



AGENDA

THE PARISH OF THE RESURRECTION ALTON

Tuesday 20th May 2025 at 7pm

St Lawrence Church, Alton

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE PARISHIONERS

1. Bible Reading & Prayers
2. Election of Churchwardens

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

3. Vicar's Report
4. Report on new Electoral Roll
5. Elections to PCC
6. Financial Statements of Parish for period up to 31st Dec 2023
7. Reports on Fabric
8. Report of the Deanery Synod
9. Safeguarding
10. Appointment of Independent Financial Examiner
11. Charitable/Mission Giving for POTR

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

The Parish of the Resurrection Alton is part of the Diocese of Winchester within the Church of England. The correspondence address is: The Parish Office, All Saints Hall, Queens Road, Alton GU34 1HU . The office is open during week day mornings.

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of The Resurrection is a Registered Charity No: 1136970.

The Churches of the Parish are The Church of the Holy Rood, Holybourne; St Peter's Church, Beech; All Saints Church, Alton and St Lawrence Church, Alton.

On 1st April 2024 the Parish of Bentworth, Lasham & Shalden was established and we are now in the wider Benefice of the Resurrection sharing ministry and mission.

Licensed Ministry team:

Vicar - VACANT

Associate Vicar - Revd David Chattell

Assistant Priest - Revd Jon Rooke

Assistant Priest - Revd Wendy Burnhams

LLMs - Mrs Debbie Thrower, Mrs Elaine Brown, Mrs Ruth Chattell

PTO Ministry Team:

Revd Bruce Nicole, Revd Peter Brown, Revd Martin East

Churchwardens:

Mr Clive Muller, Mr Magnus Weighton, Mr Matthew Bayliss, Mrs Helen Walters, Mrs Angie Briggs, Mrs Sarah Neish

Elected members of the PCC:

Robin Kemp (St Lawrence), Lisa Hillan (Church of the Holy Rood), vacancy (All Saints), Mrs Cheryl Fisher (St Peter's)

Deanery Synod Members:

Tori Hewitt, Keith Arrowsmith Oliver, Derek Gurney

Hon PCC Secretary: Mrs Philippa Penfold

Minute Secretary: Mrs Sue Hubbard

Hon Treasurer: Craig Stolton

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) for the Parish of the Resurrection is the governing body of the Parish. The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules and the Parish Scheme. The PCC met six times during 2024. The PCC was supported by an Executive Group (Standing Committee), Finance & Administration Group, Worship & Spiritual Life Group (Ministry Team) & Community, Outreach & Community Group & Staff & Volunteer Group.

The Constitution of the Parish of the Resurrection and the supporting Policy Guidance document can both be found on the parish website.

AIMS AND PURPOSES

The PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with the Vicar, to promote the whole mission of the Church - pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical - in the Ecclesiastical Parish of the Resurrection Alton. It is the duty of the Vicar and the PCC to consult together on matters of general concern and importance to the parish.

OBJECTS AND ACTIVITIES

The PCC is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship at our churches and to become part of our parish community. The Parish Ministry Team and PCC all acknowledge the need to consider public benefit in planning activities and guidance on the advancement of religion.

We work under our Vision Statement of 'Proclaiming the Risen Jesus, Steadfast in Faith, Active in Service'.

This Vision is upheld by our Parish Values:

As a welcoming, worshipping community of disciples of Jesus we are:

Rooted in prayer – learning the practices of being in conversation and relationship with God our Father through Jesus Christ our Lord. In everything we do prayer comes before, during and after.

Rooted in the Bible – believing that The Word of God directs and guides our individual and our communal lives. We read, mark, learn and apply it to all our decision making and parish life.

Rooted in the gifts of the Holy Spirit – sharing what we all receive from Him to encourage and build each other up. We always want to be open to the possibilities of the present and future whilst valuing our heritage.

Rooted in partnership – looking to work with and alongside others who are building and extending the kingdom of God. We will work with each other across our parish, with other local churches and with community groups who have kingdom values at their heart.

Rooted in quality – seeking that whatever we do is the best we can offer and is attractive to those in our communities.

