

St Werburgh's Parish Council Meeting 11th June 2025 draft v2

Present:

Parish Priest:	Fr Paul Shaw
Outreach	Lal Cook
Finance:	Denise Jones
Housekeeping/Hospitality & Garden:	Cristina Jones
Liturgy:	Lyn Williams
150 th Anniversary Celebration:	Tina Bainbridge
Social:	Pat Floate & Bernice Meredith
Altar Servers:	Gerry Tighe
Admin Assistant to PP	Stephen Hutchinson

Apologies for Absence:

Buildings and Maintenance	Marian McCarthy
Talks	Stephen Tierney

Meeting Chair:

Lyn Williams

1 – Welcome and Opening Prayer

Lyn welcomed everyone, and invited Fr Paul to lead the group in prayer.

2.1 – Actions

The ongoing actions from May were reviewed. Listed are those ongoing. Those with revised actions have been moved to new actions.

Ongoing actions

- 1 - Replacement lead for the Readers Rota (Marian)
- 2 - Group Updates for the website to be reviewed (Lyn and Peter Penson)
- 3 - Timescale for the new Parish Census and mechanism (FP & Web-team)

New actions

- 4 - Chase the new joiner for the console table (Lyn)
- 5 - Obtain update on the History Book printing costs (FP/Tina)
- 6 - Progress safety issue with paving to the Presbytery. No longer on hold, action.
- 7 - Order card reader etc. with Diocese (Chris Proudfoot)
- 8 - Review talks with Stephen T (FP)
- 9 - Bernice to kindly pay for the Missalettes. Let her know the costs (Steve H)
- 10 - RA for Romeo and Juliet and Cabaret (Tina)
- 11 - Agree budget for printing banners and books for the week of Faith with Claire (FP)
- 12 - Advertise Fete on Facebook (Lyn)

13 - complete the treasure hunt for the fete (FP)

14 - Reflect on the options for the PC when Gerry stands down. See attached note (All PC)

15 - Suggest to Anne P, an open launch meeting for Justice and Peace in September (Lal)

16 - Arrange Parish Council Social July 10th (FP)

3 – 150th Working Group Update (Tina)

Tina provided an update on the 150th Working Group. and the planned activities

- Parish Pilgrimage to Holywell excellent prep and planning.
- Week of Faith planning well advanced , meeting next week.
- The Lego model kit of St Werburgh's Church was launched on the 27th April. We have had 15 orders in, 10 of which have been satisfied. There is a delay in the Lego factory (probably due to the demand from St Werburgh's Church) of up to 45 days which is hindering assembly of the remaining kits.
- The recipe books are flying off the shelves, 2nd run ordered.
- Fete planning and prep on target, advertising done , need to spread the word .
- New projects coming in -lace banner.
- 62% of target achieved so far.

5 – Leads (new activities and updates).

5.1 Father Paul updates

Parish House Refurbishment

Fr Paul provided an update on the house refurbishment, including the need for new bathrooms, kitchen and redecoration. There was also the issue of a potential rewiring and a new boiler.

Parish Council

Gerry stands down in July and there was much discussion about the necessary next steps.

Father Paul emphasized the importance of the transitional period and the need for a dedicated team to support the Priest and Parish.

There was much talk of whether to recruit a new member in place of Gerry when he steps down in September. Fr Paul suggested three possibilities: not replacing, replacing by voting, replacing by appointing. It was agreed that members would think on this.

Building and Maintenance

With regards to the buildings and maintenance, a new architect has taken over and will be conducting a further survey.

Feedback from Marian highlighted a successful fire drill, and the progress of the risk assessments. There has been an application submitted to install hooks for the banner group. Fr Paul praised Marian's hard work on the health and safety and the buildings project.

5.2 Parish Talks - Feedback & Moving forward

It was generally felt that the Michael Merrick talk went well with a supportive atmosphere and good discussion. Some attended on line It was suggested that future talks might benefit from being conducted in the Day Chapel, where the acoustics might be better for a smaller group. One comment was that the talk led to meaningful discussions afterwards.

There were some comments about the talk being difficult to hear. Care will be taken next time to ensure the speaker is briefed in the use of a microphone, especially as some members of the audience have to rely on hearing aids.

A proposal was put forward to invite our local MP Sam Dixon, to give a talk. It was agreed that this should be discussed with Steve Tierney in order to gauge interest and feasibility.

6 AOB

6.1 Justice and Peace Group

An open meeting was proposed to gauge interest in a Justice and Peace group. Dates suggested for this were July or September group. Appreciation for all Anne's efforts was highlighted

6.2 Parish Council

Fr Paul proposed the July meeting would be a social occasion.

6.3 Canon Chambers' and Canon Welsh's Grave Restoration

Positive progress was reported on the restoration of Canon Chambers and Canon Welsh's grave thanks to generous donations and Blackwell's who have been extremely helpful and professional in their approach to this work.

6.4 Voting for next chair.

Marian was voted in as the next chair for the next 4 meetings (Sept, Oct, Nov, Dec). Lyn was thanked for doing such an excellent job, chairing the last 4 meetings

7 Closing and Prayers

Lyn thanked everyone for their input. Fr Paul then concluded the meeting with a final prayer The meeting adjourned with a reminder of the next meeting date and time:

Thursday July 10th at 7.30 pm (Social)