



St Mary's, Linton
Meeting of the Parochial Church Council on
Monday, 12th January 2026, 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, Sue Mudge, David Watts, Andrew Cornell-Webb, David Parry-Smith, Michael Wilcockson, Cathy Watts, James Suranga Perera and Sarah Thorne.

1. Opening prayer

The meeting was opened with prayer.

2. Apologies

Andrew Gore and Anne Macer

Ministry and outreach

3. Rector's report

Paul S-B presented the following report. Thanks were expressed to all who contributed to the Advent and Christmas services. Whilst attendance figures were encouraging, it was noted that numbers are not the primary focus of the church's mission. It was particularly pleasing to see queues forming ahead of the Carol Service, reflecting strong community engagement.

Appreciation was expressed to all those who put considerable effort into the Infants' School services during the boiler replacement. Mary's Kitchen in December was very well received and has now relocated permanently to the Village Hall. The hire fee was waived for the first session, with a reduced fee of 50% applicable going forward. Donations received have fully recovered the associated costs, leaving a modest surplus available for future use.

The R&B groups are resuming, and Altar Server training has been completed for a number of individuals. Both the Crib Service and Messy Christingle were well attended and received positive feedback from families. The first Evensong of the year was held successfully. Midweek Prayer has also commenced.

Planning is under way for a period of focused prayer in the run-up to Lent. Ash Wednesday falls on 18th February and Mothering Sunday on 15th March. Harp music is planned for the Candlemas service. Several Baptisms are anticipated in the coming period, including both children and an adult, and a number of funerals are also expected.

Paul S-B expressed encouragement at the number of referrals being made through the Pastoral Group. Discussion took place regarding raising the profile of this service, including the possibility of a dedicated email address and references in the church newsletter. Some collaborative work has been undertaken with South Cambridgeshire MIND. The Joint Light Party was well received. Services at Symonds House and Nichols Court continue to go well.

4. Updates for the PCC:

Children and Families Team

Attendance at Tots in Tow was lower than expected the previous week, with only six families attending. It is believed this may be attributable to adverse weather conditions and the fact that schools had only recently returned. The group remains financially stable.

Events Committee

The PCC expressed thanks to the Events Committee for their continued work. It was noted that the St David's Day Organ Recital should be included in the forthcoming newsletter.

Pastoral visitors' group report

This matter was covered under Item 3: Rector's Report

Beacon Youth Trust

Cynthia is returning from maternity leave, though her hours will remain reduced for the time being. Gareth's cover during the maternity leave period was commended. Outreach through the Church is being explored, and replacement of the old youth club building is under consideration. Beacon Youth Trust remains financially stable, supported by significant donors. A Jazz Concert is being planned by Beacon.

Infant School Report

A SIAMS Inspection (Statutory Inspection of Anglican & Methodist Schools) taken place. Discussion took place regarding the possibility of extending Friday Church to allow parents to remain after the service to pray, thereby further developing the sense of community.

5. Deanery and Diocesan Matters and Deanery Synod update

Regarding the Science Park Chaplaincy, a decision has been taken not to make the post voluntary. A meeting with the Science Park HR team was reported as positive. It was also agreed that feedback should be provided to the Diocese noting that the parish share contribution notification arrives too late in the year to be factored into budget planning.

6. Safeguarding report (Cathy Watts)

Cathy Watts has indicated her intention to step back from the role of Safeguarding Officer. DBS checks are now ongoing via U-Check.

Management and maintenance:

7. Minutes of the PCC Meeting of 10th of November 2025 (corrected with date)

The minutes were reviewed. One correction was noted: "YouthInc" to replace the previously recorded "Youthink". The minutes were approved subject to this amendment.

Proposed: Sarah King Seconded: David Parry-Smith

8. Minutes of the PCC Safeguarding Meeting of 6th of December 2025

The minutes were reviewed. One correction was noted: a grammatical amendment is required to the Do's and Don'ts section. The minutes were approved subject to this correction.

Proposed: Michael Wilcockson Seconded: Sue Mudge

9. Matters arising

Item 12 — Policy Clarification: The following policies that were reviewed: Lone Worker Policy; Complaints Policy; Violence and Aggression Policy; and Support for Office Holders, Staff or Volunteers Subject to Abuse.

Item 11b — Water Leak Cost: The cost of remedial works relating to the water leak has been confirmed at £2,800.

10. Churchwardens' report

A debrief regarding the first Sunday service held at the Infants' School has taken place at the Churchwardens' and Rector's Meeting. Boiler works have commenced. Policy review is ongoing. Statistics for mission are to be submitted. The APCM is scheduled for 17th May following the 10am service, at which the Finance and PCC Report will be brought for approval. David Watts has indicated his intention to stand down from the role of Churchwarden at the APCM.

11. Other reports:

Finance & Stewardship

The Parish Share has increased to £80,499. There has been some delay in the Friends reimbursing previously agreed funds. A grant request submitted to the Parish Council has been approved. The Parish Share split is to be discussed at a future meeting.

Fabric committee

A report was distributed to members prior to the meeting. Pews are to be advertised in the Church Times. The Quinquennial Breakdown has been shared with the Friends to provide context for costs, which have exceeded initial expectations. It was noted that the night vision security camera is now operational and discreetly positioned.

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

The bollard on Church Lane was discussed during the meeting, no further action to be taken at this .

PCC Meeting Dates: March 9th 2026

Deanery Synod dates: 24th March 2026

The meeting was closed with prayer.