

Church Project Minutes 12th January 2026

Attendees: Nick Blamire Brown, Jeff Robinson, Nick Miles, Simon Pearson, Sue Foster (minutes)., Chris Twine

Apologies: Katie Hobley, Margaret Bell

Welcome to Chris who is joining the team. Chris has IT expertise which will be valuable for our communications strategy. Chris has done a variety of other jobs

Nick B.B. circulated the following 2 documents prior to the meeting as input to the meeting:

[Briefing for Nick to use at PCC meeting feb 2026](#)

[Faculty Applications- Rev 2](#)

Action points from last meeting.

Nick B.B. also provided updates on the action points prior to the meeting. I have included them here for completeness and updated them with any progress given at the meeting.

AP1- Nick BB and Jeff to provide Nick M with update note and suggested resolutions for PCC- **Completed**

AP2- Nick B-B to consider how to get the Heritage Group set up- **relates to Heritage Group, see briefing note.**

AP3- those still to do their description to let Nick B-B have them- **completed. They are on the website and in the Funding Strategy document.**

AP4- Nick to have a quiet word with Mark Seabourne, Operations Administrator and Assistant DAC Secretary, regarding lack of response from Andy Duncan, Church Buildings Funding Support Officer- **Andy is too busy to deal with it at present.**

AP5- Nick and Jeff to liaise further with Heather on setting audit team up- **Action superseded by new action**

AP5- Letters to be sent relating to inaccuracies on plans and poor structural report and Jeff and both Nicks to deal with any outcome in the disputes.- - **resolved**

AP6- Kevin to circulate his ideas- **completed. See [Kevin Essex's garden visit](#) on Documents page of website.**

AP7- Katie is preparing a message for her Facebook page on positive initiatives which will include community garden. Simon will ask the schools to include item in their newsletters- **completed**

AP8- Kevin to consider items which might go in for a grant to Katie- **Kevin has stepped down as coordinator of the community garden group, Jeff has done a possible funding request for the Men and Women in Shed which Katie and Margaret may wish to support with their community fund.**

AP9- Nick BB to send the most recent tree survey to Kevin- **completed**.

AP9- Nick BB to find suitable date in January for next meeting- **completed!**

Items discussed

Pew Heathers

Jeff told us that the reduced power consumption of the planned replacement LED lights will enable 20 of the planned pew heaters to be 500W, rather than 300W. Once the LED lighting has been approved, the faculty will need to be updated to this effect.

Schools Liaison

Christian Mba, vice principal of Hartshill Academy is keen to involve students in the development of the project. There are several relevant school groups and initiatives including the school council, the eco group, the D.of E. award scheme which is always looking for community project involvement.

Christian is happy for church project team members to meet with the relevant groups but that should take place in School. Simon and Jeff both expressed an interest in doing this. Simon expressed his opinion that they should not meet too early as the students will be keen to 'do' rather than talk about it. Also, it would be better to start with year 9 or 10 students so that they complete their mission before moving on.

Diocese of Coventry Churchyard Biodiversity Project and Community Garden Group.

We have been chosen as a quick hit in the first phase- essentially, we will one of the first to be involved in the project's implementation.

A Diocesan project team has been appointed, and an initial meeting has been arranged for Tuesday 27th January at 1.30pm. It was agreed that Nick M, Jeff and Sue would attend the meeting.

The team then plan to meet with and consult the wider church community to plan biodiversity actions, community events and other activities to successfully deliver this phase of the project - hopefully helping to secure funding for the Delivery Phase. This clearly dovetails into the creation of a community garden group.

Heritage Group

It was agreed that a meeting should be set up on Saturday 21st February with the aim of finding out who is interested in involvement with the group. Nick B-B suggested that Sue rearrange the coffee morning which was postponed due to snow for the same time. The Heritage Group needs to be established before further approaching the National Lottery Heritage Fund. Nick B-B would facilitate the holding of the meeting but would be looking for a co-ordinator/chair to take this group forward.

Facebook Groups

It was agreed that FB groups should be set up when the groups are ready to post. Sue and Chris are happy to act as administrators for these groups.

Project Newsletter

Nick M. produced the first project newsletter in November 2025. Sue created a Church Project page on holytrinityhartshill.co.uk and added the newsletter to that page. Nick M. said that he thought we should produce one every 3 months and so another one will be due in February.

Faculties and Funding

Nick B.B. said that he sees his role as getting the faculties in place before going for funding. He is working with Nick M. on the faculties and Jeff on the funding.

Action Points

AP1 – Nick B.B. to contact Andy Duncan, Church Buildings Funding Support Officer, seeking his view or arrange a meeting to discuss our funding strategy.

AP2 – Jeff to send Nick B.B. the plan for the root barrier for the Sycamore tree.

AP3 Nick B-B. to monitor the arrangement of the meeting to discuss

- the grant applications
- initiatives to make Church more sustainable

with the Archdeacon, Area Dean, PCC standing committee, members of Deanery Leadership team, Nick B-B and Jeff in attendance.

AP4 Nick B.B. to organise meeting with Colin Angus (Net Zero Carbon Project Officer) Jeff, and both Nicks in attendance to discuss our solar panels proposals.

AP5. Nick B.B. to remove word “equipment” from list on item 7 of Faculty Application.

AP6. Nick B.B. to ask Heather where we can recycle prayer books etc.

AP7. Nick B.B. to increase number of water butts from 6 to 7 in relevant documents.

AP8. Nick B.B. and Jeff to liaise on what is required from the architect.

AP9. Nick B.B. to ask Church Architect if he is able to do this work. (A discussion concluded that the Church Architect was the preferred architect for doing this work as he is already approved.)

AP10. Nick B.B. to initiate organisation of Heritage meeting on 21st February. (The Meeting room has been booked by Sue for this meeting).

AP11. Sue to rearrange coffee morning for 21st February, 10am to 12pm. (Sue has booked the conservatory for the coffee morning.)

AP12. Simon to look at requirements/specification for the 2 rooms at the back of church.

Nick B.B. expressed his thanks to Jeff for the extraordinary amount of work he has put into producing the necessary documents for the project to proceed.

Date of next meeting. Wednesday 4th March 2026 at 7pm.