

The Glossop Parishes Pastoral Council Meeting

Thursday 14th August 2025

*Jesus Christ calls everyone to experience His transforming love.
We joyfully embrace our responsibility to proclaim this good news.*

Minutes:

Present: Fr Martin, A Elliott, C Hulley, L Nash, B Payne.

Opening prayer

1. **Apologies:** A King, T Sealy.
2. **The purpose of the meeting:** To consider the items on the agenda, particularly the development plan and the forthcoming consultation.
3. **The minutes of the PPC meeting** in July were considered and were approved as accurate.

4. Matters arising from the minutes:

Health and Safety:

Action has been taken to remove the hazard in the footway of the doors at ASC, a full repair is pending.

Leadership support structure:

Developmental work on this initiative continues.

5. Core Leadership Team (CLT) Report:

A brief report had been circulated for members to read.

The WHY? course: A parishioner has said that the only attendees are already committed church goers, it is important to address this misapprehension. On completion of the third iteration of the course, the newsletter will contain a resumé thanking participants and saying how pleased we were to welcome those who had not been church goers.

6. Consultation update:

The decision was made to defer work on the development plan in order to focus on the planning for the consultation.

- **Progress informing stakeholders,** the list of stakeholders was considered and personnel responsible for informing them identified as follows:
Housebound – EM; Schools – AK; St Ralph Sherwin Trust – not yet informed; Families connected with the building of the churches and those who have donated to church improvements – some progress made, Lord Howard has replied, Mr Sumner – information is to be passed to descendants; Residents of former SMC presbytery – informed; Property developers – not yet; High Peak BC – some departments

informed; High Peak health and well-being partnership – information sent to 35 agencies; Neighbouring parishes – not yet; Heritage group – TW; Groups with a possible interest in using the churches – pending; Neighbours – information to be posted to those who can see the churches; Beekeepers – not yet; Those with relatives buried in the church grounds (ASC) – OR to be asked to research descendants.

➤ **Management of meetings:**

Booking of places will be made using an online system (Eventbrite to be investigated hopefully providing the restriction of booking for just one meeting), and also using a telephone message system. Priority will be given to those registered with the parishes. This week's newsletter will remind people about the meetings and the use of the registration form for contact details. LN to update the database of registration forms. Tables at the meetings will be mixed with people from both parishes. RL will be contacted for his questions which will be circulated before the first meeting. Packs with other documentation will be given out at the meetings, and these will include: details about the churches' income and expenditure from the finance committee, reports about possible re-uses of the buildings (PG to research these areas), executive summaries of the quinquennial reports, background reading material, and the costs of maintaining empty buildings (TW). The documents will be labelled briefing paper 1, 2..

➤ **Options to be suggested:**

- Maintain ASC as it is and cease to worship at SMC;
- Develop ASC and cease to worship at SMC;
- Maintain SMC as it is and cease to worship at ASC;
- Develop SMC and cease to worship at ASC.

Options for the church not used as a place of worship:

- Sell for development for a secular but fitting use;
- Retain for parish use but not as a place of worship.

Alternatively,

- Close both churches and develop a new purpose built venue with appropriate amenities;
- Close both churches and enter into an ecumenical partnership with another local church.

➤ **Other factors for consideration:**

Parking for parishioners if SPH school re-locates;
Available public transport;
Organisation of lifts for parishioners.

➤ **The benefits of joining to a single parish to be raised and clarified.**

7. Safeguarding Update:

There remains a strong need to embed fully the culture of safeguarding in our communities. PPC members are asked to support this and to refresh their knowledge of relevant areas of the safeguarding handbook.

8. Update from the Finance Committee:

The minutes of the August meeting were tabled. Work continues in preparation for the audit of SMC finances. The use of the online accounting system OPAS has revealed a number of areas where the workload of the bookkeepers and fellow volunteers in various areas could be reduced through more collaborative working.

9. Five year development plan - Ministry:

Deferred.

10. Five year development plan - Fellowship:

Deferred.

A.O.B.

None

Closing Prayer

Next meeting: Thursday 11th September 2025, 7.00 – 8.30pm.

Coffee available from 6.45pm, meeting will start promptly at 7.00pm.