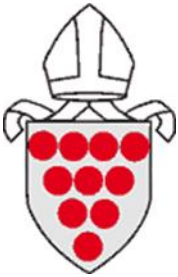


# THE PARISH OF HALAS

CRADLEY, HALESOWEN, HASBURY, LAPAL, ROMSLEY

“TOGETHER IN CHRIST”

[www.halasteam.org.uk](http://www.halasteam.org.uk)



## ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

### AGENDA AND REPORTS

Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> MAY 2026

At St Peter's, Cradley

Held after Halas Together Holy Communion

Starting at 10.30am



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# **THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL** **OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF** **HALAS**



## **CRADLEY, HALESOWEN, HASBURY, LAPAL & ROMSLEY**

### **THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE PARISHIONERS AND**

### **ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING –**

### **AGENDA Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> May 2025**

#### The Annual Meeting of the Parishioners Agenda:

- 1 Electoral Roll Report 2025: Halas Parish Electoral Roll Officer's Report for approval.
- 2 Church Wardens Elections: Thanks to serving Wardens, those standing down and new ones.
- 3 List of PCC Members and Trustees 2025:

## 1: ELECTORAL ROLL REPORT FOR APCM 17th MAY 2026

The Electoral Roll for 2026 shown below, reflects members who have completed an Electoral Roll application form to continue as members of the Halas Parish.

The Roll total for 2026 shows a increase of 25 members compared with the 2025

Thank you to Electoral Roll Officers from Team Churches, for their work and for support, providing the updated 2025 information. Claire Steward (Cradley), Ann Shackleton (Halesowen), Marilyn Hyland (Hasbury), David Scotton (Lapal) and Lyn Barrows (Romsley). A thank you also to the Parish Administrator, Lizzi Featherstone who has collated the revised information from Team Churches.

Team Church	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
St John Halesowen	119	113	114	113	101	88	94	54	66
St Margaret Hasbury	105	81	83	85	83	72	78	86	97
St Peter Lapal	63	51	50	50	48	49	49	35	39
St Peter Cradley	46	50	48	52	51	59	53	54	53
St Kenelm Romsley	81	69	69	67	64	62	59	51	50
<b>Parish Total</b>	<b>414</b>	<b>364</b>	<b>364</b>	<b>367</b>	<b>347</b>	<b>330</b>	<b>333</b>	<b>280</b>	<b>305</b>
Year on Year Change	(2)	(50)	0	+3	(20)	(17)	+3	(53)	+25

The Electoral Roll is renewed every 6 years, the next review will be in 2031,

## 2: ELECTION OF 10 HALAS PARISH CHURCH WARDENS

### Election of Church Wardens to the Annual Meeting of the Parishioners

<b>St John's Halesowen</b>	Simon Eason	P: Jonathan Spencer	S: Susan Harding
	Judith Smith	P: Jonathan Spencer	S: Susan Harding
<b>St Margaret's</b>	Barbara Hemmings	P: Hannah Barlow	S: Lyn Roberts
	Linda Young	P: David Hobbis	S: Vanessa Curley
<b>St Peter Lapal</b>	Anita Gadd	P: Sue Bicknell	S: Roy Bicknell
	David Evans	P: Roy Bicknell	S: David Scotton
<b>St Peter Cradley</b>	Christine Adshead	P: Lynn Steward	S: Sharon Turner
	Paul Millward	P: James Brookes	S: Doreen Clifton
<b>St Kenelm Romsley</b>	Bernard Pridden	P: R Deeks	S: L Barrows
	Selina Tromans	P: B Pridden	S: J S Harper

## 3 List of PCC Members and Trustees 2025:

### **HALAS PCC TRUSTEES FOR 2025**

#### **VOTING MEMBER/TRUSTEE ROLE**

<b>Rector and Chair of PCC</b>	Canon Hazel Charlton	
<b>Lay Chair and Vice Chair of PCC</b> Halesowen	Jonathan Spencer	Deanery synod Rep
<b>Licenced Clergy in the team</b> Halesowen	Canon Hazel Charlton	Vicar,
	Mthr Victoria Barlow	Team Vicar, Hasbury/Cradley
	Rev'd Chris Henson	Team Vicar, Lapal/Romsley
	Rev'd Rachel Homer	Parish Curate
	Rev'd Sarah Tranter	Parish Curate
<b>Church Wardens</b>	Paul Millward	Cradley
	Christine Adshead	Cradley
	David Hobbis	Hasbury
	Linda Young	Hasbury
	Simon Eason	Halesowen
	Vacant	Halesowen
	Anita Gadd	Lapal
	David Scotton	Lapal
	Bernard Pridden	Romsley
	Vacant	Romsley
<b>Deanery Synod Rep</b>	Canon Hazel Charlton	

Mthr Victoria Barlow	
Vacant	Cradley
David Hobbis	Hasbury
David Scotton	Lapal
Bernard Pridden	Romsley

**Elected Lay Rep**

Sharon Turner	Cradley
Lynn Steward	Cradley
Alan Hughes	Hasbury
Janet Gazey	Hasbury
Ann Shackleton	Halesowen
Rev Sarah Tranter	Halesowen
Susan Bicknell	Lapal
Sarah Long	Lapal
Lynda Barrows	Romsley
Vacant	Romsley

**Parish Safeguarding Officer**

Mel Case

**Chair of PCC Finance Committee**

Roy Bicknell

**Parish Treasurer**

Roy Bicknell

**PCC Secretary**

John Neale

The Annual report was approved by the trustees of the charity on ..... and signed on its behalf by:

.....

**Hazel Charlton**

Trustee

## Annual Parochial Church Meeting and Safeguarding Agenda:

### **Apologies:**

### **Approval of APCM Minutes for 30<sup>th</sup> May 2025:**

**Parish Annual Report:** To Receive and approve the report. Team reflections on mission and ministry, including, reports from the Rector and lay chair and the Team Churches.

### **Halas Parish Accounts and Financial Report 2025 Appointment of Auditor:**

Proposed Ballards: LLP as the Halas Parish Inspectors

**Parish Standing Orders:** For Approval.

**Patterns of Services & Meetings Report: Clergy, Lay Ministers Update:** (see Parish Report)

**Church Schools Report:** (see Parish Report)

**Election of Nominated Officers:** Team Churches Nomination Sheets.

Parish Safeguarding Officer Election: Rector Nomination: Proposed Melanie Case

District Church Safeguarding Officers: Vicar Nomination (1 per Church)

Employment Group Members Church Vicar Nomination (1 per Church)

Parish Electoral Roll Officer Election: Proposed:

Nomination of PCC Lay Chair

**Election of Representative:** See separate Churches Nomination sheets.

Greater Dudley Deanery Synod Representatives until 2026. 1 per Church plus 4 nominations from PCC

PCC Lay Representatives (2 per Church):

Church DCC Lay Representatives (6 per Church):

Halesowen Churches Together (2 per Church except Cradley):

Goodman Bequest Vicar Nomination (1 per Church)

Halas Outward Giving Committee (1 per Church):

Halas Parish Charity (1 per Church):

Sides persons Appointments:

### **Safeguarding Policy Agreement for Children and Vulnerable Adults:**

Attached with report and policies proposed for approval.

