

How to ... Understand the PCC

What is the PCC?

The Parochial Church Council is the governing body of a parish church. Members of the PCC should be at least 16 years old, committed members of the congregation and have been on the electoral roll of the parish for at least 6 months.

The PCC needs members who will support the mission and ministry of the church. This is an important, interesting and exciting opportunity for people who are thinkers and doers, questioners and listeners. PCC members do not need to have specific qualifications, but are invited to bring their gifts, skills and abilities to serve in this important capacity. PCC members should be willing to listen, learn and constructively share their ideas and experiences.

What does the PCC do?

The PCC is a team made up of lay and ordained members of the church which meets regularly to discuss important matters for the life of the church. Together they are responsible for the overall wellbeing of the practical as well as spiritual life of the church, its parishioners and its buildings. The PCC also has a duty to promote the mission of the church within the wider community.

- The PCC ensures that appropriate arrangements are in place for public worship and providing opportunities for people of all ages to meet for prayer and worship.
- The PCC plays an important role in promoting the mission of their church in the parish and wider world.
- The PCC has a duty to support their clergy, prayerfully and personally and a duty to demonstrate pastoral care to all who live in our communities.
- The PCC is responsible for the care and maintenance of the fabric of the church, and any other buildings owned by the church.
- A PCC with an annual income of more than £100,000 must be registered with the Charity Commission; those with an income below this threshold, whilst not currently required to register, must comply with all other charity laws. PCC members as charity trustees are responsible for managing the Church's finances. They must ensure that all funds are properly accounted for and that the annual accounts inspected or audited and formally approved by the PCC, prior to the APCM (Annual Parochial Church Meeting).

Further Information and Resources

Diocesan Vision and Priorities: www.bristol.anglican.org/creatingconnections

PCC Tonight: CPAS training course <https://www.cpas.org.uk/church-resources/resource-for-pccs/#.VafAa01RHs0>

How to...Involve young people on the PCC <https://www.bristol.anglican.org/documents/how-involve-young-people-pcc/>

Church Representation Rules www.chbookshop.co.uk

Practical Church Management by James Behrens, published by Gracewing

Understanding Trusteeship:

www.parishresources.org.uk/charity/Trusteeship%20leaflet%208pp.pdf