

## **Dorchester & West Stafford PCC Meeting, St Peter's Church Hall**

**Tuesday 14 July 2026, 7.30pm**

**Opening reading some verses Psalm 133 & prayer** - Rector, Revd Keith Magee (KM)

- 1. Present:** Revd K Magee (KM)(Chair), Steve Burgess(SB), Stuart Connelly(SC), Janet Cooper(JC)(Secretary), David Elliott(DE), Jonathan Farmiloe(JF), Rev Connor Hansford(CH), John Heath(JHe), Rev Jimmy Holden(JHo), Lauretta Kerridge(LK), Jane Pryce(JP),

Janet Ranger-Dennis(JR), Peter Vojak(PV)(Treasurer) & Rev Cora Yarrien(CY).

**Apologies for absence:** Alex Lyons, Suzanne Lyons, Jill Minchin & Stephen Wibley

- 2. Appointment of Officers:** **Lay Vice Chair** Jill Minchin, Prop DE, Sec JHo. **Treasurer** Peter Vojak, Prop JC, Sec JHe. **Secretary** Janet Cooper, Prop CY, Sec PV. All in favour of all three.

- 4. Minutes of last meeting held on 13 April 2026:** Minutes signed as a true record. APCM Minutes 19 May 2026 been circulated, no queries and to be approved at the 2027 APCM.

- 5. Matters arising:** None.

**6. Safeguarding:** (a) JHo updated that the **Hub & Dashboard**, which the Diocese wants to be used, is now up and running with access to software, information being filled in and vetting where needed, with a reminder that all PCC members, as Trustees, need DBS. JHo & KM had an online meeting on 2 June with a Diocesan Assistant who explained the new system. KM thanked JHo & CY for all their knowledge and expertise in setting this up in the Parish. (b) **Safeguarding Policy & Procedure, Domestic Abuse Policy and Safer Recruitment Practice Policy** had been updated and were accepted. CY reminded that Safer Recruitment is not just for paid roles but also for volunteer roles. (c) **Website updating** – A motion at General Synod had passed that Parish Safeguarding must be on the front home page of Parish websites, and on Church Near You sites, to be compliant. Kevin Whitchurch is in the process of doing this on the Benefice website and has done it on St Mary's A Church Near You.

**7. Health & Safety:** KM reported that at St Peter's Rowland Cornell, a member of their congregation who was involved in H&S in his working life, had done a survey of the church and hall and that the method used maybe useful for other churches. KM will arrange one of the staff meetings to cover this with Rowland and representatives from the churches. A Run Hide Tell Policy (Guide Shelter Report) was required to have and to use when more than 200 people are in a church. Stephen Wibley had compiled a draft report for St Mary's which had been circulated to PCC members and could be modified for other churches. KM and DE thanked Stephen for his helpful work on this.

### **8. Reports from churches:**

**St Mary's** – Report circulated from SW, churchwarden, before meeting. JHo added that since the report St Mary's have been awarded the Silver Eco Award, the Expression of Interest for Historic England Grant has been deferred to the next round of funding later this year as focus this round is on prioritising places of worship in the most disadvantaged areas of the county and the Indian Orthodox Church, which used to meet in the Quiet Space but now needing more room, has approached St Mary's about using the church and/or hall one Saturday morning per month, negotiations are being held.

**St Peter's** – Report circulated from KM.

**St Andrew's** – Report circulated from JR.

**St George's** – CY gave a verbal report. Busy with new curate Connor Hansford, delighted to welcome him after his deaconing on 28 June and preaching his first sermon at St George's on 5 July. On 23 July hosting a People's Emergency Briefing, a challenging hope-filled film about climate change, with speakers and discussion workshop, thanks to Suzanne Lyons for help organising. Fund raising taken place to replace the burnt memorial bench in the churchyard with a sustainable wood bench, and possibly up to two more if donations allow. CY proposed a resolution to apply for List B permission to replace the burnt bench, PV seconded and all agreed.

