



Meeting of Parishioners and Annual Parochial Church Meeting

Sunday 17 May 2026, 5.00pm

Meeting – All Saints Church, Weston, Bath, BA1 4BU

Charity Reg No: 1136968

The papers listed below were available in advance from:

<https://www.allsaintsweston.org.uk/Groups/422299/APCM.aspx>

1. Agenda for the Meeting
2. Minutes of the APCM of Sunday 11 May 2025
3. Trustees Report and Financial Statements 2025
4. PCC nomination form
5. Church Warden nomination form
6. Deanery Synod nomination form

The Treasurer's presentation was posted on the church website following the meeting. The agenda was also shared on paper.

Meeting of Parishioners

The Rector, Rev Tom Yacomeni, opened the Meeting of Parishioners at 5.05pm with a welcome and thanks to those providing refreshments.

Appointment of Church Wardens:

Nominations were received from Peter Ward and Rosie Coates, who were re-appointed unanimously by a show of hands, to tumultuous applause.

Tom Yacomeni prayed for them, thanking God for these steadfast servants of the church. Peter Ward said that it was a pleasure to serve All Saints in this way.

The meeting closed at 5.10 pm.

A time of worship led by Peter Ward, Andrew Kitcatt and worship team members.

Annual Parochial Church Meeting, Sunday 17 May 2026

A register listing 62 voting members and 6 non-voting members was taken and is held by the Secretary. A head count recorded that 83 people had attended.

1. Apologies for absence

Tom Yacomeni (Chair)

Apologies were received from Chris & Sheila Carrick, Tony & Diane Haines, Jackie Heywood and Claire Jones.

2. Agreement of the Minutes of the APCM of 11th May 2025

Tom Yacomeni

The minutes were approved unanimously by a show of hands by those present at the 2025 meeting and were signed by the Chair after the meeting. TY thanked the Secretary for recording the APCM and PCC meetings.

3. Matters arising

Tom Yacomeni

There were no matters arising.

4. Electoral Roll Officer's Report

Robert Groezinger

To appreciative applause, Robert Groezinger reported on the review of the Electoral Roll. He began by thanking Gary Oaten for his invaluable help.

From 2022 to 2025, the Electoral Roll figures were recorded as 232 people, 242 people, 260 people and 227 people. 2025 was a "renewal" year, when it was common for numbers to drop, because everybody had to re-enlist to be on the new roll.

During the past year, two people had moved away, and sadly there had been one death. Three new members had joined during the year. During the 2026 revision, 13 longstanding members had re-enlisted (having missed the "renewal") and 14 genuinely new members had signed up, so **the roll now stood at 254 people.**

The annual graph (originally produced by Jeremy Tinkler) showed that the underlying trend was upwards, and numbers are now only six fewer than in 2024, which was encouraging.

To general applause, Tom thanked Robert for conducting the Electoral Roll revision.

5. Receipt of the written reports:

Tom Yacomeni

Tom Yacomeni particularly thanked the team that had prepared the Annual Report and Accounts, led by Lisa Vernalls and Gary Oaten. They had been completed in record time and made available on the church website on the APCM page. Paper copies were available.

TY proposed that the church accept the 2025 Annual Report and Accounts. They were accepted unanimously by a show of hands.

6. Appointment of Tellers

Tom Yacomeni

Tellers were not required, as there were more places than nominations.

7. Election of Representatives

Tom Yacomeni

a) Deanery Synod

Three people had been nominated: Hylton Asplin, Steve Jones and Peter Ward.

They were elected unanimously by a show of hands.

b) Lay Members of the Parochial Church Council

One person was standing down at this APCM, namely Robin Lewis, and TY thanked him for his many years of faithful service on the PCC.

Three people were standing as Elected Lay Members, namely Rob Gray, Anne-Marie Lewis and Naomi Pendle. **They were thanked for standing and were appointed unanimously by a show of hands.** TY prayed for them all and for the new PCC team.

8. Appointment of Auditors

Rob Gray (Treasurer)

Rob Gray proposed that Burton Sweet be re-appointed for the next financial year.

The proposal was approved unanimously by a show of hands.

9. Financial Report

Rob Gray

Rob Gray said that the past year had been a year of recovery. A year ago, he had felt that All Saints was sinking like Peter under the waves, but by focussing on Jesus, the church had avoided going under.

Income: The years 2022 to 2024 had been dominated by donations for the ROCK Project and expenditure against that income. Total income in 2025 had been lower and there had been no specific fundraising appeals. However, unrestricted income had been higher than ever, even though the return of the Scout Hall had included £145,000 from the Scouts.

Income from charitable activities (such as hiring out rooms) was higher than 2024 by more than £16,000, a great credit to the hard work of the church staff.

In 2025, 75% of unrestricted income came from donations, a combination of a wonderfully generous increase in personal donations and a gracious legacy of £65,600. This was truly an answer to prayer, as the church went into the year thinking that it would need to use the legacy just to balance the budget. By the end of the year, the legacy had not been touched at all for general spending.

