

**ST PAUL'S SCOTFORTH  
ANNUAL CHURCH MEETING**

**26 April 2026 at 0945  
St Paul's Church**

1. Apologies
2. Minutes of the APM held on 27 April 2025

**THE MEETING OF PARISHIONERS**

3. Election of Churchwardens

**ANNUAL PAROCHIAL MEETING**

4. Electoral Roll
5. Presentation of the Accounts
6. Report on the Fabric of the Church
7. Report on the dealings of the Deanery Synod
8. Election of two representatives to the Deanery Synod
9. Safeguarding Report
10. Election of the Church Council
11. Appointment of an Independent Examiner

John Gedge  
PCC Secretary



**ST PAUL'S SCOTFORTH  
ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING  
27 April 2025  
St Paul's Church at 09:45**

Present: about 90 plus Rev Catherine. The large attendance was achieved by holding the meeting during the morning service.

The accounts and reports were published on the parish website several weeks before the meeting, with paper copies available in church.

1. Apologies were received from Jen Couchman, Sammy Dawkins, Gwen Gedge, Maureen Leach, Arton Medd, Christine Medd and Phillip Simpson.
2. Minutes from the meetings held on 21 April 2024 were approved as a correct record.

**THE MEETING OF PARISHIONERS**

3. Election of Churchwardens

Two nominations had been received for the two positions, so Jayne Weatherill and Keith Weatherill were reappointed unanimously. The meeting thanked Jayne and Keith for their work over the previous year, noted that Jayne has declared her intention of standing down as Churchwarden after the next incumbent is installed, and asked those present to consider whether they could serve as a Churchwarden in the future.

**ANNUAL PAROCHIAL MEETING**

4. Electoral Roll

John Gedge reported that every 6 years we are required to create an entirely new Electoral Roll and this year is a revision year. The new roll currently stands at 85.

5. Presentation of the Accounts

Brian Threlfall reported that the increase in our unrestricted funds was due to the combined effect of a temporary reduction in our parish share agreed by the Diocese plus the receipt of two legacies, and without this the accounts would have shown a significant loss. Brian had heard some comments about apparent expenditure when we were reporting financial problems, so he pointed out that the recent work on the Parish Hall had been funded entirely by grants received thanks to applications made by Jayne Weatherill, while the cost of the new TV screens / audio visual equipment had been covered by a 50% grant from the Diocese with the rest covered by a legacy, so none of the cost of those items had come out of normal parish income. Brian thanked Mervyn Bonnett for his work as the Independent Examiner. Brian advised the meeting that he will be stepping down from this role at the end of the current year and said that he would be happy to spend part of this year training a successor. Jayne thanked Brian for his work as Treasurer.

6. Report on the Fabric of the Church

Jayne Weatherill reported that the Terrier is up to date [it was available at the meeting]. Our architect has confirmed that the roof has reached the point where it can be added to the "at risk" register and so we can start the process of applying to the Heritage Lottery Fund [HLF]. PCC has accepted a Diocesan recommendation and appointed a person to help us with the grant application process. The HLF application process requires an applicant to have raised 10% of the funds, and our roof fund currently holds enough to satisfy this

condition. PCC also agreed to include necessary window repairs in the application to ensure the building is sound below the roof. The recent work on the Parish Hall means we can hold services there when the church is closed for work on the roof. HLF requires an applicant to demonstrate community engagement / use, so PCC has accepted the recommendation to include the renovation of the kitchen and toilet facilities in the grant application because that will make the building more useful. A consultation was launched at the APM seeking ideas about the kind of activities that could be delivered in our buildings in addition to services – the consultation will be in the parish news, on our website, and on the school website. The Parish Profile has been updated so that anyone considering applying to be our next Vicar will know that we expect them to be the figure head for the campaign, but not the main fundraiser. The church will be 150 next February, Bishop Philip has agreed to take a celebration service, and PCC has started to discuss other ways that we could mark that anniversary.

7. Report on the dealings of the Deanery Synod

Margaret Ives added that she is standing down from Deanery Synod so there will be a vacancy. Jayne Weatherill thanked Margaret, Grace Illidge and Phillip Simpson for representing the parish on the synod and providing reports to the PCC.

8. Safeguarding

Jayne Weatherill reported that we are fully compliant with the national policies, but we know that the Church of England is reviewing those policies so we might end up with more work. This is a role Jayne would like to relinquish. Jayne invited anyone interested in taking on this role to contact her to discuss what it involves.

9. Election of the Church Council

Two forms had been received. The meeting unanimously elected Sammy Dawkins for a second 3-year term and Maureen Leach for an initial 3 year term.

10. Appointment of Independent Examiner

Mervyn Bonnett was reappointed as independent examiner.

11. Fun Church

The members of Fun Church had their own annual meeting at which they discussed the same question put to the APM in church. Fun Church prepared a wall display with a picture of the church and people around it speaking their ideas – this was pinned to the noticeboard so parishioners could see it. Jayne Weatherill thanked the group leaders and helpers for their work with the younger members of our congregation and noted that Fun Church would like more volunteers to go on their rota. Jayne reminded those present that there is a leaflet available listing the current volunteering opportunities.