

St Michael the Archangel, West Hill
Bringing Jesus Christ to our Community

Minutes of the PCC meeting

held on Thursday 16 July 2026 at 7:30 pm in the Narthex

Attendees:

The Revd Mac Dick (Chair)
Pam Johns (Churchwarden);
Joanna Bromley (Treasurer)
Sur Ritchie (Parish Safeguarding Officer)
Christine Smith
Ann Pangbourne (Minutes Secretary, Diocesan Synod Rep)
from 8:30 Rosemary Hudson (Eco-Church)

1 Mac opened the meeting and Ann Pangbourne led the prayers with this meditation based on Psalms 121 & 46:

My help comes from You.
I left my eyes to the hills.
My heart is searching still.
Where does my help come from?

Not from the strength I hold.
Not from the things I know.
My help is in Your Name.

You will not let me fall.
You never sleep at all.
You keep me through it all.
My help comes from You.

Behold the keeper of Israel
Will neither slumber nor sleep
You never fail.

God is our refuge and strength
A very present help in trouble

You will not let us fall.
You never sleep at all.
You keep us through it all.
Our help comes from you.

we prayed for
Matt, Kayan and Brenda
Ann Widdicombe Friends and Family
Mac - for continued healing

The government of the country
The government of the Church of England
For those responsible for the appointment of the next bishops of Oxford and London,
that they will listen to Your voice.
That clergy and laity who You call to stand for election to General Synod,
will respond to that call

For all we discuss tonight to be guided by the Lord, that all we do here will bring glory to Him

2 Apologies were received from

The Revd Mark Ward, Matt Gardner, Maggie Gordon, Sue Lock, The Revd Ann Turner, Cag Ward,

3 Draft minutes of the PCC Meeting 20 May 2026- were approved and signed

AP send
to Tricia L

4 Matters Arising**5 Diocesan Guide for PCC members - sent to all PCC**

AP

6.2 Messy Church barbecue - excellent, fun, well attended - around 60

No pressure, outside, weekday, Mums & Dad's came and joined in games

Worship, food. Donations covered costs

A vote of thanks to Cag for initiating it and to Mark and the rest of the team for helping host. *(inc comments from RH after she arrived)*

6.3 Prayer Ministry: more men are needed. AP will discuss with Mark

Prayer Ministry Team Role Description - **sent to all PCC**

6.4 Church website - now up and running. There was comment that it is not easily found on a Google search for the Church in West Hill. Can this be addressed?

we have our own drop-down menu on the Village website (West Hill Messenger)

and can be found when directed from the old Weebly site - are we able to change

the message here? or from the new OVMC page

and ? from A Church Near You

AP/PJ/TL

5 Mission and Evangelism**6.1 Monday Bible Study** - Messenger Article from Ann T circulated and noted**6 Written Reports****6.1 Churchwarden's Report**

i) **Archdeacon's visitation** was encouraging, with worship led by the All Saints' team Pam was grateful for those who came to support her.

ii) £3,000 has been donated by The Devon Historic Churches Trust for the ramp (**NACRE project**); resting the gravestones and landscaping around the magnolia tree at the front of the church

iii) Fibre Broadband may be needed and problems linking in to the TV to be solved.

AP Next
Agenda

iv) Noah has discover a bees nest in the churchyard. PJ will consult Ruth Hoe

PJ

v) a programme on Radio 4 re attitudes to church-going: needs prayer

The Diocesan Intercessors Group is open to anyone interested, but needs Mark to give a reference. AP/SL/CS can give details.

vi) there have been donations from people in Bendarroch Road who are grateful to be able to park in the church carpark during the period of the road works.

6.2 Finance Report Finance figures received. No questions

Insurance company still to be contacted re questions from March PCC (7.2 (iii))

JB

6.3 Eco Church Rosemary and Rob have done much in the churchyard, to help Noah, and it was asked that special thanks be passed on to Rob for this.

A work party was suggested, including reinstating the shed.

Asbestos may be a concern. P37 of the Churchyard Handbook may be of help.

An article will be put in the magazine re the churchyard in Oct/Nov issue

PJ
MD

Churchyard Regulations have been posted in the porch

and two recommended booklets put in the vestry.

A risk assessment done in 2009 (see APCM minutes) re the steep nature of the path is still valid, as a handrail was deemed less safe than none.

6.4/6.5 Deanery and Diocesan Synod reports noted

7 Safeguarding

The Safeguarding Report;

Sue R had attended a thank you tea for PSOs at the Bishop's Palace.

The Dashboard Action Plan now needs a code to access it which Sue and Mark will both have.

There will be documents to approve at our September meeting

Some training to be completed.

SR/AP

8 Governance

Health & Safety

Nothing reported in Cag's absence

9 Calendar Events

An updated calendar is being sent out with these minutes

- Jane and Cag plan to do Youth Alpha sessions with Messy Momentum Aug 7 & 21
- Pre-School Christmas service 21 Nov

2026 dates to note:

Sept 12 & 13 Thanksgiving and Baptism

December 5/6 Turning on of Christmas Lights in West Hill

Deanery Synod Wed 18 Nov at Sidmouth Parish Church

this meeting will be on the subject "How can we fund our common life together?"

A Diocesan discussion/consultation evening ahead of the Common Fund review.

It is hoped that most PCC treasurers (and possibly other officers and churchwardens) will be able to attend this important, influential evening.

11 Any Other Business

i) Seat in memory of Janet Beardsall.

The PCC agreed the design but not the positioning. Both still need to be approved by Mark and the family should be made aware that they are responsible for maintenance.

ii) Removal of dead Blue Cedar

The quote from Martin Jelf was accepted

and our thanks for his offer of a gift to be passed on

PJ/MW

RH

iii) The drains and downpipes are clogged with roots and leaves.

Mallett Drainage in Feniton are being asked to advise;

the Standing Committee may need to make decisions on this as it is making the walls wet

Dates of PCC Meetings 2026 at 7:30

Wednesday 16 September - apologies from Christine Smith given in advance

* **Thursday** 19 November

2027

Wednesday 20 January

Wednesday 17 March

AMP and APCM

Sunday 16 May after the morning service