

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parochial Church Council
of the Parish of Ordsall and Retford St Michael on
Thursday 14 May 2026 in St Michael's Community Hall at 7.00pm

Opening Prayer

Present: Alex Shiells, Nigel Bower, Kenny Newstead, John Pugh, Tessa Rolph, Gill Glover,
Mike Goffin, Paul Hardman, Chris Porter, Rachel Waby, Sue Walker.

Apologies for Absence: John Chambers, Maxine Fisher, Kerry Rawlings, Steve Thorpe

Minutes of the PCC meeting held on Thursday 12 March 2026 agreed as a true record.
Nigel appeared as present and sending apologies. This was changed to apologies only,
otherwise correct.

Proposed: Nigel **Seconded:** Kenny Unanimous

Matters arising not coming up on this Agenda:

Update on Lightning conductors – the Insurers suggest checking every 3.5 years, the
Contractors suggest one year for checking. Kenny suggests pushing this back for one more
year.

Update on Asbestos management survey – there is some in All Hallows Church but low risk.
There is some in the bitumen used in the Parish Hall, but this is very low risk.
No further action needed.

Falling dust above font – the Church Architect will produce a report for the Diocese.

Tessa asked for a Declaration of Interest to be added to future agendas as a standing item.
This was agreed.

PCC WELCOME – Alex said that some people had been shuffled around with some roles.

The Code of conduct had been sent out. Also, a Role description had been put together and
sent out. The PCC Member Trustee Eligibility Declaration which was sent out is to be signed
and returned to the PCC Secretary.

Alex explained the Committees, which are the Standing committee, the Fabric & Finance
committees for each church and the Vision group. He said that all PCC members are invited
to join these groups.

All members present introduced themselves and their roles.

Safeguarding:

Mike has received an email from Southwell that he is now recognised as Parish Safeguarding Officer for the parish.

Alex has not found the current version of the Rehabilitation of Offenders policy but will check with Don if there is a copy. There are no changes to the policy. Ratification of this was deferred. Some PCC members may need to do DBS checks or further training in their new roles within the PCC.

Fabric & Finance:**All Hallows - Fabric and Finance Minutes**

Tessa asked if there is a policy on gravestones. Alex explained that there are Chancellor's Regulations on the Church of England website. There is always a means of appeal to the Diocese

The Pinnacle – Kenny explained the damage that was done when the scaffolding was taken down. Kenny suggested that we do not pay outstanding amount until further repairs have been done. It was also agreed that we do not use the same contractors Bridgett Conservation again.

The window repair may have been done today. There had been discussion at All Hallows F&F that we need someone to liaise with Peter and between Alex/Wardens to do this.

Tessa confirmed that the E-Bound cost for servicing the roof alarm needs VAT adding to it.

The trees in the churchyard are not to be inspected this year. The gardeners are keeping an eye on the trees.

The grass around gravestones is dying because it is being cut too short. This needs to discuss at F&F.

St Michael's - Fabric and Finance Minutes – no meeting but Nigel gave an update. The new toilet cistern has been put in. New taps were fitted this week. There is ongoing discussion about replacing the Community Hall door. They are continuing to look at the heating system in church. Alex and Nigel are meeting someone from the Diocese who is coming to look around and advise on funding/grants for heating. Alex will report back.

Treasurer's Report

Tessa is in the process of setting up the CBF Deposit Fund account. She proposed the following for signing the deposit fund application form for authorising whole application: Alex and Gill.

For correspondence: the Treasurer's email as this will not need changing when the Treasurer changes.

Signatories: Alex/Gill/Tessa/John C.

Proposed: Tessa **Second:** Alex Unanimous

The appendix to the May finance report includes all exceptional payments and explains why there have been withdrawals from the reserve.

Tessa suggested we have a large fundraising effort during celebrations next year.

Vicar's Update – Alex gave a vision update and 2027 plans. He asked for feedback and suggestions.

He thanked everyone taking on new roles. He mentioned that we need to organise a meeting of the Vision team to look at plans on how to welcome people in. John C and Alex had a meeting regarding funding with a Diocese representative. There are two funds 1) for revitalisation of churches and another with greater scrutiny of growing disciples course, this could include paying the salary for a children's worker. We could be invited to apply for this. We need to discuss applying for the maximum £5000 per church from the Growing Disciples fund. This could be used for a paid bookkeeper or social media person.

Alex reported that good things are happening at both churches. One person was baptised by full immersion on Easter Sunday with another being baptised by full immersion on Pentecost Sunday. Another adult wants to be baptised using the font. These and one other also want to be confirmed.

There will be a Chorale evensong at St Michael's for their Patronal festival. All Hallows will have their Spooky Spectacular, a visit from Bishop Andy and a Chorale evensong around the time of their Patronal festival

The fact that advertising seems a bit piecemeal was raised. Alex said that there is someone in the Diocese that will help. We need to decide what is helpful to do as one parish but also what we need to do as individual churches.

The question was asked about how does Growing Disciples differ from revitalisation of churches? Alex explained that all churches can apply for Growing Disciples funding and need to demonstrate they have a plan. The larger funds are for places where the Diocese believes they can invest. This is nationally funded so there are more regular reviews. Some do not apply for fear that it becomes too business like.

We need to be careful that we do not miss opportunities to nurture new converts. House groups were mentioned, and these are being discussed at the Vision group. We need to have people to run the group, safeguarding in place and the PCC to approve the group. There is no policy in place as yet until there is more than one group.

The PCC were asked to agree for a house group in Ordsall to take place.

Proposed: Alex **Second:** Chris Unanimous.

The question was raised about pastoral visiting. Alex said this was done by a few people in each church but there is no policy. We need to review previous policies eg lone working when creating a new one.

Eco Church

Chris explained that there is the online survey that you can do and the areas this covers. He explained that the Diocese has achieved the silver level. Unfortunately, we fall short of bronze. Chris will start trying to improve this with a strategy he is working on. Chris was recognised by the PCC as our Eco lead. We need to look at what we use 'fair trade' and the cost implication. John P said that the Churchyard team are keen to be involved in eco matters. Tessa needs to complete an Eco return for the Diocese by the end of May. It was suggested that we could put up bird boxes. One has already been installed at St Michael's.

The survey takes time to complete, and Chris may be asking many questions.

Health and Safety Reports.

St Michael's – all outstanding works have been done. The ramp – to be discussed at next F&F, as plans have been drawn up.

Nigel has received feedback from Ecclesiastical Insurance – the valuation for cover has gone up, but there is a refund for having the alarm.

The Health & Safety risk assessment covers fire extinguishers, fire signs but there is no specific fire policy.

All Hallows – Ecclesiastical have done the review to be discussed with wardens. A total risk assessment is to be done. Kenny has received no feedback from Ecclesiastical Insurance. This could be because there are no changes, but the renewal cost could go down.

Alex has document with recommendations. To be discussed at F&F.

Any other Business:

Diocesan Synod feedback. Tessa asked for this to be added on the agenda after future Synod meetings.

Parish giving scheme. Chris has set up and will talk about it in the churches. Tessa to talk to Chris. An organised giving scheme for next year with anniversaries was also suggested.

Correspondence:

A Thank You card has been received from the Parish Share Team for the 2025 parish share.

Confidentiality: items above in green print.

Dates of next meetings:

Fabric and Finance:

St Michael's 25 June at 7.00pm

All Hallows 18 June at 7.00pm

PCC meeting 23 July to be held in All Hallows Church at 7.00pm

9.00 pm Closing Prayer