

Minutes of the Meeting of the Holy Trinity Church PCC, Ash Priors at 12.00 on Sunday 22 February 2026

Present: Revd Helene Stainer, Maria de Broe-Ferguson, Simon Harrison,
Lynn Lake, John and Jill Taylor.

1 Welcome

Revd Helene welcomed everyone to the meeting and opened with prayer.

2 Apologies for Absence

Ros Macdonald, Jay Brooksbank, Priscilla Cruikshank

3 Matters arising from the last Minutes – 26 October 2025

The Benefice Meeting is on 23 March at 6.30pm in Ash Priors Village Hall.

The new Visitors Book is undergoing calligraphy for the frontispiece. It is hoped it will be ready and dedicated at the Patronal Service.

The Listed Places of Worship Grant Scheme ends on 1 April 2026. How the replacement Places of Worship Renewal Fund will operate is not yet clear.

4 Financial Update

The examined Finance and Governance Report 2025 was discussed and approved. The signed report was provided for the Secretary's record.

The Benefice share for this year is a 2% increase for each of the six parishes.

Thanks were expressed to David Hatfield and Lynn Lake for working on this.

5 Safeguarding Report

There were no Safeguarding issues to report and the database is up to date.

Jake Lent at B&W safeguarding is a helpful contact.

The required training has been completed by Priscilla C, Jay B, John T & Jill T.

6 Payaz Card Machine

Lynn and Maria met at the church with Jonathan Philpott from Parish giving in January to discuss card machine options. Lynn will email the PCC with details of this discussion. The machine they proposed is £365 and a donor has offered to cover this cost for which we are grateful. John T felt that a TapTile machine by the same company would be a more suitable option. It was agreed that waiting for 12-18 months for a free trial was too long. John T explained that the mobile SIM which provides the current Wi-Fi available in the church could also serve the payment system.

7 Tower Repair Progress

Tenders have been received at £68k, £67k and £45k and the architects fee will be just under £6k. The tower fund is currently at £38k and two grant applications were submitted in December to Garfield Weston and The National Churches Trust. We hope to hear the outcome by the end of March.

Approval was given to commission the next quinquennial inspection by the architect, ideally when they are attending the tower renovation work.

8 AOB

Carol Services: The format and frequency of Carol Services was discussed. It was felt that it would be beneficial to space them out more and consider not always holding them on Sunday. Carols starting outside the tower and then moving in was also considered.

Patronal Service: Trinity Sunday this year is on the 31 May, the fifth Sunday. This will be a combined Benefice communion service in Ash Priors at 11.15am. Additional refreshments will be provided after the service.

9 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting, which will be the APCM followed by a PCC, will be held on Sunday 12 April 2026 at 11am, following on from the 9.30am service.

Revd Helene thanked everyone for their contribution and closed with prayer.