

Minutes for 2019

Annual Meeting of Parishioners held in St Luke's Church Sunday 14th April 2019 at 11.50am

1. Welcome and opening prayer

Reverend Ian opened the meeting with a prayer. Reverend Ian gave the safety instructions in case church has to be evacuated. The wardens will direct the congregation out of church by the main doors and the clergy, choir and Director of Music will leave by the vestry door.

The assembly point is the car park of the Ring O Bells.

2. Appoint a Clerk for the meeting

It was proposed by Reverend Ian, seconded by Clare Liptrott and unanimously agreed that Pat Johnson would act as Clerk for both meetings.

3. Apologies

Reverend Lyn, Sandra Lacey, Margaret Campbell, Yvonne Horabin, George Telfer, Dorothy Lightfoot, Rob Leech and Lynn Keeling

14 people attended the meeting. Attendance sheet below.

4. Minutes of meeting held Sunday April 22nd 2018 at 12 noon in St Luke's Church

Amendments none.

Approval proposed by Sue Smither and seconded by Lesley Runcorn

Unanimously agreed.

Reverend Ian signed the minutes as a true record.

5. Matters arising

None.

6. Election of Church Wardens for May 2019 to April 2020

There are 4 warden positions within the Parish of Farnworth and to stand as church wardens for the forthcoming year (2019-2020) nominations were received for

Barry Ingram (2014)	proposed by Sandra Lacey	seconded by Yvonne Horabin
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George Telfer (2014)	proposed by Sandra Lacey	seconded by Yvonne Horabin
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Barry Horabin (2016)	proposed by Sandra Lacey	seconded by Pat Johnson
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Pat Johnson (2018)	proposed by Sandra Lacey	seconded by Yvonne Horabin
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The church wardens are ex-officio members. All are not disqualified from standing and all agreed to stand. Unanimously agreed

Wardens serve for 6 years then have to take a 2 year break before being eligible to take on a Bishop's warden role again.

If a Bishop's warden cannot attend the visitation they must attend at another venue.

Reverend Ian thanked Barry Ingram, George Telfer, Barry Horabin and Pat Johnson for serving as wardens in 2018 and was pleased they wished to continue.

7. Election of Deputy Church Wardens for May 2019 to April 2020

Mark Argent was appointed at PCC meeting on 17th June 2018. Mark does not wish to continue owing to personal commitments.

No nominations were received. Deputy Wardens can be appointed throughout the year at a PCC meeting.

Reverend Ian thanked Mark Argent.

8. Closing prayer

Reverend Ian closed the meeting with a prayer. The meeting closed at 12.05pm

Annual Parochial Church Meeting held at St Luke's Church on Sunday 14th April 2019 at 12.10pm

1. Welcome and opening prayer

Reverend Ian opened the meeting with a prayer. Reverend Ian pointed out that there is Any Other Business at the end but invited people to ask questions at any time during the meeting.

2. Apologies

Reverend Lyn, Sandra Lacey, Margaret Campbell, Yvonne Horabin, George Telfer, Dorothy Lightfoot, Rob Leech and Lynn Keeling.

14 people attended the meeting. Attendance sheet below.

3. Minutes of meeting held April 22nd 2018 at 12.25pm in St Luke's Church

Approval proposed by Gail Beswick and seconded by Ian Taylor

Unanimously agreed

Reverend Ian signed the minutes as a true record.

4. Matters arising

None.

5. Report on the Electoral Roll as of 27th March 2019 prepared by Sandra Lacey, Electoral Roll Officer, read by Reverend Ian

This year a new roll was created so everyone had to complete an electoral roll application form and a data consent form.

In 2018 there were 171 people listed. On the new roll there are 155.

Additions can be made to the Roll at any time following this meeting. The Electoral Roll is displayed on the notice board at the back of church and there are application forms and data consent forms there too. Only names are listed in accordance with new privacy rules.

The PCC allocation is based on the Electoral Roll number. As less than 200 members on the Electoral Roll the number of members on P.C.C. is 12 elected members plus 2 co-opted for 2019.

Reverend Ian recorded thanks to Sandra for producing the new roll.