Clergy and readers to advise if there have been any safeguarding issues since the last APCM.

The PCC has complied with the duty under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016 (duty to have due regard to House of Bishops' guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults). To agree Safeguarding Policy, Parish Policy on Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults in the Church, Policy on the Recruitment of Ex-offenders, and Statement of policy in respect of Disclosures from the Disclosure and Barring Service.

**Proposed PCC Meetings 2026/7:** 18<sup>th</sup> June – St Johns, 29<sup>th</sup> Sept – S Margaret's, 10<sup>th</sup> November – St Peter's, Lapal, 27<sup>th</sup> Feb 27 – St Peter's, Cradley

**Proposed PCC Standing Committee 2026/7:** 26<sup>th</sup> May, 10<sup>th</sup> Sept, 27<sup>th</sup> Oct, 12<sup>th</sup> Jan 27

Minutes for the APCM on 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2025



**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF  
THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF HALAS**  
CRADLEY, HALESOWEN, HASBURY, LAPAL & ROMSLEY



**THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE PARISHIONERS AND  
ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING**  
**HELD AT ST JOHN'S HALESOWEN 22<sup>nd</sup> MAY 2025 AT 7.30PM**

The meeting commenced with a short Service of,  
hymns, prayers, and reflection.

**Annual Meeting of the Parishioners:**

Rev'd Canon Hazel Charlton (Team Rector) Chaired the meeting. With Jonathan Spencer (PCC Lay Chair) Rev'd Hazel welcoming everyone to the meeting

**. Meeting Attendance:**

40 Parishioners sang the attendance register as follows: Rev'd Canon Hazel Charlton, Mthr Victoria Barlow, Rev'd Sue Hale, Rev'd Rachel Homer, Rev'd Sarah Tranter, Claire Biggs, Roy Bicknell, Roman Bloodworth, Stephen Barlow, Hannah Barlow, James Brookes, Susan Cresswell, Elizabeth Featherstone, Anita Gadd, Tom Gadd, Susan Harding, Peter Henry, David Hobbis, Marilyn Hobbis, Alan Hughes, Marilyn Hyland, Paul Millward, Cynthia Moore, Catherine Morgan, Charles Morgan, Stacey Rose, Bobby Rose, Charlie Rose, Jamie Rose, Angela Woodhall, Ann Shackleton, David Scotton, Judith Smith, Jonathan Spencer, Sally Spencer, Ivor Shilvock, Charlie Shepherd, Lynn Steward, Selina Tromans, Linda Young

**Apologies:**

30 Parishioners sent apologies as follows: Rev'd Chris Henson, Christina Ablet, Christine Adshead, Christine Ashmore Christopher Barlow Lyn Barrows, Susan Bicknell, Melanie Case, Trevor Clarke, Doreen Clifton, John Clifton, Karen Eason, Simon Eason David Evans, Jayne Evans, Eva Field, Val Flynn, John Hall, Pat Hall, Barabra Hemmings, Richard Homer, Fran Hunter Alison King, Vannessa Maharaj, Joan Marks, David Marks, Bernard Pridden, Brenda Proctor, Richard Proctor, Jill Shilvock,

**1- Halas Parish Electoral Roll 2025**

The Parish Electoral Roll Report as presented in the APCM Reports, has been updated as required every 6 years. The Roll shown for 2025 is based on an updated list of Church members, completed in March April 2025. The report shows a Halas Parish total membership of 280, this compares with 333 total for 2024.

The report as presented unfortunately, shows a continued downward trend in membership from 416 in 2017 to 280, in 2025.

The District Church Electoral Roll Officers and Parish Administrator were thanked for their help preparing and co-ordinating the Parish data from District Churches for the 2025 renewed roll.

Eva Field was thanked for her period as Parish Electoral Roll Officer.

## **2 Halas Parish Annual Reports 2025**

The Rector referred to the APCM Financial Report 2024 and the Annual Report included therein. The Rector was pleased to advise the Team has benefitted from Clergy support and stability over the period.

The Rector welcomed Rev'd Rachel Homer, who has been Ordained Priest in the period, and thanked her for her contributions to the Team.

Rev'd Sarah Tranter ordained Deacon in the period, is shortly to be Ordained Priest in 2025, Rev'd Sarah was thanked for her Team work and support to-date.

The Renewal Project funded by the National Church co-ordinated by the Worcester Diocese, currently focused on St John's. The project objective is to increase Church membership across the Team over time.

The Project development is managed by a Steering group, with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> November 2024 by Claire Biggs joined the Team staff as New Worshipping Community Worker, A further employee to support Family Worship development is expected to be added to the Team shortly.

The St John's Toilet Project is nearing completion, expected by late June 2025. The costs of the project compared with the original quotations has significantly escalated, exceeding the available funding. The project was able to continue following a gift donated from PCC funds.

Jonathan Spencer thanked the Clergy Ministry Team, including Lay members for their continued support, helping to develop our Mission and Ministry across the Halas Team community.

He also thanked the Project group members supporting the Renewal and Toilet projects for all the support provided to-date.

The New Worshipping Communities Worker addressed the meeting, who gave a brief review of her work to-date Confirming contact has been re-established and new contacts made within the local St John's community. An example of a recent visit to Earls School had successfully resulted in children, who following taking exams, visited St John's after their exams to relax and enjoy the available buns and drinks.

The meeting acknowledged the following APCM reports.

- a. Vicars Report
- b. New Worshipping Communities Report
- c. Church Wardens Reports
- d. Parish Administrators Report

The reports as presented were proposed by Roy Bicknell, seconded by David Hobbis, and accepted Unanimously.

## **3 Halas Parish Accounts and Financial Report 2024:**

The meeting received the Financial Report and Parish statement of Accounts 2024

The reports and accounts as presented were proposed by Roy Bicknell, seconded by Roman Bloodworth. The meeting approved the accounts and Finance Report, with 1 vote against

### **3a) Appointment of Parish Auditors**

The Rector advised the meeting the Auditors provide an Independent Examination of the Parish finance records and accounts

Jonathan Spencer proposed the appointment of Ballards LLP as Parish Auditors

the motion was seconded by David Scotton The meeting accepted the motion unanimously.

The above nominations proposed and seconded as required. Were proposed by Roy Bicknell, seconded by Charles Morgan The meeting accepted the nominations and agreed unanimously.  
Jonathan Spencer thanked the District Church Safeguarding Representatives for their contributions to Team Safeguarding work during the year.

