



Minutes of the meeting of The Seven Towers Joint Council

**Tuesday 9th June 2026 at 7.30 pm
at Nature in Art**

Present: Simon Trapnell (Chair & Benefice Warden), Ian Donald (Benefice Warden), Carolyn Wright (Sandhurst), Ellie Stevenson (DH), Tony Crawshaw, Derek Wright, Phil Cotton (The Leigh), Janine Smith (Stav/Bodd), Hazel Cotton, Andrew Wilkins, Ali Moseley (Worship Team), Gareth Moseley (Safeguarding Officer), Graham Limbrick, Joan Howard, Rev Philippa Donald (Pastoral Team)

Apologies: Lynda Chan (Prayer Team),

1. Welcome and opening prayers

Simon welcomed everyone and Graham led the meeting in prayer.

2. Co-option of team leaders

All present at the meeting agreed that current leaders remain in post: Lynda - Prayer team, Philippa - Pastoral team, Ali - Worship team. Gareth wishes to stand down from his position as Safeguarding Officer, but will remain until a new officer is identified.

3. Appointment of Joint Council Lay Chair, Treasurer and Benefice Secretary

Simon, Derek and Carolyn all agreed to continue in these roles and members agreed. Lynda will continue to be secretary to the Joint Council.

The Standing Committee continues to be Simon, Ian, Carolyn, Derek, Ellie and Andrew.

4. Approval of minutes The minutes of the meeting held on 10th March were approved.

5. Matters Arising Use of biodegradable oasis suggested to flower arrangers, but not all are keen.

6. Our Vision

The question has been asked, 'is our vision, established at the beginning of 2025' still relevant?' The vision stated we should Enrich Worship, Embrace Mission & Outreach and Embed Eco-church. Whilst we have begun to address all of these, there is still much to be done and JC members agreed the Vision should remain in place. However, the website needs to be updated to reflect this and to include more information about how we are moving towards the A Rocha silver award. Also update website to add links to school.

Action: ID / ST

7. The Benefice Profile

All members were sent the draft to review. Following our discussions the profile will be updated and a revised draft circulated. The intention is that the profile will be completed by the end of June.

Action: CW

8. Reports (circulated before meeting)

These were received. The only additional matters referred to Norton Church and F&PC reports. Norton report correction – Bells were rung on Wednesday 3rd June to commemorate 150 years of Norton School and Phil Cotton very kindly stepped in on Saturday 6th to lead tower tours.

F & PC: Our Area Dean, Jacqui Hyde, is retiring this month and it was proposed a donation of £50 was made towards her retirement gift. The treasurer asked for permission to open an interest-bearing deposit account with Co-op Bank (in addition to the current account). Both requests were approved.

Action: DW

9. Review of APCM Minutes

Just one amendment: El Cheeseman offered to work alongside Lynda in preparing the weekly pew sheet. This will need Joint Council approval. Deferred until our next meeting.

10. AOB

- Graham proposed an additional, once a month, Sunday service for families in Sandhurst Church, 45 minutes to include welcome, probably 2 songs, a reading, children's talk followed by activity during which a short adults talk is given and prayer. A number of families have been consulted. Discussion of this followed, which included suggestions this should be weekly, should move around the benefice, should make links with Sportily, should be taken to Worship Team. Graham will develop his proposal further with an expectation to start in September. **Action: GL**
- Request for volunteers to write pew sheet prayer points (3) for a month. **Action: All**

The meeting closed with the Grace at 9.30 pm.

Scheduled dates of next meetings:

Section 11 Meeting: 21st July (time to be confirmed)

JC meetings: 7.30 pm Tuesday 8th September (CW to lead opening prayer) and Tuesday 10th November.