

AFFPUDDLE with TURNERSPUDDLE PCC

Minutes of the meeting held on Friday 26 September 2025 at
2PM at Bladentye, Briantspuddle

Present: Canon R Bartlett (Chair), Mrs E Whatley (Churchwarden), Mr R Killer (Treasurer), Mrs F Hogger (Secretary), Mrs A Grindrod, Mrs E Moriarty, Mrs S Wood, Dr R Hall, Lady C Coates.

Apologies: Mrs D Hepburn, Mr A Smith, Mrs H Menzies.

1. Opening prayer and welcome. Canon Richard thanked Mrs Grindrod for once again hosting our PCC meeting. Canon Richard said that Mr R Gainsford had agreed to be a co-opted member of the PCC. Proposed by Canon Richard, seconded by Mrs Hogger. Agreed unanimously. Formal agreement of Mr Gainsford's membership of the PCC will be agreed at our APCM in 2026.
2. Minutes of the meeting held on Friday 20 June 2025. There were no matters arising. These minutes were approved unanimously and have been signed by Canon Richard. (Action: Mrs Hogger to send to the Parish website.)
3. Treasurer's Report. Mr Killer talked us through his report which had been circulated to all PCC members. There have been two major expenses. We have paid £5,000 towards our 2025 Share plus £7,000 towards the toilet. It has been suggested that we send out a letter with the October Parish magazine asking for one off donations for the toilet fund. We have also applied to the Erskine Muton Fund for help. The total cost of the toilet is estimated at £23,000.

Our current bank balances are as follows:

Current A/C: £6,718

Deposit A/C: £666

CCLA A/C: £7,045

4. Deanery Synod Report. Mr Smith (Deanery Synod Representative) had done a report which had been circulated to all PCC members. Canon Richard mentioned the restoration of the roof at Worth Matravers. The next Deanery Synod meeting will be on Wednesday 22 October at Lady St Mary Church Hall,

Wareham when the speaker will be Rev Lydia Reese on the topic of “Eco Churches”.

5. Church Fabric and Churchyard. Mrs Whatley (Churchwarden) had done a report which had been circulated to all PCC members.

(a) Toilet. The main building is up and partly clad in larch. We await a decision on the roofing tiles for the toilet from Dorset Planners. This was agreed on 30 September. Natural Welsh slate.

(b) Mowing. There will be a churchyard clear-up on Saturday 25 and Sunday 26 October.

(c) Electrics. When all 40 bulbs are in use they use 3Kw of electricity per hour. Should we change to LED bulbs? Canon Richard said that we should weigh up the cost of new LED bulbs versus the saving we might make. Mrs Whatley will send out figures to all.

6. Benefice Matters. Canon Richard thanked everyone who supported Lydia’s ordination. Liselle is learning in her new role and is spending time in Bere Regis and Bovington. Many thanks to all who came to the last Benefice service at East Chaldon on Sunday 31 August.

On the 5th Sunday of November (30 November – St Andrew’s Day) there will be a Benefice Service at St Andrew’s, East Lulworth.

On Sunday 28 December there will be a Benefice Service at Holy Rood, Wool at 10.30AM.

There will be a Benefice Treasurers meeting in October/November to discuss payment to our Administrator (her hours have gone up and she is still paid a minimum wage) plus the D’Urberville Hall rent is going up by 12.5% in January 2026.

7. Safeguarding. Mrs Whatley’s Safeguarding Report had been circulated to all PCC members. There have been no safeguarding incidents reported since the last PCC meeting.

8. Health and Safety. No issues raised since the last PCC meeting.

9. GDPR. Sadly, the company which undertakes the DBS checks for the Diocese has had a data breach.

10. Events/Fundraising.

(a) Ride & Stride - Saturday 13 September 2025. Mr Killer reported that we had lots of riders through. Canon Richard gave a big thank you for the hospitality offered at Affpuddle and for the sponsorship he received.

(b) Cream Tea/Gift Day - Saturday 20 September 2025 at the Granary, Briantspuddle. Canon Richard thanked everyone for all their hard work. Mrs Moriarty suggested that in future we might use the Village Hall.

(c) Animal Blessing Service at Affpuddle on Sunday 5 October 2025 at 11AM. Rev Lydia is organising this.

(d) Harvest Service - Sunday 19 October 2025 at 11AM. Mrs Whatley will coordinate a list of contributions for refreshments after the service.

(e) All Souls Day - Sunday 2 November 2025. There will be a service at Wool at 3PM.

(f) Remembrance Sunday - Sunday 9 November 2025. There will be Holy Communion at Affpuddle at 9AM and an 11AM commemoration at the War Memorial in Bladen Valley.

(g) Briantspuddle Village Hall Christmas Fayre – Sunday 7 December 2025. Mrs Hepburn has kindly offered to organise a cake stall in aid of our church.

(h) Advent Course. It was decided to defer this.

(i) Christmas Services 2025. There will be a carol service at Affpuddle on Wednesday 17 December at 6.30PM. On Christmas Eve there will be a 9PM service at Bere Regis and then on Christmas Day a 10AM service at Affpuddle.

(j) Future plans. A possible Art Course by Jenny Newman. Mrs Whatley will seek possible dates in February/March/April. Dr Hall has agreed to organise a concert (Thomas Hardy themed) on possibly 1 or 15 February. Mrs Whatley will discuss with the flower arrangers about the possibility of doing a Flower Festival in church to coincide with the BVH Open Gardens event on Sunday 28 June 2026. Date to be confirmed!

11. AOB.

(a) Mrs Moriarty asked about having a card machine in church. Mrs Whatley said that Wessex Internet had quoted £40 per month plus installation costs.

12. Date/Venue/Time of next meeting. Friday 16 January 2026 at Bladentye, Briantspuddle (Audrey's home) at 2PM.

13. Closing prayer.