

PARISH OF CIRENCESTER
St John Baptist | Holy Trinity | St Lawrence

**Minutes of the Vestry and Annual Parochial Church meetings held at Holy Trinity,
Watermoor on Wednesday 21st May 2025 at 7.30pm**

Present: Revd Luke Falvey (Acting Vicar), Miss A. Anderson (Parish Warden), Mr Nigel Robbins (Parish Warden); plus 42 attendees

Vestry Meeting 2025

1. **Revd Luke welcomed** all those attending, following a Eucharist service.
2. **Apologies for absence:** Alan and Claire Jones, Mark and Margaret Dennis, Charles Woodd, Canon Graham and Angela Morris, Roger Hester, Marg Austin, Joanne and Peter Holden, Michael Ralstone, John Lawrence.
3. **The Minutes of the 2024 Vestry Meeting** had been circulated prior to the meeting. It was proposed by Samantha Burt and seconded by Claire Pearson that these be accepted as a true record. Agreed unanimously.
4. **Matters arising from the minutes:** None
5. **The following resolution was considered** and approved unanimously: 'As allowed by the Churchwardens Measure 2001, the parishioners of Cirencester with Watermoor and St Lawrence continue to resolve to set aside the general rule that a churchwarden may only serve for six successive terms of office.'
6. **Applications for Parish Warden** had been received from Aileen Anderson and Nigel Robbins. Since there were no other applicants, then these two persons were elected to serve for a further year.

Applications had been received from Roger Hester, Libby Ellis and Jill Wilkinson to serve as assistant wardens at Holy Trinity Watermoor; and from Marg Austin and Penny Phillips to serve as assistant wardens at St Lawrence, Chesterton. There being no other applicants, these persons were elected to serve for a further year.

Annual Parochial Church Meeting 2025

7. **To approve the Minutes of the APCM held on 21st April 2024**
It was proposed by Peter Ewart and seconded by Nigel Robbins that the minutes be approved. This was done, unanimously, and were signed as a true record by Revd Luke.
8. **Matters arising from the minutes:** There was one minor amendment made to the spelling of Charles Woodd's name (Item 12, final paragraph – insertion of the letter 'e')
9. **Annual Report and Financial Statements:** Revd Luke thanked Peter Ewart (Chair of Finance Cttee), Charles Woodd (Treasurer) and Hannah (Finance Officer) and all those

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Cirencester with Watermoor and St Lawrence

6 West Market Place, Cirencester, GL7 2NH

Registered Charity No: 1135068

Tel: 01285 659317

Website: www.cirenparish.co.uk

who count the money, for their work in this important area of parish work. He said that due to many circumstances it had not been possible to ready the accounts for this meeting but a special meeting had been arranged for Sunday 27th July at 11.30am at St John Baptist.

10. **To receive the revised Electoral Roll:** The Electoral Roll Officer, Howard Gray, reported that at 31.3.25, the newly revised Electoral Roll stood at 195 - 4 names included were those relating to wedding banns. Since then, he added, new names had been included and, to date, the Roll numbered 203.
11. **To consider the following resolution which, if approved, will take effect in following years until revoked:** 'As allowed under Church Representation Rules (CRR), rule M15(9), it was resolved at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting held on 21 May 2025 that the Parochial Church Council will be constituted with twelve elected members of the laity in lieu of using the criteria under CRR rule M15(8).'
- After a short discussion it was unanimously agreed to settle on a representation of elected PCC members as follows: 6 (StJB); 4 (HTW); 2 (StL). (Proposed John Franklin, seconded Nigel Robbins). It was noted that these numbers may vary depending on the Electoral Roll membership.
12. **Election of Representatives of the laity to the PCC.** Four applications had been received for the existing vacancies: Ian Robertson (StJB), Samantha Burt (StJB), Paul Burt (StJB) and Hugh Thomas (HTW)
13. **To appoint the independent examiner or auditor of the PCC:** It was agreed to continue with Wenn Townsend.
14. **To receive the Annual Year Book with reports of the groups, committees and activities of the parish.** Copies had been circulated prior to the meeting. Thanks were expressed to Mark Dennis for compiling it and for his work as PCC Secretary.
15. **Vicar's Comments:** Revd Luke said how much he appreciated everyone making him and his family welcome in Cirencester. We have to own, he said, the current situation where we will face inevitable struggles and we will be thinking especially of Graham and Angela.

Revd Luke thanked the wardens and clergy colleagues, mentioning the inevitable increased workload that will fall on so many. He continued by praising the children's work carried out by the Sparklers team at StJB, the Trinity Kids at HTW, together with the Little Angels and Seedlings teams, all who look to the future of the life of this parish.

He mentioned the 10 congregations, across the three churches, that are growing. In this year to come, he added, we will see many wonderful things happening. He exhorted all present to not settle for the problems of the moment but to seek the 'more.'

Revd Luke concluded by saying that Canon Graham plans to be back in September and, in the meantime, we look forward to many exciting developments in our parish.

The meeting closed at 8.15pm