Income was also beginning to catch up with inflation; in real terms, it was only £17,000 short of the peak of 2019 income.

The members' continuing generosity for ROCK is helping make progress on clearing down the MCA loan. Based upon current regular income, the team projects that about £41,000 will be received this year. The hope is that enough will be raised at the hilarious harvest in the autumn to completely clear the remaining MCA loan (which currently stands at just under £100,000).

Rob Gray concluded with heartfelt thanks to everyone for their donations.

Expenditure: 2025 saw a return to more normal overall spending levels, following the conclusion of ROCK Phase 1. However, the effects of inflation continued to bite, particularly with respect to increases in energy costs.

The church also experienced a near 20% increase in staff costs. This was down to three factors; 1) Inflation-related salary increases; 2) The full effects of new staff joining; and 3) Significant changes to Employers' National Insurance in the October 2024 budget.

Thankfully, as part of the Diocese's transition process from Parish Share to Benefice Share, the ASW contribution remained unchanged from last year. Also, the staff team put in a sterling effort to reduce other expenditure down to around the same level as 2023.

The current projection for 2026 is approximately £500,000. However, this does not include the church's ambition to pay off the remainder of the MCA loan by the end of the year.

The budget for 2026 has been set with the expectation of a slight surplus again after internal transfers. Following the conclusion of Phase 1 of the ROCK project, the total cash position is now finally starting to stabilise again and the net position is now down to just over £300k.

At the end of 2024, general reserves had dropped to just under £69,000, a dangerously low figure. They are now sitting at nearly £158,000, which is within the widely expected 3-6 months of expenditure range. Nevertheless, the challenge remains of clearing the MCA loan and outstanding personal loans. In addition, there will undoubtedly be future capital needs, not to mention Phase 2 of ROCK.

Rob said that in 2025 everyone was asked to prayerfully consider how to prayerfully contribute to positively changing the income for the Church. He said that the response had been outstanding and thanked everyone present for this blessing.

Summary: Rob concluded by saying that if 2025 was about recovery, 2026 would be about the delicate balance of trying to maintain (or ideally increase) levels of unrestricted income, while also raising enough restricted funds to clear the ROCK debt from Phase 1.

Parish giving Scheme:

Rob said that the PCC had been piloting the Parish Giving Scheme and it had proved to be a helpful and straightforward means to give regularly. He encouraged church members to look it up online and to sign up under "All Saints Weston".

In response to a question about support given to Langridge and North Stoke, TY responded that both churches had financial assets, but that Langridge in particular needed substantial support from All Saints in ministry and administrative assistance.

Rob Gray was thanked with general applause and Tom Yacomeni also thanked Lisa Vernalls, Gary Oaten and the finance team.

10. Rector's Report

Tom Yacomeni

The Rector projected a slide show compilation of photographs of activities throughout the year. It had been a joyful year in the church; the slides depicted a community full of hospitality and prayer, enjoying and hosting a staggering number of events and other activities. The slide show ended with Psalm 16:11 "You have made known to me the path of life, you will fill me with joy in your presence."

Tom said that it depicted our **mission: to share the life and message of Jesus in Weston, Bath and beyond**, and our **values: to be generous and welcoming as a church and to be joyful and united in mission to all**.

He listed on a slide the roles played by more than a hundred volunteers who contributed to the life of the church, both up-front and behind the scenes. Most church members are involved in one way or another, and he thanked everyone for their ministry.

"Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction and faithful in prayer" Romans 12:12

Reports by individual staff members:

Rev Emma King said that it had been a mighty year for the Hub, with many people coming to the Welcome Café on Mondays. She thanked Peter Heywood, Barbara Parker-Weekes and the cooking and serving teams. Two years ago, Joan Shearman and Elizabeth & Gerald Bennett had set up a Bible study that now attracted 13-18 people each week.

She appealed for more volunteer cooks, and helpers for the Bible study. She also asked for prayer for all those who come, many of whom have complex needs.

Pippa Page – Seniors.

A small Pastoral Care team visit people at home and Pippa gives communion to 15 people once a month. Numbers at the Tuesday morning service had been low recently, and she asked anyone who enjoyed the Sanctuary Service, but found 9.00am too early, to consider it.

Third Tuesday Lunch was increasingly popular, with excellent food provided by Simon. More volunteers were needed (especially to wash up), and she was on the look-out for more speakers. Other popular activities included a summer coach trip and Seniors Holiday Club. She asked members to let her know of anyone who was isolated or lonely.

Andrew Kitcatt: worship.

Andrew praised God for an awesome Worship Team and for the blessing of the excellent new sound system. He was also grateful that the church had a good pipe organ and could call upon a team of talented keyboard players. He had enjoyed branching out into Carol Services, Youth-led Services and supporting the recent New Wine Leadership Day. He appealed for more volunteers to help with the sound system.

Andrew had made the website cooler and more accessible. People should already see an improvement in navigation, and more changes were coming soon.