Rooted in fun – enjoying the life that we have and presenting the Church and our faith in Jesus with liveliness and boldness.

Rooted in our care of creation – being good and wise stewards of the world's resources and our environment. We will work towards the A Rocha Eco Church awards and Fairtrade status.

Main objectives for the year:

- To work together to recruit a new Vicar for the Parish of the Resurrection who will uphold the Parish Values
- To continue to seek a Children, Families and Schools Worker
- To continue the established service pattern across both The Parish of the Resurrection and Bentworth, Lasham & Shalden and to encourage congregations to worship in each other buildings during each month
- To grow the small groups for pastoral care and discipleship and a regular pattern for Alpha and The Bereavement Journey
- To make contacts in the new housing developments through systematic visiting
- To build further our ministry team and its team-building
- Improve the use of our Parish Resources

Strategies used to achieve our objectives:

- Focal ministry is further strengthened to give continuous pastoral and liturgical leadership in each congregation
- Greater use of email and social media to inform our parishioners of the activities of the church
- Further updating of our database and website to make them more useful to our administration and communication
- Formation of a community of small group leaders
- Further development of the church-based database for communication and increased use of social media
- Use of teaching series to help movement between churches and worship
- Building teams for small groups and Alpha and Bereavement Journey

Vicar's Report – Annual Parochial Church Meeting 2025

This is my last Vicar's Report for The Parish of the Resurrection. By the time you read this I will have been installed into Winchester Cathedral as Canon Treasurer. This gives me another opportunity to express my deep gratitude for all you have been over the 11 years of my incumbency. I really meant what I said in my final sermon - 'Andrew, what are we going to do without you? The only appropriate reply and response to a community of people who are humble, healthy and hopeful is: What am I going to do without you?' You have been a fantastic support, encouragement and my friends. And I am sure you will be to the next incumbent.

2024 has been a year of change. Change is not always a bad thing. Indeed without change we cannot live. I think Sir Isaac Newton had something to say like that! We welcomed the Chattell's into our midst as David joined as Associate Vicar and what a pleasure that has been. Ruth has also been exercising her many gifts, her licence as a Licensed Lay Minister was transferred in the same service David was welcomed. They have quickly become an integral part of the Parish and particularly the community of Holybourne. We are reassured by David's calm and collected approach and years of experience.

In April we officially became a two parish benefice with the pastoral scheme creating Bentworth, Lasham and Shalden as a united parish and then joining them alongside POTR. This was not a surprise as we had been working very successfully together with them for well over two years as the legal processes were all drawn together. It is good to see POTR people worshipping in their churches and vice versa BLS people in POTR services. It all seems so seamless! We pray for further unity and a greater friendship between us all.

At the end of the year Kate Powell, our wonderful Anna Chaplain, gave her notice and the news that she will be joining the Southampton Port Team as a chaplain there. We will miss her very much and we are greatly blessed by all that she leaves in place and flourishing in the world of our ministry with older people. Who knew that we could have so many Anna Friends and doing so much excellent ministry. We will hope to make an appointment to this important role soon.

In the diocese we welcomed Philip Mounstephen as our Diocesan Bishop in February. There was wonderful service in the Cathedral and we are in very safe hands. We look forward to his 'Walking the Wessex Way' vision taking root and all that he offers. We are also acutely aware that Bishop David was announced as the next Bishop of Truro in December and we are very sad to lose him. His support and presence in our parish has been exceptional and we will miss his friendship. Truro's gain is very much our loss.

Amongst all this we combined the two deaneries of Alton and Alresford. I have been the Area Dean of both and we have benefitted hugely from the combined Chapter meetings and Synods. I express my thanks here to David Chattell who has been Assistant Area Dean, to Derek Gurney and Gillian Gray-Knight who have been Lay Chairs and to Elspeth Mackeggie Gurney as Finance Chair.

