAM PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL



"where the river flows everything will live"

Minutes of Tidenham PCC Meeting held in St Luke at 19:30 on Tuesday 11th November 2025

ITEM		ACTION
1.	Attendance: Chair: Brian Duerden (BD); Revd Nicki Bullivant (NB), Paul Coombs (PC), Nicholette Flatman (NF), Angela Fryer (AF), Iain Gardiner (IG), Molly Mayo (MM), Andy Palmer (AP), Emma Phillips (EP), Robin Riordan (RR), Susan Riordan (SR), Marilyn Turner (MT) and Tanya White (TW).	
2.	Welcome. NB read Matt 18:20. God is present with us when 2 or 3 are gathered together. NB opened in prayer: "As we prepare for the interview on Tuesday may God's vision for this place be planted in our hearts." BD welcomed Angela to her first PCC meeting.	
	Apologies for absence: James Parsons (JP) attending a Deanery Synod meeting.	
3.	Declarations of Interest: NIL	
	ITEMS FOR DECISION [information had been distributed to members in advance]	
4.	Items from the Finance Committee (FC) meeting held on 7 November (See Minutes)	
4.1	Proposed changes to charities supported by PCC in 2026	
4.1.1	Christians Against Poverty (CAP) Tidenham PCC has regularly donated money to CAP as part of its policy to support local charities. The current CAP Money Course continues as it is run by volunteers from local churches, but the local CAP debt centre has closed. FC recommend that PCC revise the list of charities it supports by replacing CAP with the Forest branch of The Salvation Army. Their local corps is very supportive of Sedbury Space and Revd Nicki Bullivant's work in the parish, plus it provides an employment service at Broadwell, Coleford. SR proposed, MM seconded and all agreed. ACTION PC / IG to note.	PC / IG
4.1.2	The Royal British Legion (RBL): Church Collection on Remembrance Sunday 9 November As the collection at Tutshill church was solely for RBL, we will transfer £206 to the local RBL branch. FC recommends that PCC add RBL to the list of charities it supports and that this amount be regarded as part of our charity giving for 2026. TW proposed, SR seconded and all agreed. ACTION PC /IG to note.	PC / IG
4.2	Local Fees that need to be set by PCCs	
4.2.1	Local Funeral fees 2026 are effective for 12 months starting on 01 January 2026. FC recommends that PCC accept the revised charges proposed by <i>Gloucester Funerals</i> . (2025 figures in brackets): - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Verger £62 (£60), • Organist £92 (£88), • Winter heating [from 1 October – 30 April] £75 (£72), • Minister's travel expenses £24 (£23) MM proposed, EP seconded and all agreed. ACTION PC /IG to note.	PC / IG

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4.2.2	<p>Local Wedding Fees [i.e. fees that are not set centrally]</p> <p>For weddings taking place in our churches in 2026. FC reiterated the local fees that PCC had agreed In December 2024: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organist £95, Verger £80, Heating £90, Bell ringing £185 <p>For weddings taking place in our churches in 2027. FC recommends that PCC increase the 2026 fees by £5 to: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organist £100, Verger £85, Heating £95, Bell ringing £190. <p>TW proposed, AP seconded and all agreed. ACTION PC /IG to note.</p>	PC / IG
	ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION	
5.	<p>Vacancy for Tidenham Parish Priest (Info from BD).</p> <p>Following receipt of one application, the Vacancy Interview Panel (VIP) met on Tuesday 4 November and unanimously agreed to interview the candidate in Tutshill church on Tuesday 18 November. BD set out the arrangements for the day, which this time includes a visit to Tutshill CoE Primary school. The 3 x VIP members for Tidenham parish are BD, AP and EP. PCC members thanked NF for organising the catering arrangements.</p>	
6.	<p>Feedback from 18 September Deanery Synod by NB (minutes have been distributed)</p> <p>The ongoing confusion about Focal Ministry - i.e. what is it? - is to be addressed by local meetings across our parishes. Money has been set aside to fund a Deanery Operations Leader for every deanery in Gloucester Diocese. Three posts have already been filled. It is unclear how Deanery Operations Leaders fit into Focal Ministry.</p>	
7.	<p>Financial Situation as at 31 October (PC) – usual documents had been circulated.</p> <p>PC’s suite of papers shows a satisfactory outturn as we have received our Q3 Gift Aid refund. We can therefore maintain our current parish share until 31 December. PC asked members to note that in 2026 our monthly parish share will be £4,703.75 (£56,445/12).</p> <p>Our Lloyds bank balances at 18:00hrs today: No1 £11,335; No 3 Fabric: £5,215, plus £142K in CCLA on deposit.</p> <p>Recent large donations. PC corrected item 5 of the FC minutes following IG’s phone call that morning to Francis & Co. The bequest from Guy Rastall’s estate was for £5k; the £4k shortfall received at the same time was a donation from Tony James Trust that Tidenham Friends have been expecting. ACTION PC to transfer £4k direct to Tidenham Friends.</p> <p>The outturn shows that while the income will be less than expected our costs are also lower, so we will probably be in balance by year end, but we do need to address this.</p> <p>Church collections. PCC agreed to trial reinstating the collection bag from Advent, as unchurched people attending Christmas services usually bring cash. RR / BD to agree the detailed arrangements. ACTION RR/ BD. The trial is to be reviewed by PCC in January.</p>	PC RR / BD
8.	<p>Draft Minutes of 14 October PCC Meeting.</p> <p>Following minor changes, a revised draft had been circulated. NB proposed, PC seconded and all agreed that the minutes be approved.</p>	
9.	<p>Matter Arising from the Minutes - Tidenham Church Christmas Tree Festival (MM).</p> <p>Christmas Trees will be set up on Friday 19th and the morning of Saturday 20th , with the festival starting on the afternoon of Saturday 20th.</p> <p>Christmas Tree Festival Dates: 2-4 pm on 20, 22, 23, 27, 29 and 30 December.</p> <p>Friends will provide their own card machine. Church machine to be kept in the vestry.</p>	