<b>6.3</b>	<b>Employment Group Members</b>	<b>Vicars s Nominations</b>	<b>Proposed</b>
	St John's Halesowen	Rev'd Hazel Chalton	Melanie Case
	St Margaret's	Mthr Victoria Barlow	David Hobbis
	St Peter Lapal	Rev'd Chris Henson	Roy Bicknell
	St Peter Cradley	Mthr Victoria Barlow	Paul Millward
	St Kenelm's Romsley	Rev'd Chris Henson	Lyn Barrows

The above nominations proposed and seconded as required. were proposed Rev'd Sarah Tranter, seconded by Roman Bloodworth The meeting accepted the nominations and agreed unanimously.  
Jonathan Spencer thanked the Group members for their work over the year, noting help and support during the period of new staff members employment.

<b>6.4</b>	<b>Parish Electoral Roll Officer</b>	<b>Nomination</b>	<b>Proposed</b>
	The Rector Nominated Elizabeth Featherstone (Parish Administrator) Meeting discussions established the nominated person didn't meet the required PCC status for the proposed office. The meeting agreed to delegate and resolve related issues at the first meeting of the PCC.		

<b>6.5</b>	<b>PCC Lay Chair</b>	<b>Proposed</b>	<b>Seconded</b>
	Jonathan Spencer	Rev'd Hazel Charlton	
	The Rector proposed Jonathan Spencer for the post of PCC Lay Chair The meeting accepted the Rectors nomination and agreed unanimously.		
	The Rector thanked Jonathan for his work as PCC Lay Chair over the past year		

## **7 Election of Representatives**

<b>7.1</b>	<b>Greater Dudley Deanery Synod (Members Elected 2023 for a 3-year period)</b>		
	<u>Clergy</u>		
	Canon Rev'd Hazel Charlton		
	Mthr Victoria Barlow		
	Rev' d Chris Henson		
	Rev'd Rachel Homer		
	Rev'd Sarah Tranter		
	<u>Lay Members</u>	<u>Church</u>	
	St John's Halesowen	Jonathan Spencer	
	St Margaret's	David Hobbis	
	St Peter Lapal	David Scotton	
	St Peter Cradley	Chritine Adshead	
	St Kenelm's Romsley	Bernard Pridden	

<b>7.4 Halesowen Churches Together 2025-26 (2 Per Church -excluding Cradley)</b>			
<u>Church</u>	<u>Nomination</u>	<u>Proposed</u>	<u>Seconded</u>
St John's Halesowen	Ivor Shilvock	Ann Shackleton	Karon Esson
	Rev'd Sarah Tranter	Karen Esson	Simon Esson
St Margaret's	Susan Cresswell	Wendy Whiley	Hannah Barlow
	Anne Palmer	Wendy Whiley	Barbara Hemmings
St Peter Lapal	Eva Filed	Roy Bicknell	David Scotton
	Elizabeth Roberts	David Scotton	Roy Bicknell
St Kenelm's	Pat Hall	Ruth Deeks	Selina Tromans
	Vacant		
<b>7.5 Goodman Trust (Vicar Nomination)</b>			
<u>Church</u>	<u>Vicar Nomination</u>	<u>Proposed</u>	<u>Seconded</u>
	Rev'd Rachel Homer		
The Rector proposed Rev'd Rachel Homer as the PCC representative for the Goodman Trust The meeting accepted the nomination and agreed unanimously.			
The Rector thanked Rev'd Rachel was thanked for her work over the past.			
<b>7.6 Halas Outward Giving (1 Member per District Church)</b>			
<u>Church</u>	<u>Nomination</u>	<u>Proposed</u>	<u>Seconded</u>
St John's Halesowen	Charles Morgan	Karen Esson	Peter Henry
St Margaret's	Marilyn Hyland	Wendy Whiley	Fran Hunter
St Peter Lapal	Eva Field	David Scotton	Roy Bicknell
St Peter Cradley	Christine Adshead	Karen Chaplin	Claire Steward
St Kenelm's	Syliva James	Selina Tromans	Bernard Pridden
<b>7.7 Halas Parish Charity (1 Member per District Church)</b>			
<u>Church</u>	<u>Nomination</u>	<u>Proposed</u>	<u>Seconded</u>
St John's Halesowen	Charles Morgan	Karen Esson	Peter Henry
St Margaret's	Fran Hunter	Marilyn Hyland	Stephen Barlow
St Peter Lapal	Eva Field	David Scotton	Roy Bicknell
St Peter Cradley	Christine Adshead	Karen Chaplin	Claire Steward
St Kenelm's	Syliva James	Selina Tromans	Bernard Pridden
<b>7.8 District Church Sides Persons</b>			
<u>Church</u>	<u>Nomination</u>	<u>Proposed</u>	<u>Seconded</u>
St John's Halesowen	Ken Rudge	Susan Harding	Simon Esson
	Ivor Shilvock	Susan Harding	Simon Esson
	Jonathan Spencer	Susan Harding	Simon Esson
	Sally Spencer	Susan Harding	Simon Esson
	Val Flynn	Susan Harding	Simon Esson
	Judith Smith	Susan Harding	Simon Esson
	Judith Cooke	Susan Harding	Simon Esson
	Helen Sunburk	Susan Harding	Simon Esson
St Margaret's	Jane Sinclair	Stephen Barlow	David Hobbis
	Marilyn Hobbis	Wendy Whiley	Hannah Barlow
	Janet Gazey	Freda Parkes	Hunter
	Margaret James	Stephen Barlow	David Hobbis
	Wendy Whiley	Stephen Balow	Hannah Barlow

Rev'd Hazel thanked Mthr Victoria for her supporting comments, as Clergy continue to work together developing Team Mission and Ministry

The meeting closed with the Grace at 20.40.

Signed..... Date: .....

Signed..... Date.....

# Parish Report

## Halas PCC

### Trustee's report 2025-2026

#### Achievements and performance

##### Annual Report of the Halas Parish for 2025

The Halas Team Ministry exists to serve the people of the town of Halesowen and the districts of Cradley, Hasbury, Lapal, Romsley and Hunnington to proclaim the Kingdom of God in Prayer, word, action and life through offering a distinctly Anglican expression of the Christian faith. We hope to explain how this has been explored and expressed during 2025 in the Team and individual Church reports which follow.

Whilst the Rector and team Vicars remain unchanged, one of our vicars was off work for 9 months this year, due to personal reasons and cover was provided from within the team and latterly from the diocese. Rev Sarah Tranter was ordained priest in 2025 and continues to support the whole team as does our other curate, Rev Rachel Homer.

The Renewal project, funded by Strategic Mission & Ministry Investment Board (SMMIB) from the central church of England via our diocese, has been a particular focus. In August, we welcomed Louise Hicklin as our children and family worker based out of St Johns but will be working across the whole team and she has settled in well. In September the toilets at St John's Halesowen were completed, ensuring the building can now be used for other projects and not just worship.

