

Minutes of PCC 8th September 2025

Final - approved at the 12th November PCC meeting.

Item	Subject	Action
1	Welcome and opening prayer PB chaired. ST opened with prayer.	
2	Apologies for absence Moses Barker, Kirabo Frewin, Louise Grace, Clare Johnson, James Murdoch	
3	Declarations of interest None	
4	Acceptance of AOB Update from CH regarding Flourish project at Trinity school. Sonnet is supporting a Y11 student who is currently Lewisham Young Mayor and who has established a WhatsApp group for young Christians in the borough. Interested in running in-person 'youth church'. Diocese has advised consulting PCC. PCC positive as it aligns with our mission goals re youth, but mindful it should also respect our inclusivity position. PB suggested St Peters as venue. Standing Committee to follow up and involve PCC when appropriate.	CH and Standing Committee
5	Approval of Minutes PCC 15 July 2025 minutes. Proposed by JS, seconded by JB, all attendees in favour.	
6	Matters arising from minutes <ul style="list-style-type: none">a) Appointment process: Congratulations to Chris, and thanks to all who helped make the process so efficient.b) Housing for Henriettes: Diocese has agreed the family can move into the vicarage once redecoration work has been completed, on condition that parish pays rent to the diocese equal to what we are currently paying for the Thornwood Road lease, until Chris commences as vicar.	
7	Reports from Deanery and Diocesan Synods <ul style="list-style-type: none">a) Deanery Synod: no meeting has occurred. AG has information about an event on 18th October which connects with the synod's recent focus on Modern Slavery. Contact him if interested.b) Diocesan Synod: no meeting has occurred.	
8	Finance report	

	<p>TH presented on-screen July YTD results, 2025 forecast and preliminary 2026 prediction (circulated in advance). Key 2025 points noted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Total church running costs 2025 now forecast as a £5k deficit. Previously a £1k surplus. Main causes identified as drop in GS booking income, and additional works/repairs at the Weigall Road house. • We have sufficient reserves to handle this. <p>Key 2026 points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Income from a couple of regular donors will cease. • Extra office / support costs reflecting no longer having 2 clergy (vicar + curate), plus reduction of lay minister resources. • Higher income from Weigall Road. • Better hall rental income (especially local elections), and no bad debt write-off (we hope). • Assuming a 5.7% increase in our PSF pledge (see next item) the anticipated deficit in 2026 is £14k, after which our reserves will be £22k. • Planned additional office / support is £13k, so in our control to scale back if unforeseen major expenses arise during 2026. • Clergy housing costs (£13k) will be zero in 2027, so the £14k 2026 deficit is a “one-off”. 	
9	<p>Parish Support Fund (PSF)</p> <p>Standing Committee met on 1/9/25, discussed TH’s forecast in detail, and recommended to PCC that we pledge 5.7% more to PSF in 2026 than we gave in 2025. This is the percentage increase requested by the diocese.</p> <p>Motion proposed by AG, seconded by RB. All in favour.</p>	TH will liaise with Fiona and make sure our pledge is submitted by the 15/9/25 deadline.
10	<p>Safeguarding update</p> <p>The recent data breach (see item 12 below) means we are currently unable to get DBS checks processed, pending notification from the diocese that we can resume using the affected provider (APCS). Keeping this under review; if the freeze starts impacting us we may need to seek an alternative.</p>	
11	<p>Health and safety update</p> <p>We still don’t have a designated H & S officer. Urgent appeal to be made to congregation. ST will give a notice on 21/9</p>	ST
12	<p>GDPR compliance</p>	CH to provide Experian service

	<p>A data breach has occurred involving data processed by Access Personal Checking Services (APCS) Ltd – the provider the diocese and most parishes currently use to process Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checks for parish officers. The external software supplier to APCS suffered a breach compromising the data of 7 of our people whose DBS checks took place between December 2024 and May 2025. On advice from the diocese CH has notified those people. The national church will pay for those individuals to register for a protection service from Experian.</p> <p>We have reported the incident to the ICO and also to the Charities Commission, both within the required timeframes.</p> <p>JB asked whether we hold similar data in systems we control, and what safeguards are in place. Our Privacy Notice was included in the 2/6/25 meeting’s annual “Approval of Policies” item. A deeper review is needed, including who can access what, how long we retain data, and what our procedures are for revoking access and deleting data once no longer required.</p>	information to affected individuals.
13	<p>Correspondence</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4/9/25: email on behalf of Bishops Christopher and Alastair promoting Southwark LyCiG (Leading your Church into Growth) conference 22-24/9 (Mon-Wed) • 4/9/25: email from Bishop Christopher about Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation conference on 8/11/25 (Saturday) - see https://jpicconference2025.eventbrite.co.uk/ • 8/9/25: email from Bishop Christopher promoting March 2026 diocesan pilgrimage to Rome and Assisi. 	
14	<p>AOB</p> <p>Handled in item 4</p>	
15	<p>Date of next meetings</p> <p>Next PCC should be in November. PB will poll PCC members with a few options. Then one in January and one in March. APCM in May, probably 10/5.</p>	PB
16	<p>Closing prayer</p> <p>CH closed with prayer.</p>	