



PARISH OF GREAT BERKHAMSTED

Meeting of the Parochial Church Council held in the Court House
Tuesday 1st July 2025 at 8pm

Attendees:

Carolynne Charman
Carole Dell
Susan Holmes
Hillary Elliot
Stuart Owen
Henry Snow
Richard Hackworth

A G E N D A

Start Time: 20:00

1. **Prayers**
2. **Apologies** – Sarah Elder, Chris Chatterton, Will Gore
3. **Notification of matters for consideration under Any Other Business** – personnel matters, questions from HS
4. **Approval of Minutes of the PCC Meeting held on 20th May 2025** – approved
5. **Matters Arising** – 6. Hilary Armstrong Safer recruiting not necessary. 7. SO finance committee? RH meeting set up to discuss. HS all in hand. 12. SO has not produced whistleblower policy, apologies
6. **Financial Report** – HS nothing to report until meeting of finance subcommittee. RH everything is under control, wants to set HS as signatory and main contact etc. CC designated vs restricted fund? What does that mean? HS can only use restricted for a particular purpose. So (e.g.) only for the roof.
7. **Committee/Group Reports**
 - **Buildings Committee** – CC grant from the council for 2 radiators and a fridge in the courthouse but estimate quite high- 1,500. 800 left from the grant. RH could use the 800th fund? timescale? SH flexible but needs to be spent for the purpose. HS we have the money but is it worth it? RH will bring it to finance committee. And talk about it again in September.
 - **Fundraising Committee** – CC waiting for Richard Oxley.
 - **Pastoral Committee** – Lunches @ white horse and lunches together.
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8. **Children and families** –Thanks to Beth for work at Sunday School and Victoria School. BBQ on Sunday.

9. Rectory Lane Cemetery – SO responsibility for maintenance outsourced to the Friends. £5,000 ish each year. James Moir been in touch, budget reviewed, reduced contribution from £5,000 to £3,000. Contribution approved.

10. Mission Action Plan – SO originally to put in place in harvest. Different timeline now. September – info gathering. October – info collating. November – document launched. Timetable agreed

11. Safeguarding – More renewal training being done in a group setting

12. Festival of Light – SO Martin Moore doesn't want to do it long term or this year, but will do a good handover. Can we be thinking and prodding who does next? CC got someone in mind. Request from the council to accommodate the elves in the courthouse.

13. Bells – chiming at night and regular inspections – SO have to have bells inspected every 3-5 years. District ringers have made a proposal for a collective effort to make things easier. Would PCC be happy to participate? General agreement. SO PCC agreed at last meeting to temporarily suspend, invited responses, various responses not very pleasant. In this period, all messages have been disapproving. All agreed to suspend the suspension and resume ordinary chiming pattern

14. Dates of Next Meetings - September the 16th

15. Any Other Business-

Personnel: SO Foundation governors for school federation. Guidance from the diocese to widen the net to people sympathetic to the ethos. Chris Cartwright - well connected with local church and Victoria put forward. Proposed RH Second CD. All agreed.

SO Pru Murray wants to do free ministry enabling course. Happy to provisional support? All agreed.

SO Tim Hennessey serving as trustee of Alms House because he was a church warden. Happy for him to continue? All agreed.

SO thanks to Beth for all her work.

Questions from HS: HS need someone else on the standing committee. Richard? RH very happy to but had understood they had to be a PCC officer. SO hasn't met but useful to have. HS need to sort it out. SO bring issue to next meeting.

HS is the £25,000 contingency on top of or separate? Proposed RH accepting £25,000 contingency on top. Approved.

HS problem with All Saints House. Is he the rental manager? RH yes.

16. The Grace

End time: 20:56

Future Meetings

1st July

16th September

18th November

2026

20th January

17th March