No parish can operate effectively without good church wardens and PCC members. So much of what they do goes on under the radar without being noticed but is essential. The PCC team work collegially and systematically tackling many things which are complex and time consuming. Their work is so important, thank you so much for all that you contribute and the ways in which gifts are exercised. Underpinning all this and much more is the tireless work of Philippa Penfold and Ellie Elder our Parish Administrators. We heavily rely on their gifts and skills and are aware that they work well beyond their contracted hours to make sure all is completed. We have increased the hours of work for them and I am sure we have all rejoiced in their ministry to us.

I am so pleased to be a part of such a prayerful, dynamic and mission focussed Christian

community. So many people come together to reach out in and outside of our churches. I am also so thankful that very little relies on me and that activities, events, services and more just seem to gracefully take place. . We remain strong to our values and vision – ‘Proclaiming the Risen Jesus – Steadfast in Faith – Active in Service.

We rely not on our own righteousness but on God’s great and manifold mercies. We humbly come before Him and we give thanks for all that has been achieved through his grace and giftings. All praise to him for all that has been in 2024 in this our wonderful Parish and we yield to him for all that is to come.

With my very best wishes
Andrew

Report on new Electoral Roll

A new Electoral Roll has been produced for 2025, and currently number on the roll stands at 211, with 17 being non-resident in the Parish..

The previous 2024 Electoral Roll had 326 members with 22 of them being non-resident in the Parish.

PCC Report 2024

January 2024

- Confirmation of appointment of Rev David Chattell, moving to Holybourne Vicarage Feb. Licensing on Monday 18th March
- Discussion on future meeting schedules. AGREED: Bi-monthly PCC and in the month between the Executive Committee to be chaired by AM.
- St Lawrence Fabric - Tower guttering fixed, pathway and choir vestry roof done. Cooker and dishwasher in Parish Centre repaired/replaced. Faculty eventually obtained to repair broken window.
- Holyrood Fabric - Kitchen hatch needs repair.
- All Saints Fabric - Shed repaired. Black marks on carpet investigated by MP. (Specialist cleaners needed for removal of mould. Quotes awaited for work to make level floor near dais.
- St Peters Fabric - MP was investigating/suggesting priorities.
- Draft budget and Utility budget presented.
- Xmas tree festival very successful – good funds for charities.
- Pop Up Carols – more events + more numbers
- Very successful Christmas party
- Fish and chip supper/quiz – new date to be agreed.
- Away day – end of June. Likely at Winchester.

March 2024

- Admin Review – discussion and further work to be completed, including new job descriptions
- Union of Benefices. Had been agreed to commence wef 1st April. Detailed arrangements were in place, election of Church Wardens in April.
- Charitable Giving – Agreed 5% of our income to the agreed 3 charities: Alton & District Community Relief Fund, Citizens of the World Choir. Mission Aviation Fellowship.
- Sharing All Saints with Butts Church. Arrangement working well.
- Eco Church update from Elspeth Mackeggie Gurney.
 - Application for silver award forwarded for approval.
 - We had been flagged as a high carbon emitter (nationally) but that might give funding. Possibility of free energy audits for all churches, required to qualify for funding.
 - LED lighting now in all church buildings (except St. P)
 - Central buying for environmentally friendly cleaning products
 - Installation of water meters in each site
 - Land – bulb planting in St. L Churchyard (by children) in conjunction with Alton Natural History Society and Town Council.
 - Eco Church prayer to be included in intercessions. A prayer station under discussion at St. L.
 - Toy bonanza in March also Craft swap planned.
 - A budget for notice boards requested
- Rev. Chattell to be licensed on 18th March, to commence on 14th April
- Stewardship Campaign. 2023 accounts will be presented to APCM with budget for 2024, generosity will be a key part of meeting discussion, with sermons in September under a series on Five Marks of Mission.
- Fabric funds to be put into one heading in future.
- Insurance renewals agreed to continue with Ecclesiastical for this year but review options in December.
- £50,000 to invest. AGREED it can be tied down for 18 months.

