

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING
Stoke Holy Cross with Dunston Churches
Held at Stoke Holy Cross Church
Sunday 6 April 2025

Present: Rev Rob Baker (Chair), Viv Carrington (Churchwarden), Andy Driver (Churchwarden), Eostre Caswell (Secretary), Henry Caswell (Treasurer), Rev Lyn Marsh (Associate Priest), Sarah Acklam, Cathryn Baker, Jonathan Baker, Barbara Cutts, Naomi Fiddy, Andrew Harding, Carole Harding, Janet Harding, Roy Harding, Chris Lawn, Gary Marsh, Tracey Symons and Veronica Wilson,

Grace Baker and Samuel Baker were in attendance.

Apologies: There were no apologies for absence

The meeting was held integral to the Sunday morning service and these minutes taken by Lyn.

The meeting started in worship and then a time of sharing of stories of what had happened in the last year:

Recognising Richard Raines' funeral and how he had been such an encourager to people – and the joy we experience in meeting together on Sunday mornings. The Prayer Space at school had been an opportunity for us to talk about Jesus and families coming to All Invited. The growth in Vintage church and the involvement of the Christmas choirs at carol services were encouraging. First full year of the food pantry and the increasing numbers attending Coffee and Chat.

Annual Vestry Meeting – chaired by Rev Rob Baker

1. Minutes of 2024 Annual Vestry Meeting

The adoption of the Minutes of the Annual Vestry Meeting of 2024 was **proposed** by Andy Harding, **seconded** by Roy Harding and **adopted** unanimously.

2. Election of Churchwardens

Rob thanked both wardens for all their hard work and paid tribute to both of them as they ministered in many different ways including compiling risk assessments, attending funerals and supporting members of the congregation. Andy was stepping down this year.

The following nomination was received:

Wardens	Proposed	Seconded
Vivian Carrington	Barbara Cutts	Tracey Symons

The nomination of the Churchwarden was **carried unanimously** and Viv was thanked for her ongoing willingness to be churchwarden.

Annual Parochial Church Meeting – chaired by Rev Rob Baker

1. The **Minutes** of the Annual Parochial Meeting in 2024 were **proposed** Cathryn Baker by **seconded** by Andy Driver and **unanimously adopted**.

2. Matters arising

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

3. Vicar's report

He thanked all those who had been involved in various ways in the ministry and outreach of the church.

4. Approval of reports from the APCM booklet

Rob thanked Henry for all he had done and reported that Henry had prepared a 2024 finance report despite his recent ill health. The finance report was ready to be sent off to the independent examiner. It was **unanimously agreed** the report could be sent to the independent examiner before circulating to those on the electoral roll and PCC members.

5. Appointment of Electoral Roll Officer

No appointment was made

6. Appointment of Independent Examiner

It was **proposed** by Rob Baker and **seconded** by Henry Caswell and **unanimously agreed** that Peter Johnson be asked to be the independent examiner for 2025.

7. Adoption of Electoral Roll

There are 26 names on the Electoral Roll (people resident in parish or regularly attending services in the parish). It was **proposed** by Andy Driver, **seconded** by Chris Lawn and **unanimously agreed** that the electoral roll be accepted.

8. Adoption of Terriers for Stoke Holy Cross Church and Dunston St Remigius Church

The adoption of the Terriers was **proposed** by Jonathan Baker, **seconded** by Eostre Caswell and **unanimously agreed**.

Thanks were given to Andy Driver for putting together the terrier, helped by Lyn, Viv and Chris.

9. Election of PCC Members

The vicar explained that there were 2 peoples' terms of office on the PCC that were finishing. The following were prepared to serve again and unanimously agreed.

Tracey Symons – **proposed** by Jonathan Baker and **seconded** by Eostre Caswell

Eostre Caswell – **proposed** by Jonathan Baker and **seconded** by Carole Harding

10. Deanery Synod representative

Barbara Cutts is the Deanery synod representative and the position was not up for election this year. She reported on how the meetings had been very informative and encouraged others to attend as meetings were open to anyone.

11. Any Other Business

Discussion in small groups on CDE aspects:

Community – One way to bless our community this year – doesn't have to be new!

Discipleship – one thing about the prayer life of the church

Evangelism – What one thing can the church do to help me share my faith?

Notes from the small groups will be considered by the PCC when they next meet.

12. Provisional date of next APCM: Sunday 19 April 2026