



PCC MINUTES

Minutes of the meeting held at 7.30pm on Monday 24th February 2025

STATUS
Approved
14.03.2025
(Public)

Present	Chris Brown (chair), John Butler, Mark Ellis, Mei Yen Furey, Janet Lee, Paul Langham, Suzannah Mason, Cluff Noon, Di Noon, Mark Orriss, Mark Parsons, Tavi Price, Jack Reed, Chris Shaddick, Kamran Zahid
Apologies	Jon Bowden, Andrea Jeanneret, Phillip Miles, Hannah Rodgers, Dave Vernon
Guests	Beth Padfield, Emelye Chanot, Sam Clarke (Müllers)
Minutes	Tavi Price

A	INTRODUCTORY ITEMS
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A1 Apologies	Noted as above
A2 Conflicts of interest	None
A4 Welcome & Prayer	CB welcomed the meeting and Sam, Emelye and Beth who were joining us for Item B1. JL led us in a time of prayer and praise using Psalm 8 and worship song <i>Ten Thousand Reasons</i> .

B	THE BIG AGENDA
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<p>B1 Focus on Youth and Schools work</p>	<p>Sam Clarke went through a presentation explaining his role as Y&C (Youth & Children) Development Lead at Müllers. The work encompassing resources, events and initiatives focused on supporting and equipping churches and individuals working with young people and children in the Bristol region.</p> <p>They currently have 8 church partnerships and is growing every few weeks. Currently in a pilot phase of matching churches - one in an area of wealth and one in an area of deprivation and for the church in an area of wealth, who can afford a paid youth worker, to tithes 10% of their time to help grow the youth work in the partnered church.</p> <p>Breakdown of what they are involved in each term:</p> <div style="text-align: center;"> </div> <p>For more info visit www.mullers.org</p>
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Beth Padfield outlined the 2 main points of contact with the young people at Christ Church:

- Meeting Point on a Friday night (currently looking at “Practicing the Way” which looks at incorporating daily disciplines into their lives)
- Pathfinders on a Sunday morning
- Their hope is summed up by a prayer request from one of their members - they just want everyone to know Jesus and his love for them and to equip them with tools for life
- There is a curiosity and hunger for more answers
- Kicking off a mentoring scheme in the next few weeks
- Growing team of volunteers for Pathfinders – answer to prayer
- Signing up for mentoring too.

Emelye Chanot has been involved with children/youth work at Christ Church for about 20 years.

- God has put CU’s (Christian Union) on her heart for many years
- Some beautiful things are taking shape in schools and has been in part as an outcome of speaking to children and young people wanting something at their schools
- List of the current CU’s that Emelye is involved with:
 - BGS – (Bristol Grammar School) c.30 on the register 15 plus attending each week (range of all ages years 7-13)
 - QEH – c.30 on the register (only one inherited)
 - Clifton High – fairly new one (younger members - ages 7-10) 30 attending most weeks – only 1 or 2 from a church background!
 - Cathedral School – 3 different groups about 30 attending overall (not much school support)
 - SMRT (St Mary Redcliffe) – over 60 plus members – not much involvement but helps when needed – prayer space assistance, supporting and praying with the Chaplain
 - Future possibilities – Red Maids, Cotham Grammar, Christ Church Primary

Really exciting things happening and a real privilege to be involved – seeing these young people reading the bible for the first time / praying for the first time / seeing prayers answered and coming back to share with their group.

Some questions were asked about numbers at CC in the 2 groups:

- 12 in Pathfinders with 8 more coming up in September
- 8 -10 in Meeting point (trying to encourage them to invite their friends)
- JYC – feeds into our youth work - they have around 14 coming most weeks (yrs 5-8)
- Need to look at the transition between JYC and Meeting Point over the next couple of years

What do you see as the biggest challenge(s):

- being overlooked – are we willing to make sacrifices to be the place that brings children and young people to faith?
- Are churches ready for a revival in young people? Is CC ready?

What could CC do – what could it look like:

- Emelye has an idea of having an open space for the young people to be invitational and for it to be different from a Sunday when that could be problematic for some. Such as on a Friday after school - it could be café style/ games space – also had the ability to go deeper – Youth Alpha / worship session – allowing them to shape what they need/want.

We need to pray more!

