

The Parish of Richmond with Hudswell Parochial Church Council

Minutes of the Annual Vestry Meeting and Annual Parochial Church Meeting

held on Sunday 18th May 2025 at 11.00am

	Annual Vestry Meeting	
	<p>Both meetings attended by:</p> <p>Revd. Canon Martin Fletcher (Chair) Revd. Lorna Heatley, Colin Hicks (Clerk), David Frankton, Paul Carnell, Jan Carnell, Ann Richardson, Isobel Short, Pauline Shepherd, Jenn Bullen, Richard Gazzard, Bishop John Pritchard, Judith MacLeod, Rachel Walker, Jan Beeton, Wendy Pritchard, Richard Sands, John Clarke, Libby Sands, Judith Clarke, Jonathan Roberts, Andrew Lovell, David Buckingham, Susan Welch, Graham Pearson, John Welch, Stuart Rowan, Helen Rowan, John Challis, Keith Robson, J. Chapman, Katharine Perry, Anna Boyce, Peter Trewby, Rosemary Bell, Andrew Dalton, Hannah Rafferty, Mike Baines, Carole McCormack, Sandra Smart, John McCormack, Steph Williamson, Anne Clarke, Belinda Roe, Mark Beresford-Peirce, Margaret Clayson, Linda Curran, Paul Perry</p>	
1.	Welcome and Prayers Led by Canon Martin	MF
2.	Appointment of Clerk to the meeting Colin Hicks was appointed as Clerk to the meeting. Proposed: Martin Fletcher, Seconded John Clarke Unanimously carried.	MF
3.	Apologies for absence Dennis and Christine Stedman, Martin Clarke, Margaret Beresford-Peirce.	MF / CH
4.	Minutes of the last meeting, held on 2024 Proposed that these are accepted by Jonathan Roberts Seconded by Steph Williamson. Signed by Canon Martin as a true record	MF
5.	Matters arising There were no matters arising from the minutes.	MF
6.	Election of Churchwardens for the year 2024-25 Canon Martin thanked Peter Trewby and Wendy Pritchard for their service as Churchwardens during the past year. Both have agreed to stand again and continue in post. Peter Trewby was proposed as the Mayor's Warden for the forthcoming year by David Frankton and seconded by David Buckingham. Carried Wendy Pritchard was proposed as the Rector's Warden for the forthcoming year by Margaret Clayson and seconded by Margaret Buchanan Carried.	MF

Annual Parochial Church Meeting																	
1.	Apologies for absence Christine and Dennis Stedman, Martin Clarke, Margaret Beresford-Peirse.		MF / CH														
2.	Minutes of the last meeting, held on 28 th April 2024 Proposed: Jonathan Roberts Seconded: Steph Williamson Approved and signed as a true record by Canon Martin.																
3.	Matters arising There were no matters arising from the minutes.		MF														
4.	Reports which must legally be presented:																
4.1	<table border="0"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>2024</th> <th>2025</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Removed (deceased / moved, not reregistered)</td> <td>31</td> <td>36</td> </tr> <tr> <td>New</td> <td>12</td> <td>22</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>144 + 2=146</td> <td>138</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Out of Parish</td> <td>18</td> <td>21</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p><i>Presented by Colin Hicks on behalf of Martin Clarke, Electoral Roll Officer.</i> Proposed: Richard Gazzard Seconded Bishop John. Carried.</p>		2024	2025	Removed (deceased / moved, not reregistered)	31	36	New	12	22	Total	144 + 2=146	138	Out of Parish	18	21	Colin Hicks for Martin Clarke (ER Officer)
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4.2	Proceedings of the PCC The PCC has continued to meet every other month as directed and develops the aims decided at the 2024 Away Day. Canon Martin gave a summary of the direction of the PCC and it's workings during the Sermon at the 10am service which focused on the strengthening of the church lay leadership and fostering a welcoming atmosphere in church. Friends events have taken place throughout the year generating significant income. The Access project has been completed and is well received by all. The TAR gives much detail on the workings of the PCC and it's oversight of the activities in church and wider community. Proposed Jan Beeton, Seconded John Clarke. Carried.		Colin Hicks (PCC Secretary)														
4.3	Financial Statement for the year ended 31 st December 2024 Paul and Janice Carnell produced another excellent video financial presentation which was a concise version of the Financial statement which was sent out in PDF form by Canon Martin ahead of the meeting. Canon Martin thanked Paul & Jan for their sterling work as the Treasurers and for maintaining the complex Church account in such an efficient way. Wendy Pritchard thanked for the clarity of the presentation		Paul & Jan Carnell														