**9. Deanery Synod reports:** KM gave a verbal report of the meeting on 30 June in Tolpuddle where Rev John Mackenzie, Rector of Holy Trinity, Weymouth, gave a presentation explaining the idea of 'Inclusive Church', an opportunity for churches to commit to inclusivity around gender, sexuality & disability, and 'Open Table', an effort at creating worship especially appealing to LGBTQI+ people. Bishop Karen commissioned JHo as Assistant Rural Dean to Rev Sarah Hillman, who it has since been announced is moving to a parish in Ledbury, her last service in Puddletown is on 11 October.

**10. Diocesan Synod report:** JHo gave a verbal report of the recent Zoom Synod held on 24 June where they looked at the already approved Accounts. There was a motion proposed, in conjunction with proposed cuts in stipendiary clergy, that would Diocese prioritise recruiting clergy for deprived parishes, both rural and urban. The motion was passed but was substantially amended so that the final motion was an expression of a general hope that the Diocese will commit to supporting churches in low income communities.

**11. Resourcing: a) Budget report** circulated and presented by PV who reported that the budget was very much as planned for this stage of the year.

**(b) PCC PayPal Charity funds:** In the last few months the PCC had received three donations from PayPal Charity totalling £1,524.82. PV proposed, as he was aware how much St Andrew's is struggling financially, to give a one off donation of £1,500 to St Andrew's, seconded by DE and all agreed. PV will put a general note of thanks in Pews News for these PayPal funds to make people aware if they use PayPal. Post meeting note of thanks from St Andrew's Church Committee.

**(C) Investment Management by CCLA:** DE had circulated a detailed note about this and explained that for the first time in many years there had been no investment gain in PCC funds, all investments comprise units in CBF Investment Fund. A large number of dioceses and parishes throughout the Church of England have recorded losses in 2025 which has prompted dioceses, including Salisbury, to review the management of their investment portfolios and make changes. PCC members are all Trustees and as a charity must be seen to have reviewed PCC investment approach so DE proposed, and all agreed, the PCC form a small sub-committee comprising KM, PV and a representative from each church to consider how best to meet the requirements of the Charity Commission guidance, initial step being to meet with Rev John Mackenzie, Rector of Holy Trinity, Weymouth and a member of Salisbury Diocesan Board of Finance to learn how the PCC of Holy Trinity Weymouth arrived at their decision.

**12. Approval of Chalice licences:** The list of those in the four churches who administer the chalice was updated, with some removals and some additions, and all were approved.

**13. Team Rector's report:** KM welcomed Connor to the Parish, looked forward to him being in the team and supporting him in his year as deacon. A reminder that volunteers are needed for the Churches Together tent at Dorset County Show (see below), there will be a service at the tent at 2pm on both show days.

**14. Items for next agenda:** Safeguarding, H&S.

**15. Dates of next PCC meetings:**

Tuesday 15 September starting at 7pm with Holy Communion in St Peter's Church

& Tuesday 17 November 2026 at 7.30pm in St Peter's Hall.

**Other dates: Dorset County Show 5/6 Sept**, volunteers contact [petermjenner@outlook.com](mailto:petermjenner@outlook.com)  
**Sunday 22 November** – Benefice Service for Christ the King TBA

Closing Grace

Meeting closed at 8.35pm

## **List B Red St George's July 2026**

The Parochial Church Council of the Parish of Dorchester & West Stafford, at its meeting held on 14 July 2026, passed the following resolution:

That this Council authorises the incumbent and Church Committee of St George's Church, Fordington, Dorchester to apply for permission to replace the burnt memorial bench in the churchyard with a sustainable wooden bench and possible two more benches if funds permit.

I certify that this is a correct copy of the entry in the Minutes of the PCC.

Janet Cooper

Secretary – Dorchester & West Stafford PCC