

**St Andrew's Church, Sandon**  
**PCC Meeting Minutes**  
**22<sup>nd</sup> April 2024 at 7.30pm**  
**in the St Andrew's Room**



The Church of England  
in Essex and East London  
Diocese of Chelmsford

1. Opening prayers – Richard Cecil
2. Present: Revd Terry Brown, Christine Mennie, Alison Read, Janet Terry, Cathie Horne, Andy Horne, Richard Cecil, Judy Cecil and also Nick Bobeldijk (Treasurer) and James Colbeck (Parish Council)  
Apologies for Absence: John Gruby, David Farrar, Colin Bryan.
3. Appointment of PCC Officers:  
Vice chair (Chair designate): Terry Brown proposed Richard Cecil, Andy Horne seconded and all agreed.  
Deputy vice chair: Richard Cecil proposed Andy Horne, Alison Read seconded and all agreed.  
Treasurer: Judy Cecil proposed Nick Bobeldijk, Janet Terry seconded and all agreed.  
Secretary. Christine Mennie proposed Judy Cecil, Cathie Horne seconded and all agreed.
4. Appointment of sidesmen: Valerie Grimwood, Gill Hodge, Christine Mennie, David Farrar, Eileen Bartrup, Lisa Wiseman, Alison Read, Judy Cecil, Kate Williamson.  
They were all agreed.
5. Minutes of PCC Meeting of 26<sup>th</sup> February 2024: Acceptance was proposed by Andy Horne, Cathie Horne seconded and all agreed.
6. Matters arising: Item 3 Terry led Eucharistic minister training for all.  
Commissioning/Recommissioning for 5years will be during the service on 5<sup>th</sup> May service; Item 8 Maundy Thursday meal went well. Item 9 Meeting with Bishop Adam and Archdeacon Jonathan and the PCC has taken place.
7. Notification of any other business: Deanery Synod proposal re concern about clergy cover during vacancy.
8. Parish Council (PC) matters (James Colbeck): Annual meeting was on 11<sup>th</sup> April; Grass cutting – PC have a new contractor. The arrangement continues that PC cut open area of churchyard; Warehouse group are co-ordinating opposition to development around the A12/A130 junction. Our MPs are supporting opposition. Objections can be lodged until May 17<sup>th</sup> citing eg transport problems, mineral deposits and bad for the environment. Also some discussion about proposed

Hammonds Farm development; James reported that PC now has a grant giving process for community projects. We can apply.

9. Finance Report, card reader, renew copyright

Nick reported that all seems OK up to end of March as compared with previous years. £24k in deposit account and £20k in fixed term deposit account. (£10k of this is Stevyns/Perry funds), Fixed term interest of 3.75% over last 6 months. Judy Cecil proposed, Andy Horne seconded and all agreed to repeat fixed term deposit for a further 6months. **Nick**

Card reader: Nick will collect it in June. He was thanked for making it happen. **Nick**

Copyright licence (CCLI) is needed for weddings when hymns are printed on the sheets. Noted copyright number should be recorded on service sheets. Janet Terry proposed, Christine Mennie seconded and all agreed. Andy and Cathie will make sure CCLI reporting is done. **Andy and Cathie**

10. Fabric Report: Richard reported that Caters have done the work on the roof as agreed. Thanks to the PC and Friends for the grant made through the Friends for the work.

Outdoor tap – Paul Hicks, plumber will put a stop tap on the pipe to allow further insulation work. **Richard**

One SAR light was not working, but now is, after a tweak by Richard. Richard proposed we buy LED lights for the main church as described by Andy at the February PCC, soft white for about £220 to replace all the present lights. Seconded by Alison and all agreed. Richard to buy via Amazon. **Richard**

Easter Candle: agreed a new candle every 2 years is too soon, so change the finance authority to show buy as needed and agreed with the churchwardens. **Wardens & Nick**

Cycle rack: requested by and a proposal drawn up by Gill Haddington for 4 hoops fixed to ground at cost about £250. We will ask for donations in church. Alison Read proposed, Andy Horne seconded and all agreed. (James Colbeck has a cement mixer.) **Wardens to ask Gill**

Richard and Andy will put a spending plan to the Friends based on the quinquennial to seek Friends grants next year. **Richard and Andy**

LEDs x 6 agreed for SAR to use as need arises.

Electrical inspection due in September. Danbury Electrical have quoted about £2k. Three lights in church were not working. Danbury Electrical have made repairs.

11. Eco church group have met several times and proposed the following, which was proposed by Judy, seconded by Andy and agreed by all:
- a. The PCC make a commitment to improving the environmental credentials of St Andrew's by endorsing the undertaking of work towards Silver and hopefully Gold Eco awards.
  - b. The PCC state that St Andrew's has a timeclock for outdoor safety lighting and lights on path adjacent to St Andrew's Room have a sensor.
  - c. The PCC agree we do not expect to use disposable cups.
  - d. The PCC agree purchase of a bike rack.
  - e. The PCC agree provision of an indoor recycling box for plastics, card, tins and paper to complement the outdoor recycling bin.
  - f. The PCC agree to a board to be available at Christmas and Easter for greetings to be shared among the congregation (as well as a few cards).
  - g. The PCC agree to some signs to encourage everyone to turn lights off, by the tower door and in the St Andrew's Room and the flower cupboard.
  - h. The PCC agree to twin our St Andrew's Room toilet at a cost of £60 via the Tear Fund scheme.

**Judy and Ecogroup**

12. Safeguarding Report and Annual Review. Held over to the June PCC. **Alison**

13. Plans for Terry's final month in Sandon: Terry noted this is his last PCC ever! And that goodbyes are difficult. Caroline and Terry are supporting each other.

2<sup>nd</sup> June 3 pm service and to the village hall afterwards. It will be a busy month with baptisms of Roman and Halli on 28<sup>th</sup> April, also Lucy Hubbard and her children at 12 noon on 5<sup>th</sup> May, and another baptism at 12 noon on 26<sup>th</sup> May, and a wedding on 1<sup>st</sup> June.

Also several families have requested Terry lead interment of ashes of relatives.

14. Plans for June 2024 onwards: Richard/Andy want to establish a worship planning group particularly for 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays. Richard, Andy, Judy, Cathie and Christine and ask others to join too. Also to commit to pray at 8:30 am- 9 am in church each day after Terry leaves. Richard is looking to the next magazine, with 10<sup>th</sup> May deadline. We want to include as much detail as possible. In preparation the PCC discussed service and events up to end of September. He noted that is not easy to find ministers. Harvest, provisionally on 29<sup>th</sup> September, but check no clash with Howe Green chapel.

**Richard and Andy**

15. Church fete 29<sup>th</sup> June 12 to 3pm, in the churchyard. Andy will ask RSPCA to judge dog show. Raffle licence and tickets are ordered.

16. Future PCC Meeting Dates (7:30 pm) in church

Monday 10<sup>th</sup> June

17. Any Other Business.

Judy suggested we offer a proposal to Deanery Synod to discuss the concern we and neighbouring parishes have with the lack of clergy available to lead communion services during the vacancy. Also that many clergy are stressed by having too much work. We ask that consideration be given to new ways to provide communion services in churches as this has been declared the principal service and should be celebrated often/regularly. Yes – CM, TB, RC, JC

Offers to lead prayers to begin and end next PCC meeting. Andy will open and Alison will close.

**Andy and Alison**

18. Closing prayers – Janet Terry