

THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST JOHN THE BAPTIST, MALDEN
Registered Charity No.1145155
Minutes of the 774th meeting of the Parochial Church Council
At 7.30 pm on
Tuesday, November 5th 2024
In the coffee lounge

PRESENT Rev Michael Roper as chair, Mike Broome, Liz Pullen, Lynn Sanger, Margaret Barrington, Peter Wickenden, Steve Dyke, Stuart Goodden.

Marilyn Burkett (Secretary)

Apologies: Peter Chugg, Richard Burkett

	Apologies received and noted. Opening Prayer – Fr Michael.	Action
7777	AOB – i. Parking, ii Streaming iii War Graves	Mike B MCB
7778	Minutes of the previous meeting – no corrections. Minutes agreed and signed.	
7779	Matters arising: 7775 Fr Michael has signed 7 letters for Holy Cross applicants, and 1 for St Cecilia's at Southfields. 7768 The Parish Share pledge for £72k has been sent to the Diocese and acknowledged. No volunteers for the Reserves Working Party to assist Peter Chugg, Peter Wickenden and Richard Burkett – so the matter will be brought back to the PCC in January. Thank you letters to donors to Restore Fund: Fr Michael has thanked Waitrose and Jane Bransgrove has written to all those who have donated £50+ One letter outstanding to family of Miss Alexander who has left £5k in her will to St John's. 7771 Nature Hub Working Team – nothing received as yet. Any grants available? Not eligible for Fresh Expressions.	Fr. M
7780	Finance: i. Non-statutory fees for 2025. No changes except for the increase in organist's fees for funerals to £150 (in line with weddings). ii. Proposed 2% rise in payments to Parish Administrator, Organist & Choir Director. All approved by PCC. Stewardship update: congratulations to Richard, Jane & her daughter for the excellent leaflet. 99 leaflets were distributed: 13 received back, 1 new person, 3 remained the same, 1 cash donation of £10 and 5-6 increases. So far that has led to an increase of £1,200 pa (however we have a loss of £500 per month due to those reducing or stopping their giving). There are now 48 on the PGS scheme of whom 15 have elected to increase their giving. It would be good if PGS donors returned their pledge cards so we have an indication of monies pledged. Jane still trying to encourage 20 core donors to join PGS. (Interesting to note that All Saints Kingston, St James & Christchurch are not yet in the PGS scheme.)	JB

	Organisational Sustainability (Streaming). PCC members elected to join one or more of the groups. Peter W will update list.	PW
7784	Safeguarding: no issues to report.	
7785	Governance: a proposal from the Standing Committee for the new Teams and Working Parties was circulated. As some members of the PCC were not present to vote on and accept the new proposal, an extra meeting of the PCC will be held on Tuesday 3 rd December at 7.30pm in the Coffee Lounge.	
7786	<p>AOB</p> <p>i. Parking: Mike met with Mr Gloag from Merton College. The lane is Merton's responsibility. Merton will provide 3 notices indicating 'No Parking' Merton College, Oxford. Geoff (Maintenance Committee) has obtained a quote of £390+VAT for the poles to erect the signs. As there is money in the Maintenance Budget, the work will go ahead. Merton not willing to pay for a tree survey. A new Estates Manager at Merton College will take over from Mr Gloag from Jan 1st 2025. Maybe we should get a quote for improving the lane and then send them the bill?</p> <p>ii. Streaming: a company has been invited to come and give a quote for a better camera and improved equipment. Geoff and Sally J to review proposal. We do have a sound system and existing Wi-Fi. Quotation of £1,900+VAT (£2,200). There is a small amount of money left from 'Covid Streaming' – maybe the Diocese could help?</p> <p>iii. Commonwealth War Graves: as a consequence of research on one of the War Graves, Marilyn has made contact with the son of one of those buried in our churchyard. He described how deeply moved he was when he saw the poppy cross on his father's grave. In addition to the poppy cross, the young people put posies of flowers on the graves. A photo of his father's grave will be sent to him on Remembrance Sunday. The little things we do can have great impact and show that we care.</p>	<p>Geoff L</p> <p>Geoff /Sally J</p> <p>Marilyn</p>
7787	The meeting closed with prayer at 9.06pm.	