We have now got a number of projects started including, Messy Church, an all-age service, a stay and play toddler group, and a singing group for children called a Joyful Noise and I Sing POP for school children and their families. Other groups meet both in church and in the community, such as a monthly worship service in a local care home (Shenstone Court) and contemporary worship called Encounter at Lapal with Places of Welcome weekly and a new weekly craft group for adults with a monthly group for children and families at St Johns. There are other initiatives being piloted at other churches, which may well be adopted as regular ones soon.

Claire Biggs, who joined the team in 2024 has ensured that we are safely recruiting all volunteers and enabling them to start and sustain new community opportunities and support groups. One of the most unexpected joys has been our 'Donut Club' for year 11 students from two high schools and our homelessness project where Claire has developed cohesion of a variety of agencies from the community whom all work together to support these vulnerable adults.

Our rector Canon Hazel Charlton supports the staff and volunteer ministry team by fortnightly meetings, individual supervision and wider support for our volunteers who deliver services, lead worship, preach and work in schools. Our volunteer base continues to grow with 43 now working from St Johns and many more in the districts.

The renewal project is overseen by the steering group who have met monthly in 2025 to support the project with reps from all churches. This has been essential to expand across the parish not only what we can do but also how we support each other, each place and population.

We have five Locally Licenced Ministers who have really helped us in what has been a very busy and successful year. We have seen growth in all churches from 1-25 people in the five districts on Sundays alone.

In the last year, we have done a deep dive into our finances and reassessed a fairer contribution to the ministry share payments expected from every PCC in the diocese. Our hope is that we can contribute as much as we can to support our ongoing work in the parish and diocese.

We are reminded that God is calling all of us to Christian Ministry, whether that be working behind the scenes in an authorized or licensed role. Encouraging people to explore the roles to which God may be calling them is an ongoing priority for our life together.

We continue to work with and pray for the staff and pupils at the church schools in our parish, and have managed to create new relationships with a few 'non-church' schools by hosting events such as 'Explore Church' or 'Explore Advent/Easter' etc. These have been supported by all volunteers in the parish regardless of where or which school is invited into one of our churches.

We continue to review our obligations under the General Data Protection Regulations and to ensure that all our work with young people and vulnerable adults is carried out in accordance with Parish policies and that those policies are themselves kept in accordance with current Diocesan guidelines for safeguarding, safer recruitment, and employment. We are enormously grateful for all those involved with this ongoing and increasingly complex and demanding work.

We continue to monitor our finances, with regular finance committee meetings throughout the year. Income continues to be a concern, though we hope that the project at St Johns will overtime have a significant impact not just at St John's but across all our churches.

There has been a struggle to fulfil voluntary roles for lay ministry and especially church wardens, but we are pleased to say that all churches have proposals for two wardens at each church as we approach our annual meeting.

Faith and hope are God's gift to us all, both through our individual relationships with God, but also through the encouragement we receive from the dedication, passion

and gifts offered in service by the people of our team. We hope to support each person we serve and everyone of our church and parish family.

We are blessed in abundance and offer our sincere thanks to each and everyone.

**Hazel Charlton – Rector & Renewal Leader**

**Jonathan Spencer – Lay Chair**

St Peter's, Lapal



# St Peter's Lapal



Excitedly and expectantly serving young and old as we proclaim Christ together  
PART OF THE HALAS TEAM MINISTRY

## **REPORT FOR YEAR ENDING 2025 TO APCM 17<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2026**

### **Electoral Roll Report for 2025 (35)**

The new electoral roll created in 2025 had a total of 35. There are 3 additions so far in 2026.

### **Vicar and Church Warden report for 2025**

A difficult year without Rev'd Chris. We were grateful for the help of Rev'd Rachel and Fr. Doug. Sunday worship numbers remain at around 20, Wednesday morning service at around 12. Our new Encounter 17:00 monthly evening service has a growing attendance of around 20. We go into Gower Gardens care home for a monthly communion service, thanks Liz Littler for continuing this. Monthly all-age Faith N Fun is growing with around 20 enjoying themed sessions with craft, brick building, drawing and story time. Thank you Sarah, Rev'd Rachel and helpers who make this such a rewarding event. The Unwrapping the Bible group stopped, and a Faith book group started. Weekly Place of Welcome café is attended by 12 to 15 people. Events in the hall are well attended.

The Lapal Community choir meet on Monday evenings in Church, holding three free concerts per year raising money for their chosen charities. 30 also sing at Gower Gardens Care Home monthly.



Choir concert



Faith N Fun



Christmas

We have new people coming into Church, including several children. Easter period, especially Easter Sunday were well attended. Lapal School held their Easter Bonnet parade. We had the joint Palm Sunday walk and service with our friends from Carters Lane Baptist Church.

We had over five hundred people through the church door over the Advent and Christmas period including Brownie's Christingle, Lapal School Carol Service, joint Carol service with Carters Lane Baptist Church, Christmas crib craft and create session (attended by 25 people) who made the characters and scenery for our Christmas Eve crib service, plus, normal Christmas services.



Crib service figures



Palm Sunday march



Places of Welcome new banner

Lapal school paid us a visit to explore the building.

We managed to pay our Ministry Share in full for 2025, with help of the Diocese Grant. Some donate through the Parish Giving Scheme, others by Standing Order and cheque. We are very grateful for God's generosity and thank all our givers, both money and time, to keep the Church going and enable sharing the Good News around Lapal. The credit card machines produce good income, in the church and in the hall, capturing the increasing cashless society, particularly at baptisms.

We operate on minimum reserves, but we have been very fortunate to have received several legacies, choir donations and increased rent for the hall. Dudley Council uses us as a regular polling station to save closure of Lapal school

Outreach group has held several successful social events, including coffee mornings, a quiz, choir concerts, Pimm's and Hymns, etc., and we have events planned for 2026.

Mother and tots group continue in the hall on Tuesday mornings, whist on Mondays. Other hall users include, dancing, Slimmer's World etc.

The "Places of Welcome" café continues to go well, and we have about 12 people attending, plus the helpers. It is a great opportunity to speak to neighbours who would not normally come to the church.

We have carried out essential building maintenance with usual servicing of the fixed equipment. We are waiting for our Quinquennial report, but the inspection revealed the roof was leaking above the organ and we carried out repairs in 2025 from our own funds and a Diocese grant. We also had new church entrance doors with part of the David Woodhall legacy money. The Visitation went well with no significant issues.

In summary, it has been a steady year. Our average age is higher and new people need to take on the roles in the Church. We are getting involved with the Halas Renewal project.

We give our heartfelt thanks to all the people who work behind the scenes at Church and in the hall, for stepping-up when needed, for running groups and without whom we would not be the St. Peter's "Family" Church.



Local family present bible

Coffee morning

Easter bonnet parade.