Sandra Vanezis queried the rules regarding details of parishioners. Reverend Ian explained that Margaret Campbell, our very able and competent safeguarding officer would explain the rules in an article in the Parish magazine. More details are in item 13.

6. Election of Parochial Church Councillors for May 2019 to April 2020

	Proposer	Seconder	Term	From	for	until
Rob Leech	Barry Ingram	George Telfer	1yr	5/2018	3yrs	2021
Gail Beswick	Barry Ingram	George Telfer	1yr	5/2018	3yrs	2021
Dorothy Lightfoot	Barry Ingram	George Telfer	1yr	5/2018	3yrs	2021
	Barry Ingram	George Telfer	1yr	5/2018	3yrs	2021
Lynn Keeling	Barry Ingram	George Telfer	1yr	5/2017	3yrs	2020
Sandra Lacey	Barry Ingram	George Telfer	1yr	5/2018	2yrs	2020
	Barry Ingram	George Telfer	1yr	5/2018	2yrs	2020
Ian Taylor	Barry Ingram	George Telfer	1yr	5/2018	2yrs	2020
Yvonne Horabin	Barry Ingram	George Telfer	1yr	5/2019	3yrs	2022
Alma Marshall	Barry Ingram	George Telfer	1yr	5/2019	3yrs	2022
Margaret Campbell	Barry Ingram	George Telfer	1yr	5/2019	3yrs	2022
Robert Critchley	Barry Ingram	George Telfer	1yr	5/2019	3yrs	2022

Co-options None. All agreed.

Reverend Ian thanked PCC members who served in 2019 and those willing to continue.

Reverend Ian welcomed Robert Critchley, who has been helping our Treasurer Yvonne Horabin by undertaking the monthly accounts, and is willing to be our Assistant Treasurer. There are

places on PCC so if anyone is interested they can be co-opted at a PCC meeting, please speak to a warden.

7. Cronton Mission - Ratification of elections for May 2019 to April 2020

Elections and appointments that took place at Cronton Mission Annual meeting on Sunday 7th April 2019. (all proposed people are on the electoral roll)

Cronton Mission Committee

Officers

PCC member LML Lesley Wright is ex-officio

Chair & Rotas LML Lesley Wright proposed by Cherrill Edge seconded by Anne Allison

Vice Chair Barry Ingram proposed by Lesley Wright seconded by Anne Allison

Secretary no nominations so committee members in rotation

Treasurer Denis Bray proposed by Cherrill Edge seconded by Anne Allison

Safe Guarding link Leanne Simm proposed by Lesley Wright seconded by Anne Allison

Deanery Synod – no nominations

Team Council Lesley Wright proposed by Debbie Doyle seconded by Anne Allison

Members all proposed by Lesley Wright and seconded by Denis Bray

Cherrill Edge Anne Allison Debbie Doyle Gerry Nash Wendy Patten

LML Lesley Wright will chair CMC meetings. Sandra Lacey PCC Secretary to receive the minutes from CMC Secretary to circulate to PCC members. CMC members will receive PCC minutes. If Cronton representative – If Lesley Wright cannot attend PCC meetings a report will be emailed to the PCC Secretary.

Sidespeople:

Debbie Doyle	proposed by Lesley Wright	seconded by Anne Allison
Phillipa Wynne	proposed by Lesley Wright	seconded by Anne Allison
Stephanie Couzens	proposed by Lesley Wright	seconded by Anne Allison
Paul Lamb	proposed by Alison Lamb	seconded by Lesley Wright
Gillian Harding	proposed by Anne Allison	seconded by Lesley Wright
Leanne Simm	proposed by Ste Simm	seconded by Lesley Wright
Cherrill Edge	proposed by Debbie Doyle	seconded by Lesley Wright
Gerry Nash	proposed by Debbie Doyle	seconded by Lesley Wright
Joyce Brereton	proposed by Debbie Doyle	seconded by Lesley Wright

Reverend Ian thanked everyone who had continued in their role at Cronton and welcomed new people to the committee and those who had taken on the role of sidespeople. He also thanked Reverend Lyn for her work as chaplain at Cronton School and Lesley Wright for taking on the chaplaincy.