May 2024

- Union of Benefices. Noted that BLS had joined together into one parish, and we are now titled The Benefice of the Resurrection wef 1/4/24
- Admin Review. Administrator job descriptions drafted and circulated. Further discussion needed on the spilt between the two roles.
- New boiler for HR agreed. Contributions from the Parish to be sought. Agreed to requesting loan monies from Diocese for ease of cash flow
- Incident of broken pelvis caused by HR serving hatch door noted. Hatch had been repaired, but personal injury claim would be made by injured party.
- St. Peters MP/SN had looked at timber repairs. AGREED Quote of £2,300 plus VAT from George Harrison.
- AGREED that as the £1k level over which 2 quotes are required could be impractical & cause delays, this should be reviewed on a case-by-case basis,

and where possible contracts to be awarded to known providers, a list of which was being compiled. Expenditure to be formally agreed by Executive Committee or PCC (whichever reduced delay) However, where an unknown contractor was used and expenditure over £1k, 2 quotes were required.

- Stewardship Campaign. 2023 accounts to be presented to APCM with budget for 2024. Finance Committee discussion needed on exactly we are asking for; thank you letters to go out before the summer. Campaign in September.
- Pastoral Team. Development work in progress
- Finance & Admin - GDPR work had been undertaken
- Communities and Outreach
 - GAP travelling meals postponed.
 - Parish Tea – Sunday 21st July, Beech
 - Skittles evening – Holy Rood, with portable skittles alley.
 - Parish away day (cancelled last year) at Bentworth Village Hall. (possible date 14th September) with use of school grounds
 - Evangelistic carol service – 4th December (eve). Canon J John booked to speak. (Philo Trust)
- Children, Youth + Families Committee - one applicant for Youth Worker post, arrangements in hand for interview
- Staff + Volunteers Committee – Proposal to increase hourly rates to Administrators by 3.2%. AGREED

July 2024

- Eco Church update - Energy footprint tools had been completed + 3 energy audits in the autumn
- Futures Report – Growing Disciples - A report on progress had been circulated by AM
- Worshipper numbers - Figures noted from the review of the last 10 years from POTR and various local churches for comparison purposes
- Living in Love and Faith Guidance - The 31-page document had been circulated, having been debated at a recent General Synod
- St Lawrence - MP/AM had inspected issues in east wall. A quote awaited from local stonemason. (hopefully not using costly scaffolding). Pigeon occupation affected roof that will need some repair once they have left. Fumigation has been undertaken 3 times.
- Holyrood - Boiler had been replaced.
 - Burial Criteria circulated. (identical to previous one but with addition of cremations. Agreed. Noted: ashes can be interred, not scattered.
- All Saints - Up to 20 chairs to be replaced. Agreed. Likely to get a legacy of £1,500 which will cover it. Downpipe leaks. A price required as specialist needed.
- St Peters - Timber work – Workman to come on 12th August. Also a painter required.
- Worship + Spiritual life - • Stewardship Campaign to run alongside a September sermon series based on the Anglican Five Marks of Mission
- Finance + Admin – Risk Register circulated – will be reviewed again in September.
- Communities and Outreach -

- Summer club – administration was required urgently, although there was a basic plan for the 3 days at the end of August.
- Home & Away Day was now called Entertaining Angels. Agreed
- Skittles Evening – Confirmed as Beech Village Hall on 7th November
- ‘Christmas Unlocked’. J John (a well-known evangelist) is able to come and offers his presentation on 4th December. Agreed to go ahead.
- Children, Youth + Families Committee - Unable to appoint to post of Children/Schools Worker. Plan now to readvertise in September, interview before October half term. Advice being sought from Diocesan team on recruitment process
- Anne Mason appointed as the special interest member for All Saints. Agreed

