



**St Mary's, Linton**  
**Meeting of the Parochial Church Council on**  
**Monday, 8th September 2025 at 7.30pm in the Pavilion**

**Minutes**

Chair – Rev Paul Seaton-Burn

Present - Revd Paul Seaton Burn (Team Rector), Jacqui Burge, Sue Ellis, Sarah King, James Suranga Perera, Ann Macer, Sue Mudge, David Watts, Andrew Gore, Andrew Cornell-Webb, and David Parry-Smith.

1. The meeting opened in prayer.
2. Apologies from Cathy Watts, Michael Wilcockson and Sarah Thorne

**Ministry and outreach**

3. Rector's report

Report given at meeting. Regarding Pew Bibles, funds have been raised for 25 copies. The recent mini-pilgrimage went well with 22 people attending. Friday Church has resumed with the new term starting. Messy Church will start in its new slot on the fourth Sunday. The Children and Family focus group will be starting soon. There was a question raised regarding Messy Church moving to the fourth Sunday and whether the Cafe Church group was happy with the change; Paul S-B said there had been no objections. Paul S-B is keen to offer another watering hole to people surrounding the topic of prayer, which would be a midweek prayer slot, with a suggestion of Wednesday morning at 9:00am or 9:15am. The PCC agreed that being in person was best instead of online. Rev Jane Butler is welcomed to the Ministry Team and Healing Team. There has been a positive stream of pastoral things with ashes and funerals. This coming Saturday, the 13<sup>th</sup> of September, there will be a Churchyard Day focusing on cleaning up the churchyard area. At this stage Remembrance Sunday is likely to remain at 2pm. An update on Mary's Kitchen Update was given: bread and soup will be offered, donations will be accepted, and people will not be charged to attend. There has been lots of consideration into this, and a little group is due to be set up with an aim to start in October in the Pavilion to begin on Fridays from 12pm to 2pm.

4. Updates for the PCC:

Children and Families Team

Tots in Tow is starting this week

Events Committee

The report was distributed before the meeting. The Auction of Promises needs to sell more tickets, as only 18 sold already. There is an aim for 60 tickets max to be sold. There will be reserves on some items. A thanks is given by the PCC to both the Events committee and Auction sub-committee.

Pastoral visitors' group report

The report was distributed before the meeting; no questions.

Beacon Youth Trust

The report was given at the meeting; no questions.

#### 5. Deanery and Diocesan Matters and Deanery Synod update

Very good deanery meeting. The main discussion was around the proposal by the diocese of establishing hubs around the diocese, centred around multi-parish benefices and looking to take 1 million in savings but not much support. Clear feeling that they need more information, and they emailed the diocese. The diocese replied, and they want to have a meeting with Michael W and Andrew Gore. Science Park chaplaincy is having a rethink as it is currently struggling to get funding from the science park businesses. Now looking at other routes. It needs backing from the site, and it needs to be sustainable. Trying to fund a minister part-time for the area. The earliest time for the new bishop will be in April; an announcement is expected by the end of the year.

#### 6. Safeguarding report (Cathy Watts)

Data breach from the company that manages DBS for the Diocese, with thousands of details stolen, affecting 5 people from the parish. Safeguarding Sunday will be on the 16th of November. There is a new Head of Safeguarding at the diocese called Sarah Kennedy. A Safeguarding Standalone PCC Meeting will happen to address a variety of safeguarding topics. This week the Parish Safeguarding Dashboard will be looked at. It would be appreciated if a deputy safeguarding officer could be appointed to assist Cathy. The Photo-Board discussed last time will include the safeguarding officer. A discussion was held around a new board to put things on instead of the current tiered thing near the service sheet cupboard.

#### 7. Welcome - refreshments (see attachment)

Moved to AOB per PCC agreement.

### **Management and maintenance:**

#### 8. Minutes of the PCC Meeting of 14<sup>th</sup> July 2025

Andrew Gore was present and needs to be added to the last minutes.

David Parry Smith Proposed accepting the minutes with Sue Mudge seconding. Unanimous Vote for all people who were present at this meeting and the July meeting.

#### 9. Matters arising

David P-S discussed altar frontals that got damaged in the flood of 2001; they should have been replaced with insurance back then, and they are currently in a bad state. It's easy to see the floodwater mark on them. The PCC agreed unanimously that a faculty should be looked at around the Altar Frontal Box and Altar Frontals, removing old ones. The organ blower cost

around £2000 to repair; the organ is now working very well. The Friends will be approached to fund the organ.

#### 10. Churchwardens' report

Nothing to Report. A thanks was given by Sarah King to the church wardens for going above and beyond.

#### 11. Other reports:

##### Finance & Stewardship

The Finance Committee hasn't met since the last PCC meeting. There is currently a 2000-pound-a-month deficit, with reserves currently lasting only 2 years at this point; a notice has been made in the pew sheet. Currently seeking money from Anderson Trust and Parish Council. The budget for next year will be prepared shortly.

##### Fabric committee

Thanks to Barry from the PCC for his hard work as Chair. The Net Zero Committee seem to be going out of their way to make getting a new boiler difficult and being rude in tone in their emails. Currently considering going above the committee's head and going to the chancellor.

#### 12. Any other business (requests are to sent to the Rector and Secretary before the meeting)

Coffee Machines - Concerns around the strength of coffee being consistent due to people pouring them before they're fully filled and concerns around the number of cups being made. Paul S-B proposed a hybrid of cafetières and instant, but there is concern around the capacity of helpers to do that. The PCC agreed to not pursuing coffee machines at this time with trying the hybrid approach with more cafetieres are being used and a push for donations.

Minutes being on the website – Approved minutes will be put on the website covering the last 12 months of meetings.

Policies presented to PCC - The ball is rolling on this with 53 sent so far to the PCC. Volunteer Policy - change it so there is one form for one role. Violence and Aggression Policy - No change, Statement on Domestic Abuse - No Change, Complaints Policy and Procedure – Remove the wording "to PCC" and change it to Making a complaint. Dealing with Bullying and Harassment – No changes

#### **PCC Meeting Dates:**

November 10<sup>th</sup> 2025, January 12<sup>th</sup> 2026, March 9<sup>th</sup> 2026

**Deanery Synod dates:** 6th November 2025, 24th March 2026

The meeting closed in prayer