Meeting of the Parochial Church Council
of the Parish of Ordsall and Retford St Michael on
Thursday 24 September 2026 in St Michael's Church at 7.00pm
MINUTES

Opening Prayer

Members: Alex Shiells, Kenny Newstead, John Pugh, Tessa Rolph, Gill Glover, Mike Goffin, John Chambers, Paul Hardman.
Martin Bloomfield

Apologies for Absence: Nigel Bower, Maxine Fisher, Chris Porter, Steve Thorpe, Rachel Waby, Sue Walker.

Minutes of the PCC meeting held on Thursday 30 July 2026 to be agreed as a true record.

Proposed: Alex **Seconded:** Paul Unanimous.

Matters arising not coming up on this Agenda:

Declaration of interest: none.

Update on bank accounts

John C gave an overview of the email sent out today outlining the proposal for the new bank account. Tessa asked if this would close all accounts, the answer is no. This is an opportunity for regular givers to move from standing orders to the Parish Giving Scheme. Mike expressed concerns that others may have about the Parish Giving Scheme. Kenny mentioned the CofE has been hacked in previous years. Alex feels that it will be easier to discuss with people at St Michael's as less people are giving by standing order than at All Hallows.

Martin Bloomfield was in attendance to explain the accounting software used by the churches and how this can be adapted to the new banking system to be used. Martin was approached by Sue Caddy for advice on handling finances. He also oversaw the transition from two churches to one parish accounting. Every church has an obligation to produce accounts each year. Parish accounts are meaningless to anyone except HMRC, Diocese or funding bodies. Martin believes that the accounting system can adapt to the new banking arrangements.

The Instant access account will be transfers to CCLA. The closing balance at TSB will be offered as a cheque or BACS payment to be transferred to the new account.

There will no changes to how the accounting system is administered by John C and Martin. The new Co-op account will give online banking facilities and they will be able to download bank statements on a monthly basis. These will be streamed by church or event to produce the accounts. Some money in the Instant Access account belongs to St M, so this is done already for that account.

Credits will be identified by the paying in slip number. Grants will be identified by the person obtaining the grant contacting Martin.

Debits are invoices or direct debits which have a unique reference numbers. AH or SM will be used as a prefix for invoices to indicate which church they belong to. For any items on the bank statement that cannot be identified by the system it will add a third stream that is for an exceptions report. These items will be coded manually.

John C said that once the bank application is approved it could be actioned within seven days using the Bank Switch system.

John C explained that signatories can make changes to mandates, authorised users cannot.

Proposal: The PCC opens a Charity and Community Bank Account with the Co-operative Bank. Signatories and Authorised Users: Rev Alex Shiells, John Chambers, Martin Bloomfield, Kenny Newstead.

Proposed: John C **Seconded:** Alex Unanimous.

We want to record our thanks to Malcolm Macdonald for his work as Planned Giving Officer for All Hallows. Gill to get card, Alex to sign and give to Malcolm.

Proposal: That Martin Bloomfield take over Planned Giving Officer role at All Hallows from Malcolm Macdonald. Martin will now be the Parish Planned Giving Officer.

Proposed: John C **Seconded:** Alex Unanimous

Safeguarding: there are various items on the Parish Dashboard that need updating. Alex will meet with Mike and Gill to ensure that these are dealt with.

A basic training session is being done by Mike on 9 October, so that he can be assessed to be a trainer. This is open to anyone who wants to do a refresher and also other churches in the Diocese.

Policy Review – Recruitment of Ex-Offenders

After discussion Alex signed this.

Proposed: Tessa **Seconded:** Mike Unanimous

Fabric & Finance:

All Hallows - Fabric and Finance Minutes
Update on Grange Road – offer of £102K in process but delayed due to bereavement in buyers family.

The grant from council has not been received and we are not going to get the council grant. For the path just over £4000 has been received. A decision is to be made at the next F&F. we need to find out if legally and morally we need to close the path as it is unsafe. Alex needs to speak with Jonathan Pickett (Diocese) and Mike Introni (County Council). This will be discussed at All Hallows F&F when more information is available.

