

Parochial Church Council Report for January - December 2025

The PCC convened for five meetings during 2025 with an average attendance of 10 people at each meeting. PCC meetings were chaired variously by Rev'd Jane Foster-Smith and Lay Chair Shirley Davenport. There were also two Group PCC meetings : where members of Saxilby, Newton on Trent and Kettlethorpe PCCs met to discuss issues relevant to all.

2025 was another busy year for our Parish with a full programme of services, activities and outreach. Mission and Outreach into the community are extremely important and Rev'd Jane and our Church groups are very mindful of this.

Communications with Saxilby Church of England Primary School are good with Rev'd Jane and Jonathan Wainwright (our Foundation Governor and Chair of Governors) visiting the school on a regular basis. Justine Wright was proposed by the PCC as our second Foundation Governor at our September PCC meeting. Justine has subsequently been appointed to this position within the school.

Helen Durasamy and Jonathan Wainwright started training to become Authorised Lay Ministers during 2025. Helen was also authorised to assist in the administration of elements of Holy Communion, both in Church and in the Parish in September 2025.

Following a Quinquennial inspection of the Church building, the structural work highlighted was costed and put out to tender. After some delay, the work began in early 2026. An unrelated inspection of the bells showed that work was needed and this was completed in October 2025.

The Church hall is a very good asset. Hall bookings are very popular. Our Churchwarden, Shirley Davenport, has relinquished managing the Church hall to concentrate on her Churchwarden duties. Thanks to Shirley for her many hours of work , both maintaining the hall and taking bookings. A new Church Hall Committee was established and an on-line booking system was sourced. This system has proved to be very effective.

Safeguarding is extremely important and is an agenda item at PCC meetings. All PCC members and Church leaders require a DBS check and undergo on-line safeguarding training. Our Safeguarding Officer is Barbara Bussey. Many thanks to Barbara for her guidance. Various policies, job descriptions and risk assessments were implemented with some still in progress, and a Lone working policy was established. All those working in Church, including flower arrangers etc were given safeguarding training. An updated Code of Conduct was approved by PCC members.

Our treasurer, Colin Knowles, keeps a watchful eye on our Church finances and produces an in- depth financial statement at each PCC meeting. Colin works hard to make sure our Church finances are used well. During 2025, our volunteer External Examiner of our Annual accounts for many years, sadly passed away. Our grateful thanks to David Hacket for his generous service to the Church.

Foss Focus magazine continues to have a circulation of more than 900 each month. Well done to David Turner and team for producing this Church and community magazine.

A telecoms company has expressed an interest in using St Botoph's as a base station for it's mobile network to boost signals. Discussions are ongoing.

All our Church groups worked hard in 2025. Their work is highlighted in their own individual reports. New volunteers are always needed. More volunteers would be extremely welcome!

Karen Baty - Secretary to Saxilby with Ingleby Parochial Church Council