

St Mary the Virgin East Barnet

PCC meeting

24 November 2025

Minutes

Present: Alec Corio, Alison Blunt (minutes), Victor Chan, Margaret Cranfield, Roger Melling, Gail Phillips, John Savage, Bettina von Cossel.

1. Welcome and opening prayer.
2. Apologies were received from Stephen Edwards, Amy Jobson, Abe Konadu-Yiadom.
3. Minutes of the September PCC meeting were unanimously approved by those who were at the meeting. Alec to sign.
4. Living in Love and Faith petition request from Inclusive Church: Alec provided the background to this request. If we circulated the request to the wider congregation, we would need to provide further explanation. The petition closed yesterday. Members of the Church Council can still sign it. The next meeting will discuss ways of addressing this issue with the wider congregation.
5. Appointment of School governors: Stephen Edwards and Martin Welling are both willing to stand again as governors of St Mary's School. Passed unanimously. Alec will sign the forms.
6. Church policies
 - a. Grievance procedure: Alison asked about the grounds for appeal. Alec will revise the policy to state that an appeal can only be made on the grounds of the procedure not being followed correctly.
 - b. Code of conduct: approved with two revisions: adding 'in cases of emergency' to the third bullet point from the end; and moving the point about safeguarding to come first.
7. Mission Action Planning
 - a. Where have we been led in our discussion: there has been a gradual upward trend in attendance. This is unpredictable because regularity and frequency are on different patterns.
 - b. Discussion of possible goals in 3 or 4 priority areas. Small group discussion generated ideas under the following headings:
 - i. Invitation
 - ii. Inspiration
 - iii. Communication
 - iv. Community
 - v. Integration
 - c. Agreement of goals
 - PCC to have strategic oversight over setting the main objectives for the new Director of Music and children's worker, in line with broader Mission Action Plan strategic goals. This will be discussed at a future PCC meeting and then led by Alec as line-manager for both roles.

- Pet service after the current rota period ends (late February / March), with communication via schools, the vets, other shops and networks, and at the Crib service. Alec to lead the service. Gail to support with organising.
 - Provisional idea (tbc): Church BBQ or garden party in the summer. Roger or John will ask at the end of a Messy Mass in the New Year if anyone is willing to organise it.
 - Provisional idea (tbc): day trip to the Tree Cathedral in Whipsnade. Bettina has emailed to ask if the service (usually in June) is going ahead. Bettina and Gail could jointly lead on this.
- d. Appointment of Church Council lead for goals (see above).

8. AOB:

- a. Alison has offered to stand as PCC Secretary. This will involve taking minutes at PCC meetings and annual reporting. Approved unanimously.
- b. Positive feedback about Safeguarding Sunday, with thanks to Chris and Margaret for their roles in leading the service. The service was well-attended and led to engaged conversations about safeguarding afterwards.

9. Date of future meetings [confirmed after the PCC meeting, and following a request for the next meeting to be during the day on Sunday]:

- Sunday 1 February after the Sunday Eucharist
- Monday 23 March at 8pm
- Monday 18 May at 8pm
- Monday 29 June at 8pm
- Monday 28 September at 8pm
- Monday 23 November at 8pm

The meeting ended with the Grace.