

St Andrew's Church, Sandon
PCC Meeting Minutes
Monday 19th August 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 were led by Andy Horne
2. Present: Andy Horne, Cathie Horne, Alison Read, Richard Cecil, Judy Cecil, David Farrar, John Gruby, Nick Bobeldijk and James Colbeck (Parish Council)
Apologies for Absence: Christine Mennie, Colin Bryan and Janet Terry
3. Minutes of PCC Meeting of 18th July 2024 were proposed by David Farrar, seconded by Cathie Horne and agreed by all
4. Matters arising. John Gruby asked about our policy concerning same sex marriage. Richard reported that Sandon church had agreed a policy to follow Church of England guidance as at the time of agreement, 18th September 2023. At present same sex marriage is not allowed.
Actions on the minutes completed. Nick has paid Cedric, Andy has provided QR codes for pews. Churchwardens have completed or started their actions. Cathie has prepared updated prayer diary. Judy has spoken to James Valentine re Games afternoons.
The Christmas Fayre will be on 16th Nov 2024 in the Village Hall.
5. Notification of any other business. Old coin and Sandon Pax
6. Parish Council (PC) matters James Colbeck reported that Dee Hyatt has resigned as chair and member of the Parish Council. Martin Cross has been elected as chair. Also Charlotte Lyons stood down. All this around planning Issues relating to Hammonds Farm development.
Discussion followed about the development all around Sandon for residential as well as warehousing. James reported that the PC are short of one member – any offers? David mentioned traffic calming signs on East Hanningfield Road and asked James to see if the PC will consider for Sandon. James reported two 30 limit signs on Brick Kiln have been damaged by a tractor. Please report it on the Essex Highways website. ACTION All
James will ask Cedric about putting up a cycle rack. ACTION James
7. Finance Report Nick reported his comparison between 2023 and 2024 showed not quite as good this year. Fees for funerals are down, but Parish share is also lower. We have about £30k available plus Stevyns and Perry funds at just less than £10k. Card reader/Collectin is still not working, although the kit works with a different test account. Work continues to progress this.
8. Worship Plans (Worship Planning Group)
 - a. Debrief August Worship Together – congregation engaged and enjoyed.
 - b. Debrief Tea on the Green – 90+ visitors and many helpers for tea. Salvation Army provided good music and the speaker. Good reports afterwards. Alison reminded us about posting photos on facebook. Booked for 27th July 2025
?speaker ?Bp Adam ?Hugh Dibbens

- c. Autumn and Christmas: Bishop Adam will lead Christmas morning Communion. No midnight service here at St Andrew's. Churchwardens are looking for an LLM to lead the St Andrew's service, Crib Service, and Beer & Carols at The Crown on 17th Dec. Andy and Richard will meet Archdeacon Jonathan in early September.
 - d. A Pioneering Parish working with CMS: Possible training for church members. Andy will look into cost for the online version and expected commitment. ACTION Andy
 - e. Richard spoke about using Bible Project teaching for an Advent course on Tue am and Wed pm. Suggest advent bible studies for 5 weeks looking at the Sermon on the Mount. Suspend night prayer on zoom and relaunch it later with more encouragement and enthusiasm. Agreed.
 - f. October half term Children's afternoon. Tue 29th Oct 2-4pm. Churchwardens requested helpers. Cathie offered her Mum. We will ask others individually.
9. Fabric Report (Richard and Andy)
- a. Cycle rack. – ask Cedric see above.
 - b. Parish profile – wait until churchwardens have met the archdeacon.
 - c. Parish inspection. Form completed but inspection has been postponed.
10. Safeguarding Report: Alison – nothing to report. New posters naming Alison & Richard in the absence of a Rector/Priest in Charge. Richard will also update the website. ACTION Richard
Noted that Andy and Judy recently updated their safeguarding leadership training.
11. Churchwarden Report
- a. Churchwardens are meeting the Archdeacon on 5th September.
 - b. Candelabra have gone to Messing church via Andrew Harding
 - c. Prayer diary is at the printers.
 - d. Sharon Hands grave will be discussed with the archdeacon.
 - e. Old coin and Pax. Alison Barker looked at the Sandon Pax as a historian and was concerned about its well-being. She is willing to see if a museum would help. Richard Cecil proposed that Alison is asked to negotiate a better home for it. David Farrar seconded and all agreed. Alison will be asked to report back and only take action with PCC agreement. ACTION Richard
James Modal emailed about a groat (silver coin) from 1350s which was apparently found in the North Aisle wall of St Andrew's. It was found in 1904 and is now in display case. Alison will be asked to look at this too.
12. Eco Church: Proposal from Judy Cecil, seconded by Alison Read and all agreed to buy an Eco silver award plaque costing £90 + £6 p&p. ACTION Judy & Nick
There is a meeting on 3rd September at 7.45 to plan future eco projects and engagement. All invited or if you cannot come please speak to Judy.
13. Website – Discussion around displaying PCC policies on the website. Alison Read proposed, David Farrar seconded and all agreed to display PCC Policies starting with Marriage Policy, Diocesan Graveyard Policy. Church of England Safeguarding Policy, Fire Policy and Health and Safety Policy. Maybe in future Funeral, Baptism and Communications policies. ACTION Richard

14. Pastoral Care: Some discussion about restarting the 'Flocks' we established during Covid, taking care to make sure everyone is encouraged to keep in contact with people they know in the congregation. The flocks are a default to ensure all who come to church or are involved with church activities are cared for and contacted if we do not see them for a while. Judy will email suggested flocks to PCC members for comments and then ready for use. ACTION Judy
Judy asked for help to send letters of invitation to bereaved relatives and friends who may like to attend the Time to Remember service in November. Judy to produce letters. Alison offered to print letters, address envelopes and deliver locally or post. Also David and Nick may distribute some letters. ACTION Judy, Alison, David, Nick
15. Future PCC Meeting Dates (7:30 pm) in church
Thursday 26th September 2024. (John Gruby offered apologies).
Thursday 7th November 2024
16. Any Other Business: David reported that some people find it hard to hear in church. Richard has tested the loop with a hearing aid and it is working. Suggested some training is needed. Maybe this could be before a service. Training offer to go into weekly email. ACTION Readers, Pray-ers, Preachers, Leaders
Alison offered to lead prayers to begin next PCC meeting
17. The meeting closed at 9.30pm with the Grace