



CROMER PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

**Minutes of a meeting of the Parochial Church Council
held on Tuesday 22nd April 2025 at 7.30pm in the Parish Church**

Members present: Revd Will Warren (Chair), David Anderson, Judith Anderson, Dennis Broughton, Anne Cottingham, John Hodgkinson, Tracy Johnson, Ivan Kimble, David Loades, Sarah McCandlish, Alison Orsborne, David Orsborne, Mary Pallister, Glyn Purland, Simon Purslow and Doug Tuthill and Eileen Woodfield.

2504-01 Prayer and Reflection

WW opened the meeting with prayer and a short reflection on Psalm 107.

- i) "Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever." (v1)
- ii) "Let the redeemed of the Lord tell their story." (v2)
- iii) "They cried out to the Lord in their trouble, and he delivered them from their distress." (v6)
- iv) "Let them give thanks to the Lord for his unfailing love and his wonderful deeds for mankind, for he satisfies the thirsty and fills the hungry with good things." (vv8-9)

2504-02 Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Revd Julia Chamberlin.

2504-03 Declarations of interest not previously recorded

There were none.

2504-04 Revd Julia Chamberlin

The meeting received the statement agreed between the Bishop of Lynn and Revd Julia Chamberlin (JJC) announcing, "that she [Revd Julia Chamberlin] will bring to an end her ministry in the parishes of Cromer, Roughton and Felbrigg on 31st May 2025."

WW noted that this would have two particular implications for Cromer:

Staffing levels

WW is now the only full-time member of the clergy and is supported in that role only by the retired clergy team which is smaller than it used to be. The overall picture is of a "significantly diminished" staff team.

WW has discussed the situation with Bishop Jane, including exploring the possibility of having a new curate as soon as possible. She is supportive but the situation is challenging. There are only a small number of ordinands this summer and, looking ahead, the numbers coming forward appear to be modest, especially among those from an evangelical background. Fewer clergy are looking for posts, and Norwich is not seen as a good place to minister.

WW said that would be possible to appoint a new Associate Vicar, although this would take time, and the difficulty of finding a suitable clergy house might be an obstacle. The role description would also need to be reviewed. The informal collaboration with Roughton and Felbrigg has been particularly challenging,

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although it has drawn several Cromer people in to support the work, which has resulted in some positive outcomes.

WW reflected on the possibility of recruiting a Children's and Families' Minister.

Financial Implications

Our Parish Share increased to cover some of the costs of the Associate Vicar post. Bishop Jane is working with JJC to identify some part-time opportunities that would allow JJC to return to work in June and explore options for her future ministry. Cromer has been asked to meet the cost of this for this financial year as there is no other source of funding available and we have budgeted for this and have the funds to do so. Our Parish Share would be reduced accordingly (the Diocesan Finance Team is currently working on the details) but we would be paying for ministry that would be taking place elsewhere.

Discussion and questions followed, after which it was proposed by David Loades and seconded by Ivan Kimble that:

"Cromer PCC continues to support the ministry of the Revd Julia Chamberlin financially for the next six months subject to agreeing a revised Parish Share figure with the Diocese."

The proposal was CARRIED unanimously.

Members expressed thanks to Bishop Jane for her outstanding work in helping to resolve this matter.

2504-05 **Date of next meeting:**

The APCM is on 24th April at St Martin's

The next meetings of PCC are on 15th May (Election of Officers) and 29th May (Business meeting).

2504-06 **Review of the meeting**

It was AGREED that the details of the discussion at the meeting should be CONFIDENTIAL.

The meeting closed with a time of prayer and The Grace at 8.40 p.m.