Standing committee – 'by the standing committee' to be added to the All Hallows F&F minutes in order to clarify the position.

Update on Fire precautions – there have been meetings of Alex, Kenny, John P. in future these will include Peter for ongoing risk assessments.

TV screen – this is not going through the insurance company as the excess is £500. It will be replaced without spending any money if possible.

St Michael's - Fabric and Finance Minutes
Update on heating – Heissan Heating have visited for the survey and given their prices. Alex feels that it would be worthwhile to get a second quote and faculty. It will be about £4000-5000. This will be discussed at St Michael's F&F.

Treasurer's Report
A donation of £1000 has been received which the Vision Team suggested being spent as follows - £250 for new pew bibles at All Hallows, £250 to improve the AV system, £500 for website & publicity.

Proposal: That the donation be spent as the Vision Team have suggested.

Proposed: John C **Seconded:** Kenny unanimous

John C asked if there is a PCC policy on where gift aid reclaimed for restricted donations is used. There is no policy in place. For this case, allowing gift aid money to be used in general funds was approved.

Proposal: That gift aid reclaimed for restricted donations goes into general funds.

Proposed: John C **Seconded:** Alex unanimous

The grant for Growing Disciples £5000 is still to be applied for. We need to work out what it can be used for. One suggestion is Architect fees for future planning.

Additional shares – Tessa will forward all the information she has to Stephen Carey who is named on the share certificates to take this forward with the Registrars.

Donations: Tessa suggested a standard wording for clergy to use in baptism and funeral services to encourage people to donate to the church.

Alex thanked Tessa for her work as Treasurer as she hands over to John C from 1 October 2026.

Vision Update - Document attached

Discussion and approval of All Hallows' Vision
Alex is trying to give us a clear vision of what the church is, what it's mission is (aims and objectives), and how we achieve it. He outlined what we have already been doing, making it more accessible for all. The next steps were looked at as well as long-term plans.

Tessa asked what makes us more visible in the community. Alex would like us to view the church as a community centre with more people coming through the doors. It needs to be about going to people not just them coming to us. There needs to be a reason for people coming which is not only for a worship service. Paul said it is about serving the community without necessarily expecting people to become Christians, we serve because they are there. We need to avoid people thinking we are doing good so that they will come to church.

Alex feels this is a good way to speak to the congregation, the general public, funding bodies and anyone else. John P feels that we need to start with the fundamentals of church.

Proposal: Approve wording of the vision statement.

Proposed: Alex **Seconded:** John C unanimous

Pastoral Visiting Update

Alex is working on a policy. Churches need to distinguish between official pastoral visits and friends visiting friends.

We need to appoint pastoral visitors approved by PCC and supervised by Alex. All pastoral visitors will agree with the code of conduct, have received appropriate safeguarding training, have been DBS checked and agree to receive any additional training.

Proposal: Appointment of pastoral visitors in the form of church wardens – Nigel, Kenny, John P. Additionally, Mair and Gill. The clergy are already covered to visit people at home by their clerical licence.

Proposed: Alex **Seconded:** Kenny unanimous

All Hallows' Churchyard – Disposal of Churchyard Garden Waste Policy

We need to make sure that those who take care of the churchyard are safe so we need an official policy. This ties in with eco church values.

Proposal: Appoint fire warden – Kenny.

Proposed: Tessa **Seconded:** Alex unanimous

Eco Church – nothing to be discussed. It was suggested that a general waste management policy could be discussed at the next eco church meeting. This would encourage us to look more carefully at recycling and waste.

Health and Safety Reports: nothing to report

Any other Business: none

Correspondence: none

Confidentiality: none

Dates of next meetings:
Fabric and Finance:
St Michael's 10 December at 7.00pm **All Hallows 3 December at 7.00pm**

PCC meeting 19 November to be held in All Hallows Church at 7.00pm

All Hallows – Christmas Fayre – 28 November 2026.

Closing Prayer