September 2024

- Pat testing – completed
- Risk Register - Assignment of 13 categories listed in paper dated July 23 (reviewed July 24) so that specific sub-groups could monitor progress. AGREED
- Administration - Job descriptions. Awaiting discussion with staff. Titles Benefice Administrator and Benefice Buildings Officer.
- Spending decision on new website. AGREED
- ST. LAWRENCE - Pigeons still present in the loft – waiting for best time to deal.
- HOLY ROOD -
 - Large tree concerns. 2008 survey referenced. AGREED to commission Sapling Arboriculture Ltd at cost of £810 (incl. VAT) – from Fabric Fund
 - AGREED to 6 small tables and a trolley to keep them in. £999.12 (2 quotes having been obtained) – to come out of Holy Rood Fabric Fund with surplus from POTR Fabric Fund.
- ST. PETERS
 - A large tree was causing concern. MB would call Sapling to see if this work could be included in Holy Rood work.
 - AGREED Retrospective quote from Donovan McIntosh for internal/ external maintenance and carpentry - Total costs - £2,312.50 + VAT. Noted that Resurrection Furniture had received a funding request (decision awaited), If received would go to POTR Fabric Fund.
- ALL SAINTS
 - A worrying tree needs diagnosis (ideally to be included in above)
 - LED lights finally completed
 - 20 new upholstered chairs with arms acquired.
 - Concern about water down drain pipe (MP opinion awaited)
 - A quote had been obtained from Helpful Greg for Hall (Office shelving, cleaning, outside panels, painting inside, skirting boards + contingency) @ £22 an hour. Total costs £2,856 including materials (except shelving in office) and including a £176 contingency. All Saints Maintenance Fund could be used. AGREED obtain additional quote prior to decision
- Worship and spiritual team
 - Noted thank you cards completed and circulated.
 - Pastoral Team – Sunrise article had been done.
 - Interest on Romans Course and looking forward to the sessions

- Finance and Admin
 - Budget position at June 24 satisfactory. Less in deficit than expected.
 - Individual Fabric fund figures have been given to help CWS.
 - Policy table up to date. LH to work on GDPR for report in November. Communication Policy for Youth Ministry to be reviewed in Aug 26.
- Communities and Outreach
 - 14/9 Away day - likely 80 attendees.
 - Christmas unlocked – 4th Dec. Harvest church had waived fee (£250) for Maltings. Posters being prepared.
 - Arrangements for Harvest lunch underway
- Children, Youth + Families Committee
 - Recruitment of Y and C Worker. Question of whether this could be a full-time post
- Staff + Volunteers Committee
 - A possible area is on C of E Clergy well-being. AM felt that discussion should include ‘the whole people of God’ with a role within the Church.
 - Risk assessments – oral up-date. Chased by insurers to put H and S policy in place. Paul Susans had prepared papers to go to the Fabric Committees or local church groups so that a view can be formed on content. AGREED: PS to go to Exec mtg.
- Vision going forward - The values of Proclaiming the Risen Jesus, Steadfast in Faith, Active in Service introduced 10 years ago. AGREED to review with proper reflection time. (BLS to be included) to take place in early 2025

November 2024

- The resignation of the Archbishop of Canterbury on this day (12th November) was noted, as was the need to firmly adhere to safeguarding procedures in the Parish
- Advice on grants - Jane Tarry would be invited to come to Exec.
- Clergy Well-Being - Document for Reflection and Action for Local Congregations had been circulated, inviting congregations to give some thought to the issue of clergy well-being
- Administration - The 2 job descriptions had been circulated. AM had met with PP and EE - both content. Additional hours for EE would now be actioned. Noted 15 hours for PP and 18 for EE. PP had expressed intention to retire in September 2025
- St Lawrence
 - Xmas tree ordered.
 - MP had been in discussion with 2 Contractor Stone Masons regarding essential work at St. Lawrence and All Saints.
- Holyrood - Agreed: £544.25 spend from POTR Central Fabric Fund on immersion heater. Quote previously circulated.
- All Saints - Re-decoration of hall. MP had 2 quotes, to take decision on contractor. To be reported to next Exec.
- Sharing with Butts Church – annual review. CF had worked with them on costs for a reasonable sharing
- St Peter - Font in need of repair. Tree repair work required. SN to action.

