



CROMER PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

**Minutes of a meeting of the Parochial Church Council
held on Thursday 23rd October 2025 at 7.30pm at St Martin's**

Members present: Revd Will Warren (Chair), David Anderson, Judith Anderson, Jill Boyle, Anna Coghlan, Anne Cottingham, John Hodgkinson, Christopher Jacquier, Tracy Johnson, Ivan Kimble, David Loades, Hazel Mardlin, Jon Mardlin, Sarah McCandlish, David Osborne, Doug Tuthill and Eileen Woodfield.

P2510-01 Opening prayer and worship, Bible study and prayer

WW led a reflection on 2 Timothy 2 highlighting the three images of faithful Christian service that Paul uses: the soldier (v3), the athlete (v5) and the farmer (v6). Each of these provides a valuable opportunity for reflection and a challenge to learn to live by them as we grow - individually and together - in love and service of God.

This was followed by a time of prayer.

P2510-02 Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Simon Purslow.

P2510-03 Declarations of Interest

There were none.

P2510-04 Chair's briefing

WW thanked all those who came to the Awayday and contributed to its success.

P2510-05 Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 25th September 2025

SM pointed out a small error in minute P2509-13: the film afternoon at St Martin's is to be held **bi-monthly**. The minutes were corrected accordingly.

The minutes were then **AGREED** to be an accurate record of that meeting and were signed by the Chair. There were no Matters Arising.

P2510-06 Staffing - Associate Vicar

This had been discussed at length at the Awayday. Work was under way to finalise the Profile, and this would come to PCC as soon as it was ready. The post would then be advertised. There has already been some interest in the role, and PCC reaffirmed the importance of moving forward with this as quickly as possible. It was **AGREED** that this would be taken as 'business by email' before the next meeting. ACTION: WW, S&F

P2510-07 Structures

WW has completed some work on the Terms of Reference for the Action Teams, the Strategic Leadership Team and the St Martin's Oversight Team. Further work will be completed, and the item will come back to PCC in November. ACTION: WW, S&F

P2510-08 Mission Partners 2026-28

Three nominations had been received: Mission without Borders (championed by Anne Attfield); the TESO Development Trust (championed by Frances Britton) and the Nationwide Christian Trust (championed by Pelham Clark). A fourth nomination was

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received for London City Mission (championed by Gerard Lawler) but as LCM is already one of our Mission Partners, the Secretary had put GL in touch with Elizabeth Bridger, the current Mission Partner Champion for LCM.

After discussion, the Secretary was asked to contact the nominators and ask them to provide information about the organisation's Safeguarding Policy and their Vision and Values. Also, for the nominators to declare whether they had any personal or financial interest in the organisation that should be declared.

Members were encouraged to read the nominations, visit the organisations' websites and let the Chair or the Secretary know of any questions or concerns,

S&F will review the information received and either bring it back to PCC or confirm the arrangements for the ballot. ACTION: DO, All members, S&F

P2510-09 **Finance**

Pie charts prepared by DA showing income and expenditure for the year-to-date were included in the papers for members. The Treasurer reported briefly on the financial situation, which remains healthy. A full item on the year-to-date figures, the 2026 budget and the Parish Share request for 2026 will come to PCC in November. In the meantime, members are encouraged to read the letter about Parish Share and raise any questions about this or about any aspect of the finances with the Treasurer well in advance of November's meeting. This will give him time to research and prepare the answers ready for the meeting. ACTION: All members

P2510-10 **Minutes of Standing and Finance Committee**

Minutes of the meeting held on 9th October were **RECEIVED**.

There were no Matters Arising.

P2510-11 **Brief Updates**

Glass doors for the Parish Church: The inner set of doors has been installed. Some adjustments have subsequently been made. We are awaiting the application of the temporary manifestations.

Parish Church lighting: The new electrical cupboard has been completed and the control units for the lights repaired and reprogrammed. The lights are now operational although there is still concern about the low levels of illumination measured at floor level in some parts of the building. This is being followed up.

Meadow Close: The internal decoration and garden tidying has been completed, and the property will shortly be advertised for sale.

Buildings Project: The Project Team is meeting on 31st October when they will consider the feedback and questions that have been fed back since the launch event. Members of the DAC are visiting in November to see the plans and offer advice and guidance on various matters prior to the application for Faculty. SP will prepare a pre-planning application for proposed the toilet block.

IK commented on the positive developments made at St Martin's over recent months. Some further issues have been referred to FLT, and their notes will come to PCC.

P2510-12 **Reports**

The Safeguarding Report was **RECEIVED**.

EW and AC will talk with LL about admin. support and with DT about payments for DBS checks to see how the system could be adjusted to help with the workload.

ACTION: SW/AC/DT

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EW highlighted the evidence that Domestic Abuse is a growing issue and encouraged all members to be aware of this. ACTION: All members

EW and AC will liaise with WW about Safeguarding Sunday including whether the PSOs could be formally commissioned on that day. ACTION: EW/AC/WW

The PSOs will arrange for the link to the Safeguarding training portal to be shared with the church family through the Weekly Update. ACTION: EW/AC

The Health and Safety Report was **RECEIVED**.

The Electoral Roll Report was **RECEIVED**. The Roll currently stands at 246.

P2510-13 **Correspondence**

The request from Mary Pallister that her Small Group's Outreach Event at Christmas be approved as a church event for insurance purposes was **AGREED unanimously**.

The Secretary will write to let her know. ACTION: DO

'Thank you' letters for Mission Partner donations had been received from CPAS, the Canaan Christian Trust and London City Mission.

A letter from the Generous Giving Team at the Diocese about Legacies was **NOTED**.

A proposal from JA that a team be created to undertake the organisation of Welcome Meals was **AGREED**. JA will discuss Food Hygiene requirements with DT.

ACTION JA/DT

This change could be part of a wider update to welcome and connection arrangements, including further training and coaching for the team and the (re)creation of a full welcome team rota. Members were asked to consider whether they could take on this role or be involved in the process. ACTION: IK/DL

P2510-14 **Looking ahead**

Deanery Synod elections take place in 2026. This synod will elect the new General Synod, so it is important that we ensure we have a range of good candidates and fill all our places.

JM and HM have been working on Christmas publicity which will be available soon.

P2510-15 **Review of the meeting**

Finishing ahead of time and the use of the microphones to help with audibility were noted as positives.

The next S&F meeting will be on Thursday 13th November.

The next meeting of PCC will be on Thursday 27th November.

The meeting closed with The Grace at 8.35 p.m.