



Holy Trinity Church of Seer Green & Jordans

Minutes of the PCC meeting of 15 January 2026 at 7.15pm

The meeting was held at Janice Barrett's house

Present:

Jez Carr, *Chair*

Tom Allen, Anthony Bargioni, Janine Dunnell, Janna Holder, Anne Wall, Janice Barrett, Sam Barclay.

Apologies: Audrey Hardy, Sue Puttergill, Linda West.

1. WELCOME AND PRAYER

Jez welcomed everyone and read a few verses from Psalm 91. He then opened with prayers.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the previous meeting dated 25th November 2025 were approved.

Proposer Tom. Secunder Anne.

3. MATTERS ARISING

Comments on the baptismal proposal are still welcome. Some have been received already. Jez also highlighted that there are wider issues on responding to baptismal enquiries, which he is working on.

4. UPDATE FROM JEZ CARR

Christmas went well, and there was an increasing attendance where there was capacity. There also appears to be a trickle from the café to the church.

There was a general discussion on the increase in donations over the main Christmas services. And that there needs to be general fundraising for the café and teen activities.

Soul Space is on a positive trajectory and is getting better. Feedback was that people liked the a cappella singing at the last one.

The theme for the services until Easter is the Psalms, that Jez and Dan planned together. There has been encouraging feedback.

The funeral on 14th January went well, and there will be one for Sarah Sired in a few week's time. There was a discussion about having plaques in front of the Memorial Garden.

ACTION: Janna to send photo to the PCC from another church.

There are 2 baptisms coming up, and 7 families who have made enquiries. The process for them is starting to come together.

The teens are doing well. Teen Takeover is going well, with new teens still joining, based on the flyers. There is lots of laughter and they are interacting with each other, and not on their phones.

The families with littlies were also discussed, on how to engage with the parents, without the distraction of the littlies. Soul Space seems to work.

Jez is working 2 days for the Diocese in an interim position. He will work two days out of Monday to Wednesday, depending on conferences and meetings.

5. FIVE MARKS OF MISSION

Jez met with the leadership team to discuss the idea of having an audit of the effectiveness of various ministries of the church, and they have therefore decided to ask the leaders of each of them for a brief Purpose Statement. These will be used to confirm the suitability of each ministry's expenses, and also to explore how they can be made more effective. To have something tangible to measure them against, we talked about the 'Five Marks of Mission'.

These are:

- Proclaim
- Nurture
- Compassion
- Justice
- Creation Care

And a sixth was added:

- Community.

Jez suggested that, in the local church, Marks 3-5 are really expressions of — and in service of — Marks 1 and 2, and that these purpose statements should therefore land in "Proclaim" and/or "Nurture," even if the other Marks feature heavily as well. Jez suggested that, while many churches have 'vision statements', these generally come down to "Proclaim and Nurture" anyway.

There was a discussion that these should guide our activities, especially the first two. This will help each leader to understand why they are leading an activity, and can be used at regular intervals to check whether the purpose is being achieved, or whether adjustments need to be made. Some activities may be dropped, and others may require more thought. Short statements are required, as this is not intended as an administrative burden, but to provide more focus for our activities. Jez and the churchwardens will do a review to consolidate the statements, and may ask for further

clarification. They are also available for advice or discussion if wanted. At the beginning of the following year, there will be a review of each activity.

ACTION: All leaders of activities to provide short statements to Jez by end of March.

6. BUILDINGS AND CHURCHYARD

6.1 Architect's Drawings

Tom went through the architect's drawings, showing different options to extend the space and/or provide step-free access to the church and a toilet. There is one missing drawing which is to extend the back of the church. Tom said that we can also choose items across the different options. There was a brief discussion to understand the options. A separate, dedicated meeting will be set up to review them in detail and decide which way to go.

ACTION: Tom to share the architect's drawings with the PCC

6.2 Parish Church Hall

Tom talked about the condition report for the Parish Church Hall. It indicates that the building is old, but also that there are two serious conditions. On the right hand side (side path) there is damp about half a metre up in the wall. There are changes made in the past that have made this worse. On the left hand side, the older part, the wall is leaning outwards. We don't know how long it has been like this and how fast it is moving. But the costs to maintain the Parish Church Hall will escalate.

Janine reminded the PCC that Rich Sturla can only be given notice to vacate at the end of the calendar year, and has 12 months after that to vacate.

7. SAFEGUARDING

Anne raised concerns about the Parish Church Hall and the safety of the people using the gym. Tom did not think there was an immediate danger.

ACTION: Janine to check the insurance policy.

There have been no referrals for Safeguarding. She noted that Toddlers in the Woods cancelled their activities when there were strong winds.

There is a new DBS provider. There was a stricter search to find the company. She also notified those affected in our Parish would not have the Experian credit checking extended beyond the initial 12 months.

Grace's safeguarding training discussed. She has completed the Basic and Foundation course. Janna is writing a safeguarding policy for the café, to be reviewed by Anne. The concern expressed was whether Grace knows how to handle safeguarding issues when people come to her in the café.

ACTION: Janna to complete the safeguarding policy for the café ASAP.

The Safeguarding Sunday service is on 18 January 2026. Jez will do more frequent updates in the regular rhythm of the church, with less focus on one service a year.

8. FINANCE

8.1 2025 Actuals vs Budget

The draft figures for 2025 were presented by Janine. The final results will be presented once they have been audited.

8.2 2026 Budget

Janine presented the budget. There are two versions, one with additional fundraising and more expenditure, and one without the fundraising and therefore, reduced expenditure.

Anthony asked why the Planned Giving number in the budget was the same as 2025, and why we were not encouraging people to increase their giving each year. There were discussions on how bigger churches seem to be able to encourage more giving by their congregations, and are more ambitious in their annual spending plans. It was recognised that it is harder for small churches, where a larger proportion of the budget is for Parish Share. Jez will reflect on how to encourage more giving.

There was also a discussion on fundraising for additional activities, such as Teen Takeover or decorating the church.

ACTION: Jez to reflect on how to encourage the congregation to increase in planned giving.

The 2026 budget was approved, Anthony proposing and Anne as seconder.

9. BAPTISM PREPARATION

Already discussed in Jez's update.

10. AOB

Parish Share discussions will continue in preparation for 2027.

11. CLOSING PRAYER

Jez closed in prayer.

The next meeting will be on Thursday 26 March 2026 at 7:15pm in Holy Trinity church.

The Community Prayer group will meet at 6:30pm in Holy Trinity church.