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09/09/26

St Michael's Wandsworth Common

PCC Meeting

Wednesday 8 July 2026, 6.30pm

The Northcote Room, Church and Online

Present (in person):	Revd Tif Ewins (Chair - TE) Ebenezer Appiagyei (EA) Sarah Taylor (ST)	Fiona Holmer (FH) Kristian Noll (KN) Mike Bankole (MB) John Babalola (JB)
Present (on-line):	Connie Parker-Dhinakaran (CPD) Mark Horley (MH)	Justin Walford (JW) Lara Haggar (LH)
Apologies:	Sherene Williams (SW)	James Cunningham (JC)

Ex officio members: TE, JW, JC, JB, Tom Holmer (Lay Reader) - does not attend PCC

Apologies and Approval of previous minutes

Minutes of the previous meeting (13th May) to be approved at the next PCC meeting.

Proposals for Hall Projects

ST gave some context for the discussions she has been having with Toby Costin from CREW who was present in the meeting. ST gave an overview of the works done on the church in the last 9 years and the findings of the Quinquennial reports in which an inspecting architect identifies the works needed to be undertaken on the church building. The Mission Action Plan (MAP) identifies the aim to install solar PV on the church roof which aligns with the Church of England's aim to be net zero by 2030. However, the roof lantern is in a dire state of repair and some roof tiles need replacing before solar PV can be installed. The roof is not insulated, and it is not possible to insulate it.

In the upper hall, the boiler providing heating is 25 years old and is liable to fail at any time. It is also apparent that this room is unusable in current summer temperatures with the nursery needing to relocate to the Bolingbroke room this week. There is a need for a new system to provide heating and cooling. The windows in here have secondary glazing.

- work on ourselves by growing resilient disciples
- work on the building by developing resilient, climate-ready community halls and addressing the Lady Chapel and bell tower
- work with others by being fit to join in the work of others.

Discussion

MB questioned whether Being With sufficiently leads people to Jesus and argued strongly for Alpha as a clearer route into Christian faith.

KN noted that more small-group leaders would be needed if discipleship is to grow beyond TE's own capacity.

JB questioned the need and evidence base for a bereavement course, asking whether it is truly attentive to need.

EA raised interfaith opportunities, while others suggested that strengthening relationships with local churches should sit alongside, or perhaps precede, interfaith work.

FH noted that Holy Trinity Clapham Common has run a bereavement course and suggested exploring partnership or hosting rather than duplicating existing provision.

JW urged a stronger emphasis on prayer and discipleship. He suggested that prayer might be added more explicitly to the values and stressed that discipleship can take different forms while remaining rooted in following Jesus.

KN and EA cautioned that interfaith work should be approached carefully, with clarity about purpose and awareness of complexity. TE agreed that this is not a high priority nor something that we have experience in and we should consider what is behind it and if it something needed now.

MB observed that encouraging people to invite others to church may require a cultural shift, because people also value the current intimacy and sense of being noticed when absent.

Decision

The PCC agreed that TE should continue developing the draft Mission Action Plan over the summer, taking account of PCC feedback, with a one-page draft to be brought to the September PCC meeting for further discussion and refinement.

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Occasional Preachers Course

TE noted that PCC members had already approved by email Justin and Sally proceeding for the occasional preacher's course. She stated that she would use the date of this meeting to complete the diocesan paperwork.

Safeguarding

TE introduced the safeguarding resolution circulated in advance concerning delegation on reporting serious incidents (see here). FH proposed adoption of the delegation and JW seconded it.

Decision

The PCC unanimously approved adoption of the delegation on reporting serious incidents.

The safeguarding officers reported that work is underway with JB and KN on DBS checks in the new system. It was noted that the system is not as straightforward as hoped, but the work is ongoing.

Finance

TE explained that finance items were not discussed because JC was absent. JC had circulated a financial report, including a recommendation on parish contribution. The PCC agreed to pick this up at the September meeting, within the required timeframe for the pledge date.

Closing

TE thanked everyone for their contributions, with particular thanks to Sarah for her preparation and contribution to the halls project discussion. John was invited to close the meeting in prayer.

Grant Application for Window film in the Upper Hall

Following the PCC meeting ST asked for PCC approval to apply for a grant of £3k from the Church of England to help cover the cost of the purchase and installation of window film. Approval was provided by email by LH, JB, MB, KN, TE and SW.