Vicar: Rev'd Chris Henson. Curate: Rev'd Rachel Homer. Wardens: Anita Gadd & David Scotton

31 Dec 2025

## **Vicars Report for 2025**

As I return to ministry after being away for much of 2025, I want to begin by expressing my deep gratitude to everyone who has carried the life and witness of St Peter's Lapal so faithfully throughout the past year. Reading these reports and seeing the breadth of ministry that has continued, and in many places grown, has been both humbling and profoundly encouraging.

It is clear that this has been a year of steady commitment, patient resilience, and generous service. I want to commend Rev'd Rachel and Fr Doug for their pastoral leadership and worship ministry during my absence. Their presence has ensured continuity, care, and spiritual nourishment for our congregation. I also want to thank our wardens, Anita and David, whose dedication has been unwavering, and whose quiet, consistent work has kept so much running smoothly.

The reports show a church that has not stood still. Worship has remained faithful and creative, with Sunday services, the Wednesday congregation, and the new Encounter service all offering different ways for people to meet with God. Our outreach into Gower Gardens, the growth of Faith N Fun, the Places of Welcome café, and the many community events in the hall all speak of a church that is rooted in its neighbourhood and committed to sharing Christ's love in practical, joyful ways.

I am especially heartened by the signs of new life; new families, children beginning to come, and the remarkable number of people who came through our doors during Advent and Christmas. These are not small things; they are glimpses of God at work among us.

Financially, it has been a challenging year, yet the faithful giving of our congregation, the careful stewardship of our officers, and the generosity of legacies and grants have enabled us to meet our commitments, including our full Ministry Share. This is a significant achievement and one for which I am deeply thankful. The building has been cared for with diligence, including essential repairs and the blessing of our new doors. Behind every practical task lies the dedication of volunteers who give their time quietly and sacrificially. I commend each of you.

As I step back into ministry with you, I do so with gratitude for all that has been sustained in my absence and with hope for what God is calling us to next. Our average age may be high, and our resources modest, but the faithfulness, warmth, and generosity of this church family are rich beyond measure. Together, we will continue to grow, to serve, and to proclaim Christ in Lapal.

Thank you for all you have done, and continue to do, for the life of St Peter's. It is a privilege to walk with you again.

May God bless you in the year ahead. The Rev'd Christopher Henson, Team Vicar. 19 April 2026



Faith N Fun



Palm Sunday



Roof repairs



New church door  
blessing

## Team Vicar's Report

Dear Friends,

It is with deep gratitude and admiration that I offer this commendation for the life and ministry of St Kenelm's, Romsley over the past year. Although circumstances meant that I was unable to share the whole journey alongside you, I have read and listened with pride and thanksgiving of the remarkable dedication, faithfulness, and quiet strength that has shaped our common life during the year 2025.

The commitment of our wider Clergy and Lay Readers, DCC, Churchwarden, volunteers, and wider teams and groups that have ensured worship, pastoral care, school engagement, and community outreach have continued with confidence and purpose. The regular rhythm of services, the beautifully celebrated Patronal Festival, and the marking of seasonal celebrations, all stand as testimony to the reverence and care with which you hold this ancient and sacred place and its people.

I particularly commend the continued flourishing of ministries that reached beyond our church walls, all of which have been documented fully in this Report. These ministries represent the heart of the gospel lived out in simple acts of kindness, hospitality, and presence. They reflect the very best of St Kenelm's, a church that listens, welcomes, and stands alongside its community in all its varied and ordinary ways.

Special thanks must also be offered to those who care for our beautiful churchyard, especially the continued project work surrounding the Well, our much-used Church Hall; and especially to those who work diligently behind the scenes in safeguarding, health and safety, magazine distribution, administration, finance, cleaning, sustainability measures, and the many unseen but vital tasks that keep our church life committed to the Gospel and of God's unfailing love.

This year has brought challenges in different ways that are not unknown in God's world, and time I may add, yet throughout it all, you have demonstrated resilience, unity, and a deep love for this Church, her community, and its mission as Halas Together: faithfulness requires much perseverance! I am profoundly grateful for the way you have supported one another, upheld the life of the Church, and continued to embody hope and faithfulness in all you do.

As I end this piece, do ponder these words:

"The Lord will guide you continually... and you shall be like a watered garden" (Isaiah 58:11).

May God bless you richly in the year ahead.

Chris Henson

## **Churchwarden's Report**

We began 2025 with enthusiasm as Rev. Chris began his second year with us. Our monthly pattern of regular worship has not changed, although Team Services are no longer being held on the fifth Sunday of the month. At the end of March, Rev. Chris went off sick, and at year end had still not returned. It has left us feeling like a bus without a conductor – the driver is still taking us along the straight and narrow, but there is no conductor to give us sound advice.

Just before the end of the Spring term, we went into School to share the Holy Week story with three of the KS2 classes. Using drama and much imagination we explored the emotions and symbolism of Jesus' last few days. Following this, the children produced a simple, stark, thought-provoking display for the Church porch.

The Friends of Romsley and Hunnington, supported by Hasbury Scouts, leaders and some parents, carried out a very successful tidy-up of the Well area. Discussions as to how the Friends might contribute to improving accessibility in the Well area next to the Church have continued throughout the year, although there was a significant hiatus whilst ownership of the well area was investigated. By year end, it had been established that the land had been gifted (with conditions) by Lord Cobham to St Kenelm's Church.

Several times during the year, the Halas Teams met as one. We hosted the Team Service in May, when we were delighted to welcome our friends from all five Churches.

As always, a week in mid-May is designated Christian Aid week. This year the Halas Team contributed well over £1,000. As part of this, we hosted a Casserole and Curry Evening, held in the Church Hall.

During the Summer Term, a small group of children from the Reception Class joined us at our Tea & Cake sessions. It was a privilege to hear so much chat and laughter. Each child was introduced to a partner, in several cases with an age difference of more than 80 years! We enjoyed Easter Bingo, drawing an object from given clues, and alphabet related games. It became quite competitive at times, and not only between the children! We hope to plan something similar again.

In July, a group of pilgrims, from churches in Tamworth, left St Kenelm's en route for Winchcombe, following the Kenelm Way. A Service of blessing was conducted before they began their walk.

The theme for the Patronal weekend was 'For the Beauty of the Earth'. The children from school visited on 17 July, St Kenelm's Day itself, for their end of year Assembly and contributed photographs taken in their school grounds, reflecting the theme. The Brownies arranged buckets of flowers, which were hung on the handrail down from the lychgate. Inside Church floral displays were on show. Refreshments were available, and the weekend culminated in a service of re-dedication and the blessing of the Well water.

A joyful and uplifting Songs of Praise service was held at the end of August. Hymns, readings, and prayers were suggested and a lot of people were involved.

A Harvest Celebration Cream Tea was enjoyed by many. The eating and drinking was interspersed with Hymns, readings, and poems, with donations being made to the Foodbank.

