

Hughenden Parish Church Council

Minutes of Meeting – Thursday 25th July 2025 at 7.30 pm in Church House

Present

Clergy	Rev Keith Johnson, Rev Helen Peters
Lay Reader	David Tester
Churchwardens	Andrew Cole, Frank Hawkins
Elected	Clare Godfrey (Chair), Rev Dr Mike Hill, Janet Booth, Brian Morley, Mark Sherrington, Antony Rippon

Apologies

Ben Sharp, Roger Grant, Arthur Johnson (Sec Susan Brice)

1. Opening Prayers

2. Minutes

Agreed for Clare to sign unanimously. Send to Clare to sign with additional Antony note added

3. Action Points from Minutes

KJ to prepare paper for lottery issue for Sept meeting.

Helen offered to be meals co-ordinator for next Alpha series. Agreed to have Alpha sessions Post-Christmas in Jan 2025.

Candles policies to be discussed at Sept meeting

Review of PCC policies to be requested from Ben Sharp (to confirm in order for next 12 months)

Eco Questionnaire: 80 issued, 34 responses.

Colin to be asked to provide article on implications of results.

4. Finance

Good position at current time.

High numbers in Weddings and Funerals assisting.

Current Savings in Children and Families ministers costs.

Final charges for stained glass window.

Current Account Balance c. £23k

c. £202k in savings account. Over 5% interest.

Strong financial position.

5. Vision Matters.

Helpful visuals re Vision from Antony discussed. An excellent tool. Helping to formalise actions.

Current Personnel Changes and availability of resources leading to a further prayerful time for re-assessment with both Groups being brought together with Action by Keith.

6. Vicars matters

Personnel:

Arthur resigned as at 15th July. Update from Keith Johnson. Great concern was expressed for Arthur's situation and PCC very supportive of the help being offered to him. Thanks to Keith Johnson and others putting efforts into this.

Inform PCC of location where Arthur residing as changes are possible.

PCC advised that Lynn has resigned as Church Administrator as of 25th July with a month's notice.

Thanks to volunteers for cleaning church.

Church house fortnightly cleaning showing results.

Friendship Group Leader replacement. Helen to step in as at replacement on temporary basis. New leader to be sought possibly as part of an augmented team.

Sincere thanks to Penny Austin – Sec to write thank you letter from PCC

Permission given to throw BBQ from old shed away to Jane Tyrer

Thanks to Helen for her sabbatical notes.

High Leigh – September this year. There is an urgent need to fill the final places and the PCC agreed to encourage others to come and for financial support as required.

7. Helen's Sabbatical

Happy to go to house groups or other groups and talk about her reflections.

A discussion took place on Helen's reflections.

8. Vision Groups to be brought together to formalise vision ideas.

Helen and Keith to arrange meeting in August if possible.

Next steps - ideas to Antony with any other thoughts for vision

9. Churchwarden matters

Ask MU for their requirements for furniture in Garden.

Tap in kitchen + toilet sink water heater new required Action FH/DB

Church Cleaning temporary cleaning. Change to paid Cleaners.

(Note re Chris Hendren doing weekly church cleaning as well as Church House. Two hours twice per week on Tuesday pm ideally Friday Saturday. Start in a few weeks time. Unanimous in Favour. FH action.)

Meeting expressed thanks to Church wardens for their services at this busy time and thanks to Mark for Verger Duties.

Church Ceiling issue to be resolved asap.

10. Mission Support Group to change Cables support to CMJ from CMS agreed in line with the paper from David Tester. Agreed

Environmental Issues Thanks to Julia, Roger, Phil and Jan Waterston and Pauline and Colin Wilkinson for the wonderful garden for reflection.

11. Report on Deanery

Issue of volunteers and problems of younger people having time.

Great synod meeting. very inspired group of people who attend and are involved.

Keith to investigate what grants are available from the diocese. Possible Deanery grants might be available for MU garden furniture. What might MU suggest for possible strong hard waring long lasting replacements?

12. AOB

Option to change to bio diesel discussed. Costs identified but discussions showed that this option has major disadvantages and idea rejected. But we should look at other options for different fuels.

However, destratification fans looks promising and should be discussed at standing committee.

NB. **Safeguarding**. No updates as Roger Grant unable to attend.

Thanks to all for excellent meeting. Meeting closed at 9.55 pm

Frank Hawkins
Emergency Secretary