	<p>Anna asked a question ref Gift Aid. Paul explained how the Gift Aid scheme worked.</p> <p>Judith Clarke thanked Peter for his work in drawing in the grants.</p> <p>Helen Rowan asked how the Diocese budgeted for Parish shortfall. Jan explained that reserves are used or cuts are made as appropriate.</p> <p>Jonathan Roberts: Highlighted that the majority of Diocesan budget is clergy expenses.</p> <p>Richard Gazzard: Asked if shortfalls are written off. Answer was yes.</p> <p>Canon Martin again gave thanks for the work done over the year.</p> <p>The acceptance of the financial statement was proposed by : Ann Richardson, Seconded: John Challis.</p>	
<p>4.4</p>	<p>Fabric, Goods and Ornaments of the church</p> <p>Peter referred to the TAR report .</p> <p>The 5 yearly review was undertaken.</p> <p>Woodworm in tower has been completed</p> <p>Asbestos survey con</p> <p>Stone survey is satisfactory</p> <p>The review gives pointing and gutters and roof also being undertaken in 2025.</p> <p>In good state at present.</p> <p>Peter presented a summary of the above report.</p> <p>Proposed: Paul Perry, Seconded: Pauline Shepherd</p> <p>Approved.</p>	<p>Peter Trewby</p>
<p>4.5</p>	<p>Deanery Synod</p> <p>The Deanery Synod continued with it's regular meetings and has been visited by the Dean of Ripon and Bishop Helen Ann Hartley prior to her move to Newcastle. Lively discussions have taken place regarding the future direction of churches especially in rural areas in challenging times.</p> <p>The 'Barnabas Project' was discussed and this led to finding ways to maximise talent within the church communities.</p> <p>There is a perception that rural ministry is not attractive to potential ordinands so a bid is in progress to increase the profile and visibility of the churches and the work they do by social media / film reels to be published more widely.</p> <p>The bid will be to provide equipment and training at a more local level to churches to make this more possible.</p> <p>Proposed: Mark BP Seconded Susan Welch.</p>	<p>Colin Hicks (Deanery Synod Secretary)</p>

	<p>Safeguarding. This is not a statutory agenda item but was thought to be too important not to mention at this meeting. Thanks were given to Jan Beeton, the safeguarding officer. Safeguarding Sunday in November gave more demonstration of what we need to be aware of. Our policies are up to date and reviewed as required. This will be done again in July. Jan is working on the 'Dashboard' and we are already at a good level of compliance. The action plan is reviewed each year and will be reviewed once again in 2025. Jan spoke and thanked everyone for making the church welcoming and as safe as it can be. Jan spoke about the training requirements and encouraged those to take part as required and necessary. The code of safe working practice is in place and adhered to. Jan reinforced that this is all a team effort. Pamela Holland was thanked for her work as was Jennifer Williamson who looks after the Marske side.</p>	
5.	Elections and appointments	
5.1	<p>Members of the Parochial Church Council There are 3 vacancies on the PCC: The 3 vacancies for 3 years due to the completion of the term of service of Ann Richardson and Stuart Rowan, also Reuben Digan who was coopted for a year. The 3rd member from 3 years ago was Anna Warren who resigned mid term.</p> <p>Steph Williamson, Sharon Digan and Isobel Short have 1 year left to serve; David Frankton, Carole McCormack and Linda Curran have 2 years left to serve.</p> <p>The following were proposed and elected to the PCC for a 3 year term: 1. Libby Sands: Proposed Judith Clarke Seconded John Clarke 2. Judith Macleod: Proposed Anna Boyce Seconded Julia Chapman 3. Ann Clarke: Proposed Carole McCormack Seconded Pauline Shepherd All carried.</p>	
5.2	<p>Sidespersons The following list of Sidespersons and Welcomers to be appointed for 2025 was issued by Canon Martin for approval by the APCM. Neil Stevenson Bob Hill John Challis Mary Turner Paul Perry Katharine Perry Carole McCormack</p>	MF

	<p>John McCormack Judith Barber Graham Barber Alexe Roberts Jonathan Roberts Andy Lovell Alan Judge Pamela Holland Margaret Clayson + John Pritchard Wendy Pritchard Christine Stedman Dennis Stedman Steph Williamson</p> <p>The list was proposed by Peter Trewby, Seconded: Ann Clarke Approved</p>	
5.3	<p>Independent Examiner</p> <p>Alastair McLean was proposed as the Independent Examiner</p>	
5.4	<p>Deputy Churchwarden</p> <p>Martin asked if there were any others who might want to take on this role.</p> <p>As Churchwarden Emeritus, David Frankton continues to take on this role. David was thanked by Canon Martin for his sterling work.</p>	
6	<p>Rector's report</p> <p>Canon Martin's Sermon at the 10am Eucharist was an outline report of the past year. Canon Martin thanked all of those involved in the administration and maintenance of the Church and also those who contribute to the atmosphere within the church family.</p> <p>The Trustees Annual Report gives a fine report of the year, along with the video presentations.</p>	
7.	<p>Any other business</p> <p>Peter Trewby formally thanked Canon Martin for his continuing leadership and inspiration of this church community and for directing the way forward in such a responsive and sensitive way which is appreciated by all members of the church family, and to Revd. Lorna for her guidance.</p>	