8. Election of Deanery Synod representatives 2018 to 2020

Sue Smither proposed by Barry Ingram seconded by Sandra Lacey

Pat Johnson proposed by Barry Ingram seconded by Sandra Lacey

Lesley Runcorn proposed by Barry Ingram seconded by Sandra Lacey

Barry Horabin proposed by Barry Ingram seconded by Sandra Lacey

Deanery Synod representatives are ex-officio.

Reverend Ian thanked Deanery Synod Representatives who had served in 2019. He thanked Sue, Pat and Lesley for continuing to be Deanery Synod representatives and welcomed Barry to this important role.

9. Election of Team Council members for 2019

In 2018 the Team treasurers have met to progress the changes to the Team. A Team Council needs to be in place.

St Luke's

Sue Smither	1 year	Proposer Barry Ingram	Seconder Sandra Lacey
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Lesley Runcorn 2 years Proposer Barry Ingram Seconder Sandra Lacey
Cronton

Lesley Wright 2 years Proposer Barry Ingram Seconder Sandra Lacey
All agreed.

Yvonne Horabin was the EWT Treasurer in 2018 but the role has been taken on by Joan Webster of St Ambrose.

Reverend Ian thanked Sue and Lesley Runcorn for continuing to serve and Yvonne for her work as EWT Treasurer. Reverend Ian welcomed Lesley Wright on board. Reverend Ian will explain the role of the EWT Council under item 19.

10. Appointment of Sidespeople for May 2019 to April 2020

All proposed by Barry Ingram and seconded by Barry Horabin

Service	Team	SIDESPEOPLE	Proposer	Seconder
8am	1	Ken Jennions	Barry Ingram	Barry Horabin
8am	1	Sandra Stone	Barry Ingram	Barry Horabin
8am	2	Yvonne Horabin	Barry Ingram	Barry Horabin
1030am	1	Colleen Harper	Barry Ingram	Barry Horabin
1030am & 6pm	1	Alma Marshall	Barry Ingram	Barry Horabin
1030am	1	Rob Leech	Barry Ingram	Barry Horabin
1030am	1		Barry Ingram	Barry Horabin
1030am	2	Lynne Taylor	Barry Ingram	Barry Horabin
1030am	2	Sandra Vanezis	Barry Ingram	Barry Horabin
1030am	2		Barry Ingram	Barry Horabin
1030am	2		Barry Ingram	Barry Horabin
1030am	3 & 5	Gail Beswick	Barry Ingram	Barry Horabin
1030am	3 & 5	Bill Salmon	Barry Ingram	Barry Horabin
1030am	3 & 5	Brenda Taylor	Barry Ingram	Barry Horabin
1030am	3 & 5	Ian Taylor	Barry Ingram	Barry Horabin
1030am	4	Iris Davenport	Barry Ingram	Barry Horabin
1030am	4	Allan Murdoch	Barry Ingram	Barry Horabin
1030am	4	Tony Tallon	Barry Ingram	Barry Horabin
1030am	4	Olga Wilde	Barry Ingram	Barry Horabin
6pm	1	Lesley Howell	Barry Ingram	Barry Horabin

Alison Watson and Andrew Seadon would like to be sidespeople but cannot commit to a monthly slot as they work shifts but when they attend church they will help the sidespeople.

All agreed. All sidespeople are on the electoral roll and have completed the relevant safe guarding forms.

Reverend Ian thanked everyone for serving as sidespeople in 2018 and continuing to serve in 2019. He welcomed Alison and Andrew on board for 2019.

If you cannot attend church for your sides person duty and cannot find cover please contact Gail Beswick who will attempt to organise cover.

Volunteers are needed as there should be 2 wardens and ideally a team of 4 at each 10.30am service to cover for holidays and illness. If you are able to take on this role please speak to a warden.

11. Appointment of Independent Examiner for the financial affairs of the PCC 2018

Independent examiner Ian Leggett & Co Ltd 18 Deacon Road Widnes WA8 6ED

Proposed by Clare Liptrott seconded by Ian Taylor

The Independent's audited report and certificate would be received in a few weeks.

Reverend Ian recorded thanks to Ian Leggett & Co Ltd for agreeing to audit 2018 accounts.

