



A Guide to the Parochial Church Council (PCC)

What is the main purpose of the PCC?

The main purpose of the PCC is defined in the Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure 1956 as amended - this defines the principal function, or purpose, of the PCC as "promoting in the parish the whole mission of the Church".

Who makes up the PCC?

These are the main roles on the PCC:

Chair

A member of the Clergy will take the role of the Chair to lead and facilitate the smooth running of the meeting.

Treasurer(s)

The Treasurer and two assistants are responsible for looking after the money, to report on the financial situation and to advise on the financial implications of decisions to be made.

Secretary

To organise PCC meetings, including agreeing the agenda, taking and sending out minutes and other papers, and other administrative duties.

Church Wardens

Wardens have various responsibilities in Church life, including assisting the Clergy in the mission of the Church and having the care of our buildings.

Ex Officio Members of the PCC

These are elected to either the General, Diocesan or Deanery Synod. They act as our representatives at these meetings and have the same role as PCC members in our local Church life.

Member

All people elected by their congregations to the PCC are Members and their role is described opposite. Members serve for 3 years.

What do the PCC do?

The main expectations of PCC members are:

1. To accept the responsibilities of the PCC, including legal responsibilities
2. To attend all PCC meetings, making sure these meetings have priority over your time
3. To actively take part in PCC discussions, asking “What does God want us to do?” and voting accordingly
4. Be willing to take forward action, or support action you may have voted against
5. Co-operate with the Clergy. Our congregations will only grow if there is genuine desire and commitment to work with the Clergy for the good of the Church
6. Co-operate with the Clergy “in the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical”.
7. Speak the truth, but with love. This takes courage.
8. Love is required of every PCC member, both for God and your neighbour in its widest meaning. This includes learning to love those who have been difficult at PCC meetings.
9. Take your spiritual life seriously. This includes a priority for prayer, regular worship and communion.
10. Be responsible (with all the PCC) for the repair, upkeep and insurance of Church buildings and those who use them.
11. Make sure the Church has adequate income and be jointly responsible (with the incumbent) for expenditure of PCC funds.
12. Take seriously the words of St Paul “Know the reason for the faith within you”. Find ways to keep learning and growing in your faith (for example, small groups, teaching events, reading, etc).
13. The most important part of every PCC member’s job is to follow our Lord’s command “Seek ye first the kingdom of God”.