Clarendon Team Council Meeting Notes

Thursday 15 January 2026 at 2pm

In the St Mary's Hall Whaddon:

Present: Simon Chambers, Alison Larkham, Alice Page, Jane Dunlop, Heather Lowndes, Debbie McIsaac, John Hawkins, Alan Jewell, Debbie Case (notes), Liz Bayford, Sara Atkinson, Sara Bossom

1 **Welcome** from Simon,
2 **Opening prayer** led by Simon

3 **Apologies** received from, Liz Parsons, Ruth Livesey, Rachel Funnell, Michael Barratt, Sharon Grant.

4 **Matters Arising**
No matters arising.

5 Update on Team Vicar Appointment
After a successful round of interviews held in early December, the Bishop has offered the position to Marcia Wadham, who has accepted the position 😊. Once all necessary licencing, legal, safeguarding and property checks have been completed, Marcia's installation is scheduled for the 22nd March at 3pm at St Mary's, Alderbury.
Alison Larkham will co-ordinate the refreshments at the service with help and support from the rest of the team.
As the team has been in vacancy for over 12 months, it is hoped that there will be a small rebate due back to the team from the diocese.

6 Post Vacancy Planning
The Team Council have been operating on a cut down service pattern since in vacancy but now is the time to reflect on the service patterns and the needs of each parish.
Action All PCC's are to provide their thoughts and feedback to the next Team Council.

7 Finance
The predicted budget to date was shared and briefly discussed. The final budget will be discussed and agreed at the next Team Council meeting. It was agreed that the accounts should be verified.
Action – Debbie Case to ask Mandy Kerley to review and verify the accounts.

8 Team Council as Legal Body
Currently, the Team Council is not a Legal Body and the status of this should be reviewed. The benefit of doing so would allow administrators to be employed directly by the Team Council and not by Winterslow PCC.
Also, the team council and administrators would then be able to take on some responsibilities of the PCC's, such as safeguarding administration in a more centralised role supporting PCC's and their parishioners with DBS records and training.
Action – Debbie McIsaac and Michael Barratt will review and seek Diocese support/advice as required.

9 Safeguarding
No safeguarding issues reported
Hub Update – Safeguarding and DBS administration now lies with the team administrators and clergy. The Parish Safeguarding Officers can see the information in their Parish Hubs, but no longer need to make changes, update and chase up, this now lies with the administrators and clergy.

People, training records and current checks have been added to the new hubs. Administrators are working on adding roles and training requirement to the dashboard and then adding people to those roles. This piece of work is to be completed by April 2026.
All new checks are to go through 31:8 and the 1st check was recently submitted through this system.

10 Parish Feedback
All parishes reported well attended Christmas services throughout the festive period.
Alderbury are eagerly awaiting Marcia's arrival, alongside West Dean etc.
Approximately 50% of the congregation are involved in different home groups, meeting at least fortnightly. These are leading into healing groups and prayer tables and are working well.
Pitton was pleased to confirm they were able to pay their full parish share this year. A campaign of personal letters to parishioners helped to drive about this significant result.
Paul Bradbury, a Pioneer Minister, ran a Tuesday group looking at what the church does well and where it can grow. This proved extremely successful and it is encouraged that other parishes may want to consider this, perhaps for Lent groups.
Farley had a very successful carol service with the best attendance yet, helped along with mulled wine and mince pies at the end of the service.
However, Farley have recently been informed they do not have enough funds to pay their parish share. It appears limited funds affect other areas of the village including the play area, Wardenry and the village hall. Meetings are planned to review this and discuss further.
West Grimstead were disappointed to find a separate outdoor carol service was held at the same time as their Midnight Mass, which was a shame. Their Christmas Day service was very well received.
Winterslow held a 'Joy of Christmas' event for 3 days at the end of November. Thanks were given to the 5 volunteers who worked hard on the event. The church was opened for 3 days with various activities planned around the village. The whole school attended and the event raised a good amount of money. The Team Service was held in the Winterslow village hall and was extremely well attended.
Whiteparish had bad weather for their outdoor carol service, so the event was held inside the church which was full to overflowing! A survey is being considered to see what other services could be offered to bring people back in.
East Grimstead reported their main service on Christmas Eve was very well attended.

11 AOB
Voluntary contributions for abuse survivors - Debbie McIsaac asked for an opinion of whether parishes might like to consider a voluntary contribution for victims of abuse. A lively discussion was held, and Debbie will feed this back.
Mission statistics – Sara Bossom wondered whether it would be good to share each parishes mission statistics once submitted at the end of January. The Team Council don't see the result as these are submitted directly by the parishes.
Regular worshippers are considered as those that attend services at least once a month.
Those that give but do not attend regularly aren't counted. Consider figures carefully, as these are used to help calculate the diocese share.

12 Closing prayer – said by Simon, followed by the grace.

Next meeting	Wednesday 11th March 2026 at Team Office 1:30pm
Team Council meetings	Tuesday 12th May 2026 at Whaddon 7:30pm
	Thursday 16th July 2026 at Team Office 7:30pm
	Wednesday 9th September 2026 at Whaddon 7:30pm
	Tuesday 10th November 2026 at Team Office 1:30pm
	Thursday 14th January 2027 at Whaddon 1:30pm

Joint PCC Meetings

Tuesday 27th January 2026 Via Zoom 7:30pm
Tuesday 29th September 2026 Via Zoom 7:30pm

Please plan PCC meetings around these dates to enable appropriate information sharing.