12. Parochial Church Council proceedings – prepared by Sandra Lacey PCC Secretary read by Pat Johnson

There were 8 PCC meetings and 3 extraordinary meetings. The extra ones were called at short notice for specific agenda items including worship at Cronton, appointment of Mark Argent as a Deputy Warden and approval of a temporary faculty for the relocation of the font. At last the font has been relocated and the back of church can be used for more events. A huge thank you to Barry Horabin, our project manager who has worked tirelessly on this move and is still working on the next phase toilets in church!

A taste of happenings in 2018.

March was a busy month. Mothering Sunday was celebrated and the Thanksgiving for marriage service was well attended. Sadly on March 15th the last domino drive in the Bridewell was held. The PCC would like to thank Gail Beswick who ran the sessions for many years. There is now an opportunity to meet at Open Door on Wednesdays for Games Galore organised by Pat Johnson with ladies from Grosvenor Women's Club. Also on Wednesdays two dedicated ladies Joyce and Audrey are working on repairing an ancient church banner which they are painstakingly unpicking and replacing old material with new. The results are amazing. The banner will be on show soon. The Rose Queen Quiz run by Lynn and Alan Keeling and the Spring raffle organised by Yvonne Horabin raised just over £2000 thanks to fund matching of £1000 by HSBC. This venture was repeated last month and just over £2500 was raised. A huge thank you to everyone who supported these events to raise much needed funds.

In April the magazine was produced bi-monthly not monthly, which appears to be successful but people have to plan ahead. Please send articles of interest for the magazine, it would be great to have some new contributors. Paul Delaney started as our Director of Music and we look forward to a concert led by Paul in 2019.

In June the first joint summer fair with the Scout and Guide group was held and was a huge success. This year's joint summer fair will be on Saturday 29th June. The PCC is delighted that Reverend Bob Pearson, our new Team Rector has agreed to open the Fair.

In September there were 2 successful Heritage days, this year it is a Heritage Festival from 13th September to 22nd September so Baz will be busy with tours.

In December 2 Christingles were held and 600 people attended, so this is now an established tradition.

All our news can be found on our website st-luke.co.uk. The PCC is indebted to Rob Leech who keeps the site up to date and advises re refinements. Please visit our site and we would appreciate feedback.

This year our Child Friendly Award will be renewed so our focus will be on ensuring the church is welcoming for children as well as adults, the planning group have lots of ideas. Watch this space. As always we need more volunteers - Bell ringers, flower arrangers, sidespeople, PCC members, Messy church, Toddler church, Open Door, Choir and Gardeners, hope I have not missed any out. So if you would like to volunteer please speak to a warden.

As we welcome Reverend Bob Pearson in June we will have to say farewell to Reverend Ian who has been with us since July 2017. So on behalf of the PCC and our congregations I would like to thank Ian for his support and guidance through a time of change for us all.

On behalf of the PCC Reverend Ian conveyed thanks to Sandra for her report.

13. Child Protection & Protection of Vulnerable Adults –prepared by Margaret Campbell, Safeguarding co-ordinator read by Reverend Ian.

Throughout the year I have, with some members of the congregation and clergy, attended safeguarding training provided by the Diocese of Liverpool, Halton Adult Safeguarding and Halton Faith Forum. These training sessions proved very useful and informative.

I received, from the Diocese of Liverpool a Safer Church, Safeguarding policy statement for children and young people and adults. The Church of England safeguarding policy statement is based on five foundations and offers six overarching policy commitments. (The documentation is posted at the back of Church for further clarification).

I also received documentation from the Charity Commission identifying and Reporting Safeguarding Serious Incidents to the Charity Commission. A safeguarding Serious Incident is an actual or alleged safeguarding incident, which results in or risks significant harm either to people linked with or employed by the charity or to its reputation. Other serious incidents are actual or alleged adverse incidents, which result in or risk of the charity's money or assets, damage to its property or harm to its work or reputation. The new C of E guidance sets up a system which provided for the reporting of all safeguarding serious incidents by the PCCs to be through their diocese. The National Safeguarding Team will be alerted to all reporting of safeguarding serious incidents and for the first time will be able to develop a national picture of safeguarding serious incidents.