- Agreed: Asbestos survey required for each church. Circa £1,000 for all.
- Worship + Spiritual life - Review of Service pattern to be a regular item. To be commenced in time for review in January by PCC. Agreed: to aim for an APCM-type conversation with congregations mid-2025.
- Stewardship Campaign update was unclear. Agreed: FAC to look at movements on parish giving. (Noted: Gift of £4,500 for children's work)
- Romans Course review – DC reported great course, great material, but rushed. Agreed: Review in new year.
- Finance + Admin - Latest Budget position + Fabric funds circulated
- Common Mission Fund – Agreed: that AM,CS and HW would meet with Diocesan staff.
- Communities and Outreach
 - Away day felt to be successful. 85 attendees.
 - Beech Harvest meal –a good event for 80 people. Hope for repeat next year.
 - Skittles evening – proved to be successful – 40 people.
 - Christmas Unlocked – 230 tickets sold atm. Max 340.
 - Pop-up Carols – will happen again as usual.
 - Looking ahead – Rosemary and Keith – 15th Feb - Quiz. Plus Lent lunches as last year. Noted - Lent course 20th March.
 - Post Christmas tea party arranged by Sue Dell would not take place this year due to position in the week of Christmas and NY and the need to vary activities.
- Children, Youth + Families Committee - Recruitment of Y&C Worker – no applicants. We may need to look at salary and/or hours.
- Staff + Volunteers Committee - No meeting. Thank Paul Susans for his work on health and safety, and fabric groups to follow up on risk assessment.
- Deanery Synod - Double-deanery working well. Mid-week commitment vital.

FABRIC REPORTS

ALL SAINTS CHURCH

All Saints continues to use Traditional Worship but we hold an Afternoon Worship once a month as well followed by tea and cake, all with a regular congregation.

We continue to share the church space with The Butts Church. They joined us on June 16th 2024 to celebrate 150 years of worship in All Saints led by Bishop David Williams, and we joined them for a Carol Service in December.

Cleaning and church yard grass cutting is shared by both congregations ensuring the whole of All Saints is cared for and well-used.

Angie Briggs
Church Warden for All Saints Church

CHURCH OF THE HOLY ROOD CHURCH, HOLYBOURNE

The Church of the Holy Rood continues to thrive with a loyal band of regular worshippers and busy mid-week activities.

The fabric committee (aka The Living Space Group) meets every 6 weeks to consider fabric issues and the life of the church community.

Fabric issues this year include:

- Replacement of old gas boiler with efficient condensing gas boiler and internet enabled controls
- Management of large tree in the churchyard
- Ongoing monitoring of the multiple bee colonies
- Routine checks including PAT testing, fire checks, lightning conductor and fixed electrical testing.
- Repairs to the serving hatch

Helen Walters
Church Warden for Holy Rood Church

ST PETER'S CHURCH, BEECH

Over the past year.....

A Local Church Group has met regularly over the past year. A willing group help to clean the church and mow and cut the grass and hedges when needed. Thank you to the Holy Dusters and small maintenance group.

Stage two of repairs and repainting to the woodwork will begin in early September. We await a quotation from a stone mason to secure the font.

Plans for the year ahead.....

We continue to investigate problems as and when they arise to ensure a sustainable solution can be found to repair and replace when necessary.

To support and maintain the service pattern month to month with gratitude to the Ministry team, our organist and those who read and lead intercessions.

A monthly lunch club is held on the 3rd Monday of the month, and a community led coffee morning continues weekly in the village hall.

Please pray for; The ministry team, the team of volunteers involved, support from the village and the Parish Finance Team who all play their parts in different ways.....
Thank you!!

Sarah Neish
Church Warden for St Peter's Church, Beech

ST LAWRENCE CHURCH & PARISH CENTRE

- Stonemason's report on wet walls

- Church and Hall gutters cleared
- Gas supplier switched
- Net Zero Audit on Church
- PAT Testing completed
- Fumigation and removal of Pigeons in roof space and subsequent mites
- Stolen fire extinguishers replaced
- Maintenance on Lightning Earth Rod clamp

Other Parish Activities are recorded on the parish website which provides more detailed information.

DEANERY SYNOD REPORT

To be provided verbally at the meeting.

SAFEGUARDING REPORT

To be provided verbally at the meeting by Sally Kemp, Safeguarding Officer.