	<p>Members got into 2's and 3's to pray and give thanks for these amazing people and the work they are doing</p> <p>ACTIONS: CB to email presentations to PCC</p> <p>Continue to pray for this area of ministry</p>
<p>B2 Update from General Synod Paper 01</p>	<p>PL presented his report on General Synod, based on the paper that was sent round before the meeting.</p> <p>PL wrote the paper to convey a faithful representation of his interpretation of what happened at Synod.</p> <p>The main concern for PL is that PCC members are clear on the decision General Synod made in terms of its approach to safeguarding oversight, given the CofE's failures at the highest level to following correct safeguarding processes.</p> <p>General Synod considered 2 options:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) To fully outsource everything to do with Safeguarding 2) To keep the operational safeguarding in-house but to set up a rigorous external independent scrutiny <p>The second option was the one adopted.</p> <p>Questions raised: what does this all mean for CC now and in the longer term?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Many churches are now questioning their relationship with the National Church, • Churches will have to act in concert to affect any real change. • The wider Church is currently badly regarded, and things are coming to a head – The CofE is facing a financial crisis, central support staff are more often now non-Christian – which is problematic. • The other crisis is that the numbers of people wanting to be ordained is dwindling (in the CofE). <p>JB questioned the INEQE report mentioned in Paul's paper – how independent was it?</p> <p>PL sought to ask the question and circulate his response to PCC later. His response was circulated on 5th March, as follows:</p> <p><i>At our most recent meeting, a question was asked by JB about the nature of the relationship between the CofE and INEQE, the independent body appointed to carry out audits of every diocese's compliance with Safeguarding practice.</i></p> <p><i>I have discovered that:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>INEQE was appointed following an open tender process</i> 2. <i>They are highly regarded in the field</i> 3. <i>In one high-profile case, they were appointed to investigate Oxfam following allegations made against a number of that charity's field operatives</i> <p><i>One source likened this to the surveyor you engage to confirm the house you're hoping to buy isn't going to fall down. You pay for her services, but she is [and has to be] a fully independent professional working to standards set by others.</i></p> <p><i>I'm also told that Jim Gamble, the CEO of INEQE is always willing to speak to any PCC member with concerns.</i></p> <p>TP asked PL: You said General Synod doesn't work - what could / should happen?</p> <p>PL gave a detailed and personal answer but in summary feels that the CofE is facing an existential crisis and in his opinion, experiencing the hand of God's judgement. He sees that there is a real danger that what we understand as the Gospel with Jesus being source of our salvation is being replaced with universalism.</p>

	<p>The meeting paused to pray in quiet.</p> <p>MO & DN have met with Archdeacon Becky Waring and had a good meeting. She is keen for the appointment process to start as soon as we're ready. She is wanting to come and speak to us at the next PCC meeting about this process.</p>
<p>B3 Annual Meeting Paper 02</p>	<p>The APCM will be on Sunday 18th May</p> <p>The CC Electoral roll will be wiped (this happens every 6 years) and people will need to re-join/sign up</p> <p><u>Terms of service</u></p> <p>The following PCC members have served 2 terms (6 years) and therefore cannot stand for re-election:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • John Butler • Mark Ellis • Mei Yen Furey • Tavi Price <p>The following have served 3 years and can stand for re-election:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Danish Gill <p>This means there will be 6 places available for election at the APCM</p> <p>Actions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PCC members encourage others to also sign up / re-register on electoral roll • If standing down from the PCC please let MP know before the next meeting • Pray and be looking out for people to join PCC.
C	OTHER ITEMS
<p>C1 Approval of Minutes Paper 03</p>	<p>Approval of minutes of 27th January 2025 – no comments received – so approved.</p>
<p>C2 Safeguarding</p>	<p>No urgent safeguarding matters were reported to the PCC.</p> <p>The PSO's will review the Safeguarding Policy and this will be brought back to April meeting.</p>
<p>Review of the meeting / actions / confidentiality</p>	<p>Great to hear from those involved in such exciting areas of ministry</p> <p>Perception that was the agenda items a bit thin</p> <p>Challenge that was presented to us – call to pray</p> <p>1st March - 25hrs of Prayer 1am Saturday to Sunday 2am via zoom – sign up!</p> <p>2nd March next prayer gathering – 7pm</p> <p>Actions noted under each section.</p> <p>PL closed the meeting in prayer.</p>

Future Meetings:

Monday 24th Mar

Monday 28th April

Sunday 18th May – APCM