The guidance does not change how any Parochial Church Council (PCC) deals with safeguarding as the House of Bishops' policy and guidance must be followed, any safeguarding concerns, or allegations must be reported to the Diocesan Safeguarding Advisor (DSA) within 24 hours, who will liaise with statutory agencies' as required.

St Luke's with Cronton Mission PCC take appropriate steps to maintain and promote a safer culture in our Churches. We therefore continue to follow the 9 Safe Steps for recruitment. A volunteer will have been a regular member of the congregation for six months, and follow the recruitment guidelines of the Liverpool Diocese.

There were no Safeguarding issues over the last twelve months.

On behalf of the PCC Reverend Ian conveyed thanks to Margaret, who carries out this role so professionally with care and tenacity. Reverend Ian stated that it is such an important aspect of church life. The safe guarding policies would be read out at the first PCC meeting and the first CMC meeting after this meeting. Reverend Ian urged all present to attend any/all training sessions in this regard.

Reverend Ian also thanked Margaret for taking on the role of General Data Protection Controller. More details can be found in the Annual Report for 2018. General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) - The Data Protection Act 2018 controls how your personal information is used by organisations, businesses or the government. Everyone responsible for using personal data has to follow strict rules called 'data protection principles. All data is stored in a safe place, a locked cabinet in St Luke's vestry. For more details please contact Margaret.

14. Health and Safety – prepared by George Telfer read by Reverend Ian

Safety checks on all head stones in the church yard is a mammoth task but slowly and surely we are undertaking these checks. Unfortunately young people some only 11 to 12 years old are smoking pot in the churchyard and the local PCSO Caroline has been informed. I would like to thank Caroline for holding police surgeries in the Bridewell, which are proving popular and give us a police presence. Safety is a priority for the PCC. School children have been playing in the churchyard. If a child is injured the church is responsible. So signage will be erected and the local schools have been asked to highlight the dangers of playing on the headstones and children are asked to keep to the paths. There are 29 Commonwealth graves in the churchyard and a blue plaque will be erected to highlight this fact. To stream line our maintenance of the boiler, the alarm system and monitoring facility and PAT testing I am investigating having all with one company. All events will be risk assessed as we hopefully will be holding more events in church when loos are finally installed.

An action that may affect you is the fire alarm testing which will take place unannounced at a service. I suppose the clue will be if I am present, so you are not going to be disturbed today!

On behalf of the PCC Reverend Ian conveyed thanks to George for his work as Health and Safety Officer and Verger as well.

15. Financial affairs for year ended 31/12/2018 and Vision for 2019 prepared by Yvonne Horabin read by Barry Horabin

As in previous years, the funds of the church are made up of three sections:-

Endowment funds.

As a general rule only the interest on these investments can be used, and not the capital. As in the previous year we had to cash in one of the investment funds of £16,246 to cover the cost of £16,200 for the plans and associated work by the church Architects, for the relocation of the font and the installation of toilets and a small kitchen at the back of the church. Hopefully the majority of the cost of this will be covered by grants.

Restricted and Designated Funds

As you can see from the summary on page 7 of the accounts this section covers all of the various "groups" within the life of the church, choir, flower arrangers, bells, Bridewell, as well as funding for the fabric and major works required. In the main, due to listed building status of the church, we qualify for various grants to enable the much needed restoration work to be done. Any specific fundraising goes into this section.

The Mission and Growth fund of £25,298 is from the sale of the old Vicarage and Land, the use of which is restricted by the diocese. We are hopeful to be able to use some of this money in opening up the back of the church for community events.

General Fund

This fund is for the general day to day expenditure of the church. Yet again 2018 has been a very worrying year. Deficit £23,634. (Page 4) Incoming resources this year were £101,975 compared to £100,953 in the previous year, a slight increase of £1,022. Planned giving and open plate collections are down on previous years, but fund raising monies from fairs, raffles, quizzes and other events have increased. Thank you to all who organised and ran these events, too many to mention, but you know who you are. If you would like to be a part of the fundraising teams at St Luke's, please speak to a warden or lay reader, we could certainly do with some extra help. If you have any new ideas for fundraising, also let us know.

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Resources expended have increased slightly from £125,465 in 2017 to £125,609 this year, a small increase of £144, which considering the fact that the Parish share rose by £1,559 to £79,391, which amounts to 63% of the total expenses, this was a good result. We have tried to keep costs down as much as possible.