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10.	<p>Health & Safety: No new reported issues.</p> <p>Health & Safety Consultant / Advisor: John - Ross Henderson (JR) has agreed to support the people named to look after each church: AF for Chase and Polly Morgan for Tutshill. BD to confirm the Named Person for Tidenham church. ACTION BD.</p> <p>Once that is confirmed there will be a meeting with JR. RR noted we still need a PCC member to lead for Health & Safety matters. ACTION PCC members</p> <p>Fire Wardens Training Session Saturday 8 November, led by JR. Ten people attended this very useful session, which was also helpful for individuals at home. The key message for church fire wardens is “Get people out of the building”. There are issues to address</p> <p>Chase church Fire Exit (AF). Although the vestry door at Chase is not a fire exit, it could be used as such. It had been used to create a one way system for those attending funerals.</p> <p>ACTION BD to review possibility of opening the vestry door in Chase church.</p> <p>Missing Roof Slates. JP is arranging to restore the 2 x missing slates at Tutshill and is asked to replace the 2 x missing slates at Tidenham lych gate. ACTION JP</p>	<p>BD</p> <p>PCC</p> <p>BD</p> <p>JP</p>
11.	<p>What's coming up? Christmas events / church services across the Benefice</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Christmas Card will be an electronic flyer this year, mostly using social media • Advent carol service in Chase church at 3pm on Sunday 30 November. • Offa’s Mead Christmas Choir evening: Tutshill church at 5pm on Wed. 10 December • Christmas Crackers 5 in Tidenham church at 7.30pm on Friday 12 December • Community Carols in Sedbury at 6 30pm on Monday 15 December; mince pies and hot chocolate supplied by Two Rivers Housing and The Salvation Army • Christmas Party at Sedbury Space on Wednesday 17 December with Father Christmas, supported by Two Rivers Housing and The Salvation Army • Tidenham Parish Christmas Trees Festival starts 2pm on Saturday 20 December • Nine Lessons and Carols - 3pm on Sunday 21 December at Tidenham church as usual. • Carol service at Castleford House Nursing home at 3 pm on Christmas Eve • Crib service at 4 pm in Tutshill church on Christmas Eve, Wednesday 24 December • Midnight Mass starts at 11.15pm on Christmas Eve in Tidenham church • Holy Communion in Chase church at 9 am on Christmas Day • Family friendly Holy Communion with Bishop Robert: 10.30am in Tutshill church on Christmas Day. NOTE the start time! • Blue Christmas Service in Hewelsfield church at 3pm on Sunday 28 December. Reader Mandy Vaughan holds this service every year on 28 December for people to remember family and friends who are no longer with us. 	
12.	<p>Update on Actions / Significant Matters arising from previous PCC minutes</p> <p>BD encouraged members to review IG’s paper and where possible provide an update. The list will be reviewed on 9 December. ACTION All</p>	ALL
13.	<p>Let’s share some Good News!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Large numbers at recent community services <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All Souls at Chase church – 72 (64 in 2024; 53 in 2023) <i>and at</i> • the one Remembrance Sunday service at Tutshill church – 155 - shows the importance of the church in our local community • Twenty under 16s now regularly attend Tutshill church on Sundays. 	

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14.	AOB	
14.1	St Luke's Church display screens options RR asked members to review JP's 1 page paper, which will be circulated and discussed in detail on 9 December ACTION ALL	ALL
14.2	Hard copy sermons / Large Print service sheets Following a request from Elizabeth Lee for a hard copy of sermons RR advised this can always be provided on request. ACTION RR Large Print order of services has also been requested ACTION RR to review options	RR
14.3	Stewardship RR, AP and JP had a productive meeting on stewardship. As a result there will be an article in the Winter edition of The Link [see attached appendix], and in the weekly news sheet.	
14.4	Update on Tidenham church chancel ceiling repairs (BD). We have now been awarded a List B faculty by the Diocesan Advisory Committee (DAC) to carry out the repairs. BD to contact Lorna Theophilus for advice on funding streams. NF to chase a contact at the diocese about funding options. ACTION BD / NF	BD / NF
14.5	Request for a new bench in Tutshill churchyard behind St Luke's room (RR) On 9 December PCC meeting RR plans to seek approval for an application for a faculty for a new bench, which will include its exact location, and the material, style and wording of the memorial plaque. ACTION RR David Burr will apply for the List B Faculty.	RR
14.6	Compostable Toilet at Chase church (NB) Lorna Theophilus has offered to assist in completing the paperwork for the faculty. Members believed this would be a very useful facility for both the church and local community. ACTION NB to progress with AF and Lorna.	NB / AF
15.	ITEMS FOR INFORMATION	
15.1	Safeguarding Events. There have been no new safeguarding events.	
15.2	Chase church repairs. No new information about our application to the DAC for a List B faculty in accordance with our church architect Philip Belcher (PB)'s Schedule of Repairs ref 8551 dated July 2025. ACTION BD	BD
15.3	GDPR: No issues reported. The proposed review of contact data we need to keep about funerals and baptisms conducted by Tidenham Parish ministers has been postponed until the next PCC meeting on 9 December. ACTION IG	IG
15.4	Changes to Church Electoral Roll since the last PCC meeting on 14 October: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • John Rosser passed away 24 October • Rodney Moppett passed away on 04 November • Peter Trevelyan passed away on 07 November 	

Meeting closed at 21:05 with the Vacancy Prayer and The Grace.

Next PCC meeting: Tuesday 9 December in Tutshill church at 19:30.