



Haslemere PCC

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 18 May 2026 at The Link

Present

Justin Manley Cooper	Associate Priest (Chair)
Howard Body	Churchwarden
Noel Cullen	
Geraldine Lambrechts	
Robert Fox	Churchwarden
Simon Ingram	
Alistair Morgan	
Katie Morgan	
Richard Parker	PCC Secretary
Debbie Peet	
Andrew Silk	
David Sewell	Treasurer
David Simmons	Deputy Churchwarden
Stephen Vaughan	

The meeting was opened with a prayer led by Rev'd Justin.

	Agenda item	Action
1.	Apologies for Absence: Chris Bessant, Elizabeth Eyre, Marion Thomas, Linda Felati	
2u.	Minutes of meetings and Matters Arising from 16th March 2026 - Confidentiality Statement - Minutes – will review the discussion on the North Pew, in July rather than May as recorded in the minutes, to properly assess the impact of Link being open. No action required before September. - Additional Minutes - Welcome to Elizabeth – carry over to next meeting - Appointment of Deputy Churchwarden – David Simmons. Agreed unanimously. - Appointment of Treasurer (3yrs) – David Sewell. Appointed unanimously. - Confirmation of those continuing. - Electoral Roll Report (taken from APCM Report): KM - Every 6 years the electoral roll must be renewed where everyone is taken off the role and must re- apply to be on it. That happened last year and this year we have updated the existing roll. In April 2025, the newly established electoral roll contained 158 names of which 30 were resident outside the parish. - The updated Electoral Roll for 2026, contains 160 names, of which 30 are resident outside the parish. - All addresses have been checked using the Church of England website parish finder service, to ensure correct reporting of those on the Roll and resident outside the Parish.	
3.	Rector's Report and Updates Holy Week and Easter Attendance: JMC	

	Not much to add, Festival numbers remain strong, but festival numbers don't always feed through to our regular attendance. But it does reflect on our standing within the community/parish and that they pick us over other churches. Lent group feedback. Well received on length of time (1 hr), good content, final meditative content was good. Further piece of work to be done on understanding why people didn't attend ahead of next year.	
4.	Mission and Parish Vision - Ministry Leadership: JMC Congratulate Marion on getting through her BAP, unfortunately she's poorly so unable to join the meeting. BAP will be mid-July, when she'll find out if she's able to go further forward to ordination. - The Link Community Hub: DP Few bits still be completed (e.g. car park etc). Huge thanks to those who helped with the move on Saturday. £150,000 left in reserves after the work is all done. Community and commercial led interest in the building. The Link Community Hub website is up and running and can enquire about bookings via that website or call. June 14th official service/dedication and July 19th open day. RP raised issue of insurance enquiring if we are insured. It will increase the cost of insurance, but this would be covered with the income of the Link. - Baptism Follow-Up Service: JMC Positive occasion and gave us the opportunity to emphasise all the ways families could become involved and pleased to see some of the families in church the next Sunday. Keen to make this an annual event. Make the point that there are many ways they can be involved, it doesn't just have to be on a Sunday morning. First Steps, The Den etc.	
5.	Parish Funding Group - CB & AM - Final Meeting: DS / AM - Church Cottage: AM (Remove this section from published minutes for confidentiality reasons) Looking at the future of Church Cottage and investigating whether it would be better holding the assets in bricks and mortar or to set up an investment portfolio from the proceeds of the sale of the property. Positives of setting up a fund is that it gives some freedom in no longer having the onerous task of managing the property, especially as landlord laws are changing. Next steps are looking to get a formal valuation and in discussion with several investment portfolios holders. Keen to meet with them in person and cross examine them further on how the funds are held etc. Also need to speak to the diocese for formal approval to sell the property. Asking for approval from the PCC to get a valuation and speak to investment professionals to consider the options. Questions: (i) Are we likely to regret it in a few months/years' time if we get a Curate? Probably not because curates are only here for a few years before they move on and we could look at renting a property if the need arose.	

	(ii) Need to consider how we communicate this decision to the parish. Are there any living relatives of the bequest that we should consider. (can we check this?) (iii) financial markets can crash; how do we manage expectations/ concerns around this? This would be down to how we structure the portfolios. Agreed that we can come back in July for further discussion.	
6.	Gardening Calendar - Policy Reviews and Planned Items a. Charity Commission: KM b. Safeguarding Policy: KM requested confirmation from those present that we are happy to adopt the policy as shared by Kari. Approved unanimously.	
7.	<u>Safeguarding</u> a. Regular Report: JMC. No safeguarding events to trigger. b. Annual Risk Assessments Review: Review and thanks for those who reviewed the risk assessments.	
10.	<u>Regular Reports:</u>	
	a. <u>St Christopher's</u>: RF Looking at putting some raised beds in so the den/summit groups can do some community gardening. Someone outside the congregation asked about the Altar Frontal and how long will it be displayed for? Can we find how long this is planned to be up for?	
	b. <u>Children and Families</u> Maybe we could do more to publicize / communicate the good work of the school children/ youth groups.	
	c. <u>Budget & Finance</u> Andrew's final report. Forecast deficit is a bit bigger than planned £15k > £24k but we have church cottage to cover this. Stewardship campaign in the planning for the autumn as the amounts are going down.	
	d. <u>Fabric Activity HB/RF</u> Repairs to St Christopher's parish parapet. Three quotes received, £24k, £12k, £10k. The Parish architect recommended the cheapest one. No faculty needed as it's like for like. Authorization up to £12k – passed unanimously. Quintennial work has been held off whilst the Link has been carried out. Routine maintenance is covered. Looking to meet with Richard R to review and see what next steps need to be done.	KM to find out what the limit is for PCC approval?
	e. <u>Schools Update</u> CB As reported.	
10.	AOB	
	Success of the Link door opening system, wardens are going to conduct a feasibility study for adopting some automatic opening system for the church door at St Barts. Will depend on costs and report back at a PCC meeting in time.	