The installation of the new lighting system has seen a reduction in cost in the year of £1,119. Staff costs which may seem expensive at £10,046 are for the Organist, some of which is covered by monies for playing at funerals and weddings and Readers and Retired Clergy for funerals, all of which is covered by funeral receipts. This is included under PCC fees on page 4.

It is very difficult to budget on the general fund as a large proportion of it is fixed expenditure for which we have no control over. In 2019 we no longer qualify for free banking as we had done in the past. All banks now limit free banking for charities to under £100,000 annual turnover. This will cost approximately £60 per month. In addition the Parish share for 2019 has gone up to £82,112, an increase of £2,721. That is a total of £3,441 extra we have to find. Unlike most salaries and pensions, we don't automatically get an increase in our income each year. If you are able to increase your giving on a regular basis it would be appreciated, even if it is only by £1 per week. WE NEED YOUR HELP PLEASE.

We are a charity, and are not allowed under charity rules to continue without funds to cover any deficits. Those funds are, at present, very low. We need to increase them to enable us keep St Luke's church for many more generations to worship in and enjoy.

Thank you all for your continued support. Yvonne Horabin

If you have any questions. Contact details are 424 9887 or email yvonne.rice@btinternet.com

On behalf of the PCC Reverend Ian conveyed thanks to Yvonne for updating us on all things fiscal and the need to continue fund raising and to consider increasing our giving. The number of hours Yvonne spends on financial matters is incredible and appreciated by us all.

16.Fabric, goods and ornaments – Barry Horabin

This has been a frustrating year with regard to the proposed plan to install toilets and a kitchenette facility and to relocate the Font to the front of the church.

Protracted negotiations between the DAC and our Architects have resulted in a delay to these proposals for a number of months but now have happily been resolved. At the time of writing this report work on resiting the Font will be well underway and hopefully be completed by Easter.

The proposals for the toilets, I have been reliably informed, will be passed at the next DAC meeting at the end of this month and things can then move forward. We still need to apply for grants but we can't do this until we have written permission in the form of a Faculty. This is a legal process which involves documentation passing through channels ending at the Chancery Court in London where the Faculty will be approved. Work could then be completed before Christmas if everything goes to plan.

BRIDEWELL

The Bridewell continues to stand the test of time and has been improved by the addition of new doors. Unfortunately the toilet facility now needs upgrading to bring it up to standard which will be done when quotes have been obtained.

CHURCHYARD

The intrepid group who are known as the " gardeners" meet in all weathers to keep the churchyard in a condition which makes it a pleasant place to visit, particularly on a hot summer's day, is worthy of praise. Considering the age of most of us who work here I think we do a remarkable job in preserving the heritage of this ancient churchyard. This is a task which is in dire need of more volunteers to carry on the excellent work already being done.

Work on the footpaths and boundary wall is carried out by Arthur Turner and Geoff Poole who do amazing work in preserving these vital parts of the churchyard.

FUTURE PROJECTS

1. The Nave and bold Chapel roofs.
2. Renovation of the Tower

I don't envisage similar problems with these two projects as they will have the backing of Heritage England, Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings and the Victorian Society.

These projects to date have taken over ten years to complete and I calculate a further ten years to complete the whole renovation. At that point you will require a new project manager as I am offering my resignation now for when work has been completed. My life's work will have been done.

On behalf of the PCC Reverend Ian conveyed thanks to Barry for his comprehensive report on all that is happening and what we can expect when the next phase starts.

17. Cronton Mission Report 2018 and Vision for 2019 – LML Lesley Wright

We now have four services each month and we are very grateful to Reverend Ian for his support with this. We have altered the cycle of services in order to encourage families, most who now attend more than the minimum of once monthly. We now follow: Café – Morning Prayer – Café – Holy Communion.

Café church is popular with young families and we usually have in the region of 24 adults and 12 children. Adults engage in the 'discussion' or task with variable enthusiasm but do reflect back that they are listening. Additionally, a number of families who have not attended for months are returning at intervals – always apologetic, it is important we reflect back an understanding that 'life happens, come when you can – it is always great to see you'.