The Act of Remembrance in the Church Hall on 11 November was a real coming together of School, Community, and Church. Year 6 joined us to share a poem, and support the singing of 'Share a Thought on this Occasion'. A tribute, written by his friends to Royal Marine Jonathan Crookes, who was killed in Helmand Province in 2010, was read. It was a privilege to have Jonathan's Mum and other members of his family with us.

At each Baptism at St Kenelm's, the child's name is written on a small seashell, which is hung in the Prayer corner, so the child and their family might be prayed for. The Baptism families are invited to the Christingle service to collect the shell, with a suggestion that might it be hung on the Christmas tree. So it was that on Advent Sunday, the Families returned to join in the Advent worship and collect their shells.

During the year a group from Solihull Conservation Volunteers, led by David Fernie, have laid the hedge between the Churchyard and the car park. Over thirty years ago, David was involved in a hedge-laying weekend arranged through Worcestershire County Council. They have completed a wonderful job.

Through 'Visitors to the Stable', we travelled with Year 3 and Year 5, along with Mary and Joseph to Bethlehem. We deduced from clues the whereabouts of the shepherds, thinking hard about gifts the shepherds may have taken to the Baby. After considering the gifts of the Magi, the children then decided what they would have taken to the Stable.

We have worked in conjunction with the Friends of Romsley and Hunnington during the year to enhance life in our villages. In December, carol singing was arranged at The Sun, Bluebird's, and Hunnington Cricket Club. The much-appreciated Christmas meal, organised by the Friends, and cooked and prepared by Church members, was successful.

Our Church Hall remains the well-used focal point of our presence within the villages of Romsley and Hunnington. The Church Hall had a significant internal revamp last year; and at year end, we were beginning to discuss what projects would be beneficial in 2026.

Our Christmas services were lovely, the Carol Service inviting a gentle opportunity through readings and music to re-live the Christmas story. The Crib service is always delightful, as the story is seen through the eyes of little children, but with profound meaning for all.

In the autumn, we were advised that the church electricity meter was obsolete, and EDF could not guarantee continuity of supply: they advised us to request a smart meter be installed. To get a smart meter installed required an official postal address

– one on the Royal Mail’s computer. This, in turn, necessitated a post box, which meant obtaining a faculty. We were awaiting this at year end.

Judith Withers packed away her diaries, and hung up her keys as, after many years, she retired from her essential role as Church Hall Booking Secretary. Cathryn Overall has agreed to take on the task. Our grateful thanks to you both.

The many blessings of our Church life are only possible because of the various, generous talents that are graciously shared. Many tasks are discreetly undertaken, without the expectation of praise or reward. Please accept our grateful appreciation.

Bernard Pridden & Selina Tromans

## S Margaret’s

### **Annual Report and Fabric Update for 2025**

- Mother Victoria continues to lead a caring Church in which congregation numbers remain strong for all worship – both at special feasts and seasons, and throughout the year.
- A weekly notice sheet provides news and events specific to St Margaret’s and we make use of social media via Facebook to spread news to the wider community
- St Margaret’s remains open during the week for prayers and quiet reflection although it remained closed during the summer for safety which roofing works were completed at the adjacent school.
- The St Margaret’s WhatsApp group gathers together a large section of the congregation for supportive conversations, photos and news.
- Fundraising activities continue. Many thanks must go to Alison King for putting together a calendar of events which bring in much needed funds and introduce new people to the Church, and all who help and support so generously all the social events that are held in church.
- We also had the pleasure of welcoming the West Midlands Concert Band for two highly successful concerts and hosting Halesowen Choral Society.
- In June a coach trip was organised to the National Memorial Arboretum which proved enjoyable, many thanks to David Hobbis for organising this.
- A fortnightly coffee morning continues to attract a good following including people that do not usually attend our usual forms of worship, with thanks to all who support and enable this.
- We have been delighted to make the Church available to a local musician, Thomas Brown, who holds fortnightly rehearsals for his ensemble. As his orchestra grows he is hoping to offer to stage concerts in St Margaret’s.
- Our thanks go to our Director of Music, Rachel Hall, and to our organist Andrew Burling for their continued support of St Margaret’s.

- We are pleased to be able to offer the Church as a Polling Station for the local ward in May. It is good to see many entering through our doors for the first time to admire the beautiful building.
- CCTV has been fitted in Church following a small number of security concerns. A lock has also been fitted to the toilet door.
- A new external noticeboard has been installed to improve communication with the local community
- A new heater has been fitted in the toilet.
- Work to improve accessibility to the Church has now been completed including, level access into Church, an Automatic glazed internal door and disabled parking spaces.
- An outside electrical feed has been fitted allowing the Christmas tree to light up the local community during Advent and Christmastide.
- The Quinquennial Inspection report was finally released and, although generally the Church is in good condition, it did highlight certain works that should be completed assuming funds are available. Priority is being given to roofing works which awaits approval from the Diocese. Other areas that will need attention include supporting lintels in the crypt, redecoration of the porch, broken tiles in the Lady Chapel and damp issues in the Clergy Vestry (A de-humidifier has been installed which appears to be successfully reducing the moisture in the room).
- Although not mentioned in the report, repair work may also be required to the stone cross on the Eastern end of the roof.
- The gas heaters along the side wall of the nave have been decommissioned following their annual servicing due to safety issues.
- Much thanks should go to Keith Hunter for his continuing invaluable support of the Church in providing expert advice and input into all fabric matters.
- We look to the future with some optimism and hope to continue to introduce new individuals and families to our Church and to strengthen our links with the local community.

David Hobbis and Linda Young Church Wardens

## St John's

### Church Wardens Report

Attendance figures for Sunday mornings have changed slightly over the year, averaging around 45 to 50 people.

Sarah Tranter was ordained Priest, our curate for the Halas team. Her training continues at St. John's.

We gave Sue Hale a double send-off and celebrated her ministry at both morning and evening services in July.

Louise Hicklin was appointed Children and Families Worker in August 2025 and has settled in well.

The toilet project was completed in August 2025, and the toilets are now in use. Only snagging work to do. Bishop Martin dedicated the new toilets along with other project work around the Halas parish at team service in September

Renewal projects continue to bring new people into church with initiatives such as Messy Church, Guiding Lights, Blessed Stitches, Joyful Noise, Sunbeams and Songs Stay and Play. Thanks to Claire and Louise for the work they do.

Thanks go to Sue Harding and the Events sub-committee for planning and staging social events in church. Fund raising continues with Coffee concerts, Christmas Craft Fair and Christmas Tree Festival. All of these events are encouraging new people to come into church.

Our Facebook page has gained over 500 new followers in the last 3 years. Now at 1376. Our Instagram account is also now in use.

I'd like to thank Sue Harding and Judith Smith for supporting me during the year.

