St. Peter's and Our Lady's Collaborative Pastoral Council

MINUTES

21 January 2026 @ 7pm

Present: Fr Stephen Day (Fr S), Martin Foley (MF), Paul Milton (PM), Gill Ayers-Hunt (GAH), Simon Tibke (ST), Anne Elson (AE), Ira Winter (IW) (remotely)

1. **Opening prayer**
   Led by Fr Stephen

2. **Apologies for absence**
   Simon Tibke (ST)

3. **Minutes of meeting on 18 November**
   Approved.

4. **Matters arising**
   - 'What I value about St. Peter's'. Parishioners' feedback on St. Peter's that had been collected last year via post-it notes at the back of the Church will be summarised and shared with parishioners, in the same way that feedback from Our Lady's parishioners was shared last year.

     Action: Fr S
   - St. Peter's Church acoustics and sound - AE had passed on the complaints regarding sound in the Church to Kate Tennyson. Kate had kindly sent a reminder of good practice to all those on the readers' list. It was noted that there are still some 'dead spots' in St. Peter's, so those who have hearing difficulties should try to sit near one of the speakers.
   - Lenten Talks 2026 - it was agreed these will not take place in view of the limited planning time available allied to difficulties in ascertaining the availability of the parish hall at St. Francis', Kenilworth. However, the aspiration to organise more events as a Cluster remains.
   - Jonathan Holden's St. Peter's Vision Competition. Formal thanks were extended to Jonathan for sharing the entries to his competition with the

CPC. The CPC noted a number of interesting ideas in the entries. These will inform future CPC deliberations and decisions. In the meantime, entrants were invited to speak to Fr S or a member of the CPC about their ideas or any aspect of St. Peter's.

5. **Our Lady's Vision initiative update**

GAH spoke to the tremendous work being done by Our Lady's parishioners. Five Action Groups have been established and Talent Cards distributed to parishioners at Our Lady's. It's early days, but those involved are confident that progress is being made to secure the long-term future of the parish, starting with the roof repairs. The CPC conveyed its sincere thanks to all those involved at Our Lady's for their wonderful work.

6. **Mission and evangelisation**

It was agreed that St. Peter's Church will host Forty Hours Devotion in September 2026, alongside an Exhibition on Eucharistic Miracles. IW offered to organise this. The precise date will be confirmed once IW finds out when the exhibition materials are available. Consideration will also be given to a Corpus Christi procession in June.

Action: IW

Looking further ahead, it was agreed that both parishes should have a combined mission in 2027, possibly during Lent. Fr S agreed to explore what communities/organisations are available to lead the mission, and the cost. He agreed to explore possibilities with the Sion Community and the Redemptorists, amongst others. The mission will take place across both parishes, using the Churches and halls. GAH agreed to ask Mary Rouse (Our Lady's) for her advice and input.

Action: Fr S & GAH

7. **Planned giving campaign update**

This will take place during Lent 2026. Paolo La Barbera has offered to work with Fr S and MF on the campaign materials. Members of the CPC, Finance Committee and parishioners more generally will be invited to help distribute leaflets and gift aid forms at the back of the Church during the campaign. Fr S

and MF agreed to meet with Paolo to finalise the campaign leaflets as soon as possible.

Action: Fr S & MF

8. **St. Peter's Hall update**

Thanks were extended to Roger Elson and the Hall Committee for their sterling work during 2025, during which the hall accrued a modest surplus. The Hall Committee were invited to look again at the 'Heart of Warwick' (inspired by the 'Heart of Tamworth') model as a means of securing the parish hall's long term viability, in particular, recruiting more volunteers to help with the running of the hall. The building still has expensive maintenance issues that need to be overcome.

9. **Communication to parishes**

A constructive conversation took place about making the design and content of the weekly newsletter more attractive and compelling. Much of the newsletter content is the same or similar from week to week, which in many cases is unavoidable. However, might more people be inclined to read and respond to the newsletter if content were presented differently? No resolution was reached, but it was agreed to revisit the conversation in future meetings.

10. **Cluster and Deanery updates**

The next Cluster meeting is on Friday 23 January at St. Francis' Kenilworth, at 7pm.

The next Deanery Pastoral Forum is on Thursday, 26 February at St. Joseph's Whitnash at 7pm.

Minutes of all such meetings are circulated to the CPC.

11. **AOB**

- AE enquired about the volume of 'Walk With Me' booklets ordered by both parishes, alongside booklets and leaflets from other organisations, such as CAFOD, noting that there are always some thrown away. This is wasteful and bad for the environment. Fr S replied that he advised the distributors of 'Walk With Me' of the number of copies required, but had

little control over the volumes of literature sent by CAFOD and other such organisations. AE agreed to speak to Ann Alison about CAFOD.

Action: AE

- With so much of the agenda of the Finance Committee encompassing the work of the CPC, and vice versa, it has been proposed that the two committees merge, subject to the approval of Canon Law. Fr S is to investigate and report back.

Action: Fr S

12. Date of next meeting

Thursday 30 April at 7pm at St. Peter's Presbytery.

The CPC AGM will take place on Sunday 7 June at 3pm at Our Lady's Parish Hall.

13. Closing prayer and blessing

Led by Fr S