	St Christophers garden being done on Sat 23 May if anyone would like to help.	
10.	Dates of 2025/26 meetings PCC Monday 20 th July, Monday 21 st September, Monday 19 th October SC: to be determined as required	
11.	Closing Grace, Meeting closed at 8.45pm	

Attachment: Annual Calendar for PCC Review

(Each annually unless otherwise stated)

<u>Month</u>	<u>Required</u>	<u>Administration</u>
May	Charity Commission Safeguarding Policy	Health, Safety & Risk Policy - next review 2025 (2yrs)
July		Review List of Church Activities Review List of Non-Church Activities
September		Financial Exposure Authorities – next review 2025
November	Budget Constitution of Standing Committee	Data Disclosure – next review 2025 (2yrs) Lone Working – next review 2025 (2yrs)
January	Annual Return	Building Hire Agreements – next review 2027 (2yrs) Churchyard Maintenance Policy – next review 2026 (1 yr)
March	Annual Accounts Recruitment of Ex-Offenders Policy – next review 2025 (3yrs) Procedure for Reporting Safeguarding Allegations – next review 2025	Outward Giving Policy – next review 2027 (2yrs)

Future Vision and Development in Main Areas of Church Life

Updated January 2025

Significant Achievements for 2024

Relaunch of the Carpenters Men's Group
Launch of the Women of Worth Group
Securing of funding for the Link Community Hub Project
Continued rise in attendance figures
Installation of a Lightweight Altar for StC
Implementation of a Legacies Awareness Programme

Significant Achievements for 2023

Launch of new Parish Website
Engagement of an Organ Scholar
Launch of a new Older Children's Group (13+)
Launch of Sunday Families (morning Sunday School)
Employment of a new Parish Administrator
Establishment of a new Parish Vision
Completion of curacy for Justin
Appeal fundraising for outward giving
Continued rise in attendance figures

Worship and Occasional Office

All-age services \ morning worship accessibility for young children. [Completed.](#)
Establishment of an acolytes team. [Completed.](#)
Establishment of First Communions. [Completed](#)

Children and Families

Families@4 to move to twice monthly. [Completed.](#)
Establish a regular meeting Families@4 team. [Completed.](#)
Establish better branding, communications and cross-over with other areas of church life. [Completed.](#)
Greater integration of First Steps into the wider Children and Families ministry. [Completed.](#)
Launching of a new older children's mid-week group. [Completed.](#)
Launching of a new Parish Junior Choir. [Completed.](#)
Launching of a new 13+ youth group. [Completed](#)

Pastoral

Re-establishment of the pastoral team to operate under Covid-19 restrictions. [Completed.](#)

Create a strong link with The Hunters Centre. [Completed.](#)

Mid-week ministry to the elderly – drop in café possibility? [Completed.](#)

Re-establishment of nursing home ministry. [Completed.](#)

Re-establishment of Haslemere Hospital ministry.

Schools

Integration of new Children and Families Worker into St Bart's School. [Completed.](#)

Education and Spirituality

Increasing spiritual breadth with the arrival in Grayswood of Revd Elaine Collins. [Completed.](#)

Aims towards quiet days, healing, rules of life and spiritual direction ministry.

Establishment of Lent and autumn courses. [Completed.](#)

Increasing network of home group support and learning.

Finance, Fabric and Administration

2022 Stewardship campaign to increase regular giving in spring/early summer. [Completed.](#)

Completion of Flemish Glass. [Completed.](#)

Completion of St Christopher's Organ repair. [Completed.](#)

Review of Churchwarden's role. [Completed.](#)

Long term consideration for use of The Link, with planning for possible major redevelopment. [Current.](#)

Establishment of a fundraising hospitality group. [Completed.](#)

Redecoration of the StC upstairs room. [Completed.](#)

Provision of a lightweight altar for St Christophers. [Completed.](#)

Upgrade of audio/visual infrastructure at St Christophers. [Completed.](#)

Review of donations and legacies strategy. [Completed.](#)

Communities Engagement

Building upon our relationship with the High Street and Wey Hill shops. Establishment of Revd Justin as High Street Chaplain. [Completed.](#)

Research into the establishment of a permanent presence on the High Street.

Vocations and Training

Continue to explore vocations with individuals. [Current.](#)