Simon Eason

Church Warden

## St Peter's, Cradley

God has blessed us with a church of dedicated and talented group of people , which has enabled us to achieve so much in 2025. Including Concerts run and organised by James Brookes and team, and social events organised and run by Lynn Steward and team. Thanks to everyone who worked on providing so much of their time in outreach and prayer through Mothers' Union, Tots and Messy Church. We thank Karen Chaplin (Praise and Prayer) and Charles Morgan (Pilgrim group) for their Ministry.

Through fundraising, donations and a team of 'beautifiers' again under the guidance of James, we have been able to smarten up the Church. A lot of work to the Fabric of the Church, with repairs to Tower brickwork, the roof and vestry roof have been completed.

We are getting some lovely comments about the churchyard, which the Community Payback works hard to upkeep.

It is most encouraging to see when doing the count each Sunday that the attendance has increased, including a good number of children and young people attending on a regular basis.

Throughout the year members of St. Margaret's have come and helped with various events, including Concerts, Messy church, Prayers in School and Fayres. We give our sincere thanks.

*Christine Adshead and Paul Millward, Church Wardens*

### **Further Fabric Report....**

July: Gutters and downpipes cleaned out by Jenmar Construction £1,320.00.

Tower brickwork repointed by Jenmar Construction £3,000.00

August: Entrance doors repainted by the 'beautifiers'

September: The new Gospel Book for use in Principal worship was given by Charles and Catherine Morgan.

November: Plaster repairs to Baptistry, Choir Vestry ceiling and St Margaret's Chapel CRB Plastering £250.00

December: Carpet tiles fitted in Baptistry (area around the font), in the shape of a cross.

Wooden Mary Statue secured in niche - no cost

Feb: 25 Used but new to us Blue Fabric chairs donated.

Lightning conductor tested by PTSG but after questions arose, it was decided to appoint a new contractor next year.

March: Sacristy roof replaced by Jenmar Construction £3,137.64

## **Halas Parish Accounts and Financial Report 2025**

This report in a separate document

## Team Churches Nomination Sheets.

List of Elected and Nominated Reps from the ADCM to APCM on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> May for St Peter's Lapal

Role	Nominee	Proposed	Seconded
2 Church Wardens	1 Anita Gadd	Susan Bicknell	Roy Bicknell
	2 David Evans	Roy Bicknell	David Scotton
2 Representative to the PCC	1 Thomas Gadd	Roy Bicknell	David Scotton
	2 Vacant		
6 Representatives to DCC  Coopted	Eva Field Roy Bicknell Susan Bicknell Billette Stenson Joyce Evans Kim Perkins Sarah Long	David Scotton David Scotton David Scotton David Scotton David Scotton David Scotton Roy Bicknell	Roy Bicknell Eva Field Eva Field Eva Field Eva Field Eva Field David Scotton
1 Representative to Deanery Synod	Vacant		
Sidesperson's	Jill Worton Kim Perkins Joyce Evans David Scotton Margaret Wharton Ronald Wharton	David Scotton David Scotton David Scotton Roy Bicknell David Scotton David Scotton	Anita Gadd Anita Gadd Anita Gadd Anita Gadd Anita Gadd Anita Gadd
Safeguarding Officer	Susan Bicknell	Nomination Rev'd Christopher Henson	
2 Representatives to Church together in Halesowen (not SPC)	Jayne Mills Eva Field	David Scotton David Scotton	Elizabeth Roberts Elizabeth Roberts
1 Representative to Outward Giving	Rev'd Rachel Homer	David Scotton	Elizabeth Roberts
1 Trustee to Halas Parish Charities	Rev'd Rachel Homer	David Scotton	Elizabeth Roberts

1 Representative to the Goodman Trust	Rev'd Rachel Homer	Nomination Rev'd Christopher Henson	
1 Representative to Parish Employment Group	Roy Bicknell	Nomination Rev'd Christopher Henson	

List of Elected and Nominated Reps from the ADCM to APCM on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> April 2026 for St Kenelm's Romsley.

Role	Nominee	Proposed	Seconded
2 Church Wardens	Bernie Pridden. Selina Tromans.	R Deeks B Pridden	L Barrows J S Harper
2 Representative to the PCC	Lyn Barrows Chris Seddon	S Tromans B Pridden	R Deeks S Tromans
6 Representatives to DCC	Michael Croutear Nicola Davies Ruth Deeks Pat Hall Stuart Harper John Simpson	N Davies R Deeks S Tromans S Tromans B Pridden S Tromans	R Deeks L Barrows L Barrows B Pridden R Deeks B Pridden
1 Representative to Deanery Synod	B Pridden	C Seddon	J Simpson
Sidespersons	Pat Hall Bernard Pridden Stuart Harper Ruth Harper Lyn Barrows John Simpson Marion Hill Selina Tromans Graham Woodhouse Christina Woodhouse	N Davies	R Deeks
Safeguarding Officer	Pat Hall	Nominated by the Vicar	
2 Representatives to Church together in Halesowen (Not SPC)	Pat Hall	B Pridden	L Barrows
1 Representative to Outward Giving	Sylvia James TBC		
1 Trustee to Halas Parish Charities	Sylvia James TBC		

1 Representative to the Goodman Trust	Sylvia James TBC		
1 Representative to Parish Employment Group	Lyn Barrows	Nominated by the Vicar	

List of Elected and Nominated Reps from the ADCM to APCM on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> May for S. Margaret's

Role	Nominee	Proposed	Seconded
2 Church Wardens	Linda Young Barbara Hemmings	David Hobbis Hannah Barlow	Vanessa Curley Lyn Roberts
2 Representatives to the PCC	Wendy Whiley John Hall	Janet Gazey Barbara Hemmings	David Hobbis Linda Young
7 Representatives to DCC	David Hobbis Stephen Barlow Janet Gazey Stacey Rose Mave Goldsby Freda Parkes Vanessa Curley	Lyn Roberts Janet Gazey Fran Hunter Charlotte Frith Hannah Barlow Janet Gazey Linda Young	Janet Gazey Margaret James Margaret James Janet Briggs Fran Hunter Linda Young Fran Hunter
1 Representative to Deanery Synod	Hannah Barlow	David Hobbis	Janet Gazey
Sidespersons	Margaret James Angela Woodhall Wendy Whiley Janet Gazey Stacey Rose	All proposed by Christopher Barlow	All seconded by Freda Parkes
Safeguarding Officer	Sarah Seddon	Nominated as vicar nomination	
2 Representatives to Church together in Halesowen (not SPC)	Susan Cresswell Anne Palmer	Janet Gazey Barbara Hemmings	Linda Young Sarah Morton-Williams
1 Representative to Outward Giving	Marilyn Hyland	Janet Gazey	David Hobbis

1 Trustee to Halas Parish Charities	Fran Hunter	Janet Gazey	David Hobbis
1 Representative to the Goodman Trust	Fran Hunter	Janet Gazey	Linda Young
1 Representative to Parish Employment Group	David Hobbis	Linda Young	Hannah Barlow

List of Elected and Nominated Reps from the ADCM to APCM on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> May for St. John the Baptist, Halesowen.