He was praying for more students to join the church and thanked Mims and the Youth Team for hosting meals for students and young adults to help welcome them in.

Jo Tucker reported on **Children's work** including:

- **Small Saints** and the role of prayer and worship in the playgroup.
- Work with **WASP School**, including Harvest, Christmas and Easter church services and Bibles given out to Y3 & Y4.
- Prayer support for teachers and parents.
- **Sunday Groups** with creative learning sessions and activities such as donkey rides on Palm Sunday, led year-round by dedicated volunteers.
- **All Age Services** including Harvest, Christingle and Crib services, prayer stations and openness to child-friendly worship and activities.
- **Children's Holiday Club 2025**, which was a huge success involving many local families, and was also an inclusive place for children with additional needs.

She thanked the talented and dedicated team of volunteers and appealed for more people to help with Sunday Groups in particular.

Theo Holden – Youth Team Leader said that he had thoroughly enjoyed his year at All Saints and it was a privilege to see the Youth growing and on fire for God. He led Sunday groups every week and had found that young people actively wanted to stay to pray at the end.

Th “Drop-in” sessions ended, and instead he had been actively pursuing opportunities to work with Oldfield School. He thanked Emma, Mims, Pip, Isaac, Rose, Vicky and the whole team for their work with him and the Youth.

Peter Tucker – Safeguarding.

Peter thanked everyone who took safeguarding seriously and had helped him and Alison continue to build a safer culture for children, young people and vulnerable adults. Tom (Rector) and Alison & Peter (Parish Safeguarding Officers) were working together to encourage openness, welcome and ministry for everyone, while also keeping safeguarding clearly in view.

He encouraged everyone to **Recognise** concerns, **Respond** appropriately, **Record** carefully, and **Refer** concerns to the right person or agency. He thanked Tom Yacomeni, Emma King and all the Responsible People for undertaking this as appropriate.

60% of church members were volunteering in some way, which was hugely encouraging, but also implied important work on DBS checks, safer recruitment, training, policies and the Parish Safeguarding Dashboard. He thanked everyone for what they were doing and appealed to anyone with outstanding training or checks to complete them.

Gary Oaten – Head of Operations.

Gary reported on several changes in facilities staff. He had worked with Martha Overyender, Community Facilities Manager, to review room rental sensitively, due to the increasing costs of overheads; they were now meeting income targets for 2026. He thanked Martha for her work at All Saints and said that she had now moved on to work in Castle Farm Restaurant, Midford.

Barbara Keiler left in September after seven years as a dedicated Events Assistant and Ellie Kingston was appointed in her place. Ellie was recruited into the Community Facilities Manger role when Martha left, and Jacob Walsh was appointed as her assistant. This is a formidable team, and they have developed room hire and made many improvements, for example the Hub was now working virtually at capacity.

Lisa Vernalls, Finance Officer, supported the whole team and produced exceptional end-of-year accounts and financial reporting. Simon, Peter and Dominic have taken great pride in looking after the church buildings. ASW is advertising for a p/t Church Administrator, a post which would enable Gary to reduce his hours until March 2027 and to consider what would be the right move for him after that.

Mercia Braybrooke has already been a great blessing, taking on the role of Life Events Co-ordinator from Gary, and doing this on a volunteer basis. Andrew Kitcatt has gradually developed the website and communications role, providing videos and talks, transcriptions and online resources, with high quality creative input from Issac Langmead.

Gary thanked God for such a beautiful and talented team.

Rector's summary:

Tom Yacomeni's vision for this year was **A Year of Blessing** in which the church would show unusual kindness and generosity in Weston and beyond. This was now in full swing, with a "love your neighbour" day planned for 19th May.

Tom shared his belief that 2027 would be a **Year of Opportunity**, inspired by the message to the Philadelphians in Revelation 3:8 "I have placed before you an open door that no-one can shut". His message was for the church to make the most of every opportunity (Ephesians

15-16). As examples, he mentioned supporting *New Wine* leadership and getting involved in *Myriad*, an Anglican initiative for church planting and revival.

He felt that this may well lead to a **Year of Sending** in 2028, when the church would commission and send people out for ministry near and far. For example, he hoped that All Saints could get involved in Sharing of Mission Abroad (SOMA) again.

11. Opportunity for questions and answers

Tom Yacomeni

There were no further questions.

12. Prayer, notices and close

Peter Ward took the microphone on behalf of the members, to pray for Tom, Mims and Emma and to thank them for their dedicated and inspirational ministry. He presented them with gifts, to much applause.

The meeting ended with a video compilation by Isaac Langmead of the spiritual life and activities of the church. Isaac is going to the University of Bath in September and was thanked for his many contributions as an intern at All Saints for the past year.

Callum Houston is about to be sent out from the church as a Pioneer Pilgrim. Finally, everyone was reminded of the Love Your Neighbour Day activities on 19th May.

After a further time of worship, the meeting ended with a blessing at 7.00pm.

Signed by Rev Tom Yacomeni _____

DATE