Feedback from regular attenders at the Drop-in show that 'getting out and talking to people' on a Monday morning is a valued part of the week for people who would otherwise have no reason to go out. Foodbank donations are still collected weekly at the Drop-in and we continue to combine donations of village drop-in, Cronton School/Mission and Holy Family church donations – we are 'better together'.

The hall at Cronton C of E Primary school continues to be used for worship and we are also grateful for the help of Alan Hill in setting up the seating each Sunday. There has been no increase in our financial contribution to school, for which we are extremely grateful; this is normally reviewed on an annual basis. Our relationship with school is excellent; Mrs Thomson and her staff are very positive

and supportive of the Mission and of the Sunday services we share with school. Mrs Thomson attends church once a month [instead of her usual, local, church] to develop links. She is keen to develop our role in school on Mondays, developing Ethos group and extending our work with other children beyond this small number of pupils.

We appreciate everyone's contribution to the running of our church and services – volunteers give generously of their time and money to keep the Mission active and welcoming.

We are encouraging the congregation to get involved in the running of the services, starting with 'help yourself to refreshments'. Families are wonderful at putting the chairs and tables away – a great relief for the older ones among us.

Our vision for 2019 is to involve children more in services, including Ethos group, continue to support and develop the Drop-in centre, continue to work with the school to encourage children and families to attend Cronton Mission and increase awareness of Cronton Mission in the local community at every opportunity.

On behalf of the PCC Reverend Ian conveyed thanks to Lesley for her report.

18. Deanery Synod – Pat Johnson

Synod is always a hive of activity – with busy agendas. However this year Transform will be a priority as will the planned YFC worker.

Transform is a combination of St Paul's and St John's - based at St John's who plan to engage a YFC person within Transform. We hope once the Deanery appoint a YFC worker he/she will be able to work in tandem. This is all in its infancy and we have to 'watch this space' so to speak but Greg Sharples was licensed to Transform in September 2018 and their congregation is growing by the week particularly aimed at the 18-40 age group. Obviously financing this initiative is a major factor and Synod is hoping to have a representative from Transform North West to come and speak to Synod about this.

IGNITE are still meeting regularly and have had some new members. Unfortunately one of their leaders is moving to Oxfordshire soon so they will need a new leader.

The Deanery Mission and Pastoral group oversee the applications for funding for various projects. It is difficult in this financial climate and there is precious little to go round – all applications are diligently reviewed and they do a sterling job in this regard. We are fortunate to have 3 representatives on Deanery Synod – Sue, Lesley and myself so we can be sure that there is always one of us representing St Luke's at Synod meetings.

On behalf of the PCC Reverend Ian conveyed thanks to Pat for her report.

19. East Widnes Team Council – Reverend Ian

The Council was made up of elected representatives from all four churches in the Team, so Cronton Mission Church, St Ambrose, St John and St Luke.

The role of the EWT Council is to have an overview of what is going on in all the churches. At meetings Team Council members are given an opportunity to tell of significant events going on in their churches. All items from EWT Council are taken to PCCs for ratification.

In 2018 there were no meetings of the EWT Council but Treasurers from St Ambrose, St John and St Luke met with Reverend Ian to deal with the EWT finances as St John joined Transform Widnes. So the EWT Council will now comprise of the Team Rector, Team Vicar, 2 representatives from St Ambrose, 2 representatives from St Luke, 1 representative from Cronton Mission church, EWT Treasurer, St Ambrose's Treasurer and St Luke's Treasurer.

20. Dates

Sunday	5 th May 2019	10.30am	Commissioning of all volunteers
Monday	13 th May 2019	7.30pm	Archdeacon's Visitation Service at St Luke's church
Monday	20 th May 2019	7pm	PCC meeting

21.Date and time of next APM Sunday 26th April 2020 (Easter Sunday is 12th April)

22.Date and time of next Cronton Mission AGM 11.45am Sunday 5th April

23.AOB – none

24.Closing Remarks by Reverend Ian

As I was reflecting on the past year and a half, a bible verse came to me that goes like this:

(1 Thess 5:23,24) 'The one who calls you is faithful and he will do it'.

