

PARISH of STAPLEFORD TAWNEY with THEYDON MOUNT

PCC Meeting held on Sunday 19th January 2025 at 12.15pm
in the Parish Room, Stapleford Tawney

APPROVED

Present: Maggie Dennis, Colin and Edna Flint, Martyn Lockwood, Anne Padfield, Cindy Pridmore, Jo Shephard (Chair), Gill Southall.

1. The meeting started with prayer.
2. **Apologies for absence** Debbie Lee
3. **The minutes of the last meeting** held on 17th November 2024 were approved.
4. **Proposals for any other business:** None
5. **Matters arising** from the last minutes: None

6. **Appointment of Parish Representatives**

Colin Flint and Gill Southall were proposed and elected unanimously.

Maggie hoped that it would be possible to arrange a benefice Parish Lunch with candidate/s where a few more people could meet them.

The post was about to be advertised, and the final Parish Profile would be circulated. Appointing an Associate Priest would begin once the vicar's appointment was decided.

She also commented that the six churchwardens all get on well together and are mutually supportive, which bodes well for the future.

7. **Churchwardens' reports**

St Mary's:

Christmas services had been successful, with reasonably good numbers.

A vermin control contract for both churches had been explored, but the quote of over £600 per church per year was thought to be excessive. Cindy would contact Toby Bacon to ask if there was a cheaper alternative, eg attendance on an ad hoc basis. Jo felt that it was not needed for Theydon Mount.

St Michael's:

The missing tower louver slats had now been replaced.

The family of Sarah Whateley-Harris had agreed that her ashes would be placed in the new ashes area. John Fry would take the service when booked.

Anne Padfield had agreed to replace Martyn Lockwood as a keyholder/contact for the security system. It was agreed that in future the PCC would pay for servicing the system but not for monitoring.

8. Treasurer's report

There is about £59,000 in the account, of which £20,000 is due to be transferred to the Diocesan CCLA account [Churches, Charities and Local Authorities].

Making the transfer is very complicated, hence the delay.

At December 2024, there was £10,900 in the St Mary's account, £10,300 in St Michael's, and £12,200 in the joint capital reserve.

Cindy had spent many hours attempting to resolve the charity accounts, which had been handled by the late Alan de Ferry and held about £5500. Barclays had closed the account when Alan had not replied to their letters (because he had died). Their customer service had been so poor that Cindy had made a formal complaint. She was thanked for her hard work and perseverance.

The malfunctioning card reader would be returned for replacement.

The Christmas flower donations had been very generous, as had Wendy Hopkins.

E-on had read the electricity meter at Tawney incorrectly and undercharged us.

The meter itself seems to be only partly working.

Parish Share – We would continue to pay monthly at the same rate as before, despite having no incumbent. Visiting clergy expenses can be offset.

There will soon be a benefice Treasurers' meeting.

9. Future events

The next Parish Lunch would be on Tuesday 25th February. Two recently widowed residents would be invited personally, as well as sending out to the usual church and neighbours contacts.

10. Deanery Synod

There was no report.

11. Any other business

The one-for-all Christmas card idea had raised £160 for the Little Haven Children's Hospice.

12. For the next meeting

The second quotation for the Babies' memorial stone would be available at the next meeting.

13. The next PCC meeting would be on Sunday March 16th after the service.

The APCM would be held on Sunday May 18th after the Tawney service.

14. The meeting closed with prayer.