Role	Nominee	Proposed	Seconded
2 Church Wardens	Simon Eason Judith Smith	Jonathan Spencer  Jonathan Spencer	Susan Harding  Susan Harding
2 Representative to the PCC	Jonathan Spencer	Susan Harding	Melanie Case
6 Representatives to DCC	Susan Harding Rebecca Preece Melanie Case Karen Eason Megan Round Peter Henry Ken Rudge	Jonathan Spencer Jonathan Spencer Jonathan Spencer Peter Henry Melanie Case Jonathan Spencer Karen Eason	Karen Eason Karen Eason Susan Harding Susan Harding Sally Spencer Simon Eason Simon Eason
1 Representative to Deanary Synod	John Neale	Rev. Sue Hale	Rev. Hazel Charlton
Sidesperson's	Jill Shilvock Ivor Shilvock Ken Rudge Jonathan Spencer Sally Spencer Judith Smith Simon Eason	Rev Hazel Charlton	John Neale

	Karen Eason Val Flynn Angela Simpson David King Helen Sunburk Judith Cooke Sarah Cox Kieran Thornton Megan Round		
Safeguarding Officer	Susan Harding	Rev. Hazel Charlton	
2 Representatives to Church together in Halesowen (not SPC)	Claire Biggs  Rev. Sarah Tranter	Rev. Hazel Charlton  Rev. Hazel Charlton	Simon Eason  Simon Eason
1 Representative to Outward Giving	Judith Smith	Karen Eason	Susan Harding
1 Trustee to Halas Parish Charities	Judith Smith	Simon Eason	Karen Eason
1 Representative to the Goodman Trust	Role not filled		
1 Representative to Parish Employment Group	Melanie Case	Rev. Hazel Charlton	
Electoral Roll Officer	Claire Biggs	Rev. Hazel Charlton	Louise Hicklin

List of Elected and Nominated Reps from the ADCM to APCM on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> May for St Peter's, Cradley

Role	Nominee	Proposed	Seconded
2 Church Wardens	Christine Adshead Paul Millward	Lynn Steward James Brookes	Sharon Turner Doreen Clifton
2 Representatives to the PCC	Sharon Turner Glenn Toney	Paul Millward Hannah Barlow	Claire Steward Lynn Steward
6 Representatives to DCC	Hannah Barlow Lynn Steward Angela Duffill Christine Ashmore Gavin Pearson Karen Chaplin	Judith Morey Karen Chaplin Ann James Charles Morgan Paul Millward Paul Millward	Karen Chaplin Christine Cooley Christine Ashmore Paul Millward Christine Adshead Christine Adshead
1 Representative to Deanery Synod	Christine Adshead	Paul Millward	Lynn Steward
Sidespersons	Sharon Turner Lynn Steward Clair Panter Janet Sadler Glenn Toney Christine Cooley Angela Duffill Doreen Clifton Pauline Fox Pauline Panter	All proposed by Hannah Barlow	All seconded by Lynn Steward
Safeguarding Officer	Sharon Turner	Nominated as vicar nomination	
2 Representatives to Church together in Halesowen (not SPC)	N/a	n/a	
1 Representative to Outward Giving	Christine Adshead	Paul Millward	Lynn Steward
1 Trustee to Halas Parish Charities	Christine Adshead	Paul Millward	Alison Russon

1 Representative to the Goodman Trust	Christine Adshead	Paul Millward	Alison Russon
1 Representative to Parish Employment Group	Paul Millward	Christine Adshead	Glenn Toney

## Halas Safeguarding Report for APCM 2026

**The PCC’s annual report required by the Church Representation Rules shall include a statement as to whether the council has complied with the duty under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016 (duty to have due regard to House of Bishops’ guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults).**

The Halas Safeguarding team can confirm that we have complied with the above measure over the last year. A new policy will be presented at APCM to formalise this requirement.

Melanie Case has reported to all PCC meetings in respect of Safeguarding issues. All Groups in the parish are declared to and authorised by PCC and this will be repeated at next PCC meeting following APCM meeting. Mel Case is grateful to all Wardens and Clergy for understanding and communicating about this area of our work. This is now fully embedded into the routine and rigour of all PCC meetings for the Safeguarding standing agenda item.

All policies for Safeguarding will be reviewed, signed and distributed via APCM. All displays have been reviewed in our churches and church halls to ensure a Halas wide approach and consistency. I am grateful to the Church reps for making this happen.

Our Dashboard has been reviewed with Church reps responsible for updating each of the church entries. New Worshipping Communities (NWC) across the Halas are included as they as they evolve, we are finding our way gradually and carefully to ensure the safeguarding is fully embedded in how we work. This involves more liaison with our NWC Co Ordinator and Children and Families worker. There have been 3 Parish Safeguarding Officer (PSO) Representative Network meetings held over the year where the data breach with APCS has been given due attention. The diocese have now moved to 31:8. Safeguarding reps we are about to commence our training for the new DBS processes as part of the Worcester Diocese pilot as we now have a backlog of checks in respect of renewals and growing new activities to clear.

There have been several Safeguarding issues where Church PSOs, Halas PSO Co Ordinator, Clergy and Rector have liaised with the Diocesan Safeguarding Officers n to support individuals in difficulty or advise when we have been following Safer

Recruitment practices. I am very grateful for the responsiveness of our Church PSOs in what has been at times a very challenging situation. We have worked together with our clergy team and learnt a great deal from supporting individuals and from each other. Feedback from DSO states that we are a knowledgeable team who work well together. I am pleased to report that I was finally invited to attend a full clergy meeting in April I felt that this was very valuable to ensure consistency of action amongst the team where it is practicable, whilst recognising the distinctive settings of each of our churches and church halls.

The Outstanding issues to be cleared on the Dashboard in the main relate to new DBS checks and renewals I am very grateful for the efforts of Clergy, NWC Co Ordinator Children and Families Worker and Sue Harding for SJ renewals in particular for progressing specific Risk Assessments. I have raised with the diocese Safeguarding team that this is something that could be needed more widely across parishes as a training need. We are extremely well positioned in Halas with several of us bringing experience of Risk Assessment creation and review from our professional occupations.

I would like to express my thanks to the PCC in supporting my proposal to pay via each DCC or PCC where appropriate for Basic DBS checks. We sought further guidance from diocese who stated that it was good practise but advised it would be a Parish cost.

The Safeguarding Dashboard currently shows at 79% (85% 2025 76% 2024 and 67% 2023) compliance for the 'Mandatory Requirements' for The Church of England. We are a large team parish with many activities but as a Safeguarding team we do need the support of Church Officers and the PCC to further improve in the coming year. The current figure will improve as soon as the DBS checks are progressed following our new training.