It is almost a throwaway line at the end of his letter and St. Paul never defines what 'it' is, because it reflects his unshakeable trust that whatever 'it' is that we face or need, whatever 'it' is that we are doing in our Lord's service, then God is more than up for it, and He will provide what we need as we trust in Him.

And over the past couple of years here in EWT this has been our experience-places where things were a bit stuck or muddled and where we were struggling have gradually unravelled under the careful attention and light of God's love-

So the picture I have is that the ground is now cleared for us for a new and exciting season for St. Luke's church, Cronton Mission and EWT with the right leadership at the right time.

Over the last 900 years of her history the church here must have learned this repeatedly in each new generation: 'our God is faithful, and He will do it', and because of that, we have lots to look forward to as we move into the next chapter of the church's life.

As ever, there is a huge note of thanks due for everyone who makes St. Luke's church and Cronton Mission special and the life of the church possible. There is such a great team of volunteers at the centre of things. One of the things I've tried to reflect back to the 'powers-that-be' is how much pressure comes on the key volunteers during a vacancy and times of tension and how little support is available for them, so thank-you to all of you, for all that you do so well, and so faithfully.

On a personal note, can I say a massive thank-you to everyone at St. Luke's church and Cronton Mission for your welcome and support which has made my ministry great fun and I've enjoyed every minute of it - well almost every minute (!)-but thank-you, I will miss you.

Ok then, formal thanks:

Pat, George, Baz, Barry - with double the number of churchwardens there should be double trouble but the opposite is the case, it has been a pleasure to work with you and thank you for all you do so well, please keep up the good work!

Sue and Clare, the church is so blessed to have you and your ministry and you both show what a gift reader ministry is at its very best, thank you so much for everything.

Yvonne, I think you've been locked in mortal combat with the church accounts and team accounts over the past year and especially such a poignant year for you and all the team changes, you've done an amazing job. Thank-you to for Ian who did the team money for us and the teams who support you, it is a vital part of the church's life, but not an easy one, thank-you again.

Baz, I think you too have been locked in mortal combat with diocesan procedures for most of the year on our behalf as well! With your hard work and persistence to make our buildings useful and missional you are a worthy heir to the people who have loved and developed this church building over the centuries-long may it continue!

Sandra, our PCC secretary, so efficient and effective, keeping everything together and often from another country-thank-you!

Lesley, our team administrator, deserves special mention for keeping her head under pressure, supporting a team in flux, kicked out of her office, working with a hopelessly disorganized interim vicar, Lesley has done an amazing job keeping everything flowing, well done Lesley and thank you.

The list goes on, Alma who gives such a warm welcome to our baptism families, Margaret and Yvonne who are such wonderful vergers to our wedding families, George and Iris who support our funeral ministry, Lynn and her team at Sunday School who continue the tradition of the Rose Queen each year, Lesley and Dorothy who welcome families to Toddler Church and Messy Church, Rob

who keeps our website up to date, such an essential communication tool for the younger people who we need here.

PCC who sustain our governance and church life, our rejuvenated choir and excellent organist Paul, the welcome of Gail, the sides people teams and the tea ladies for their hospitality, our servers, Lesley and Brenda who do so much to enhance our welcome with flowers, our readers and intercessors, our gardeners, our bell ringers and Open Door volunteers led by Barry, but we could be here forever, and we need our Sunday lunch!

My final thanks and appreciation go to my gifted and hard-working leadership colleagues, to Laura and Lyn and Lesley, it has been a real privilege and a joy to work alongside them over the past 18 months, and they are a real gift to us. Lesley as LML at Cronton supported by a dedicated team of volunteers has sustained the ministry there so thanks to all at Cronton Mission.

So this is my prayer for you as a team as I leave you, that you keep looking to Him, and that as you do so, you will be blessed. Pray blessing from 1 Thess. 5.23.

25. Vote of thanks by Sue Smither

Even though Ian tried to move the business on and omit this item on the Agenda; that is not going to happen. I don't think Ian realises not only just how much but also what he has done for us as a church during his time at St. Luke's.

He has gently and very ably with his words of wise counsel, guided us through some turbulent and difficult times. His personal love of the Lord, his conviction to his own deeply rooted faith have shone through in his sermons by which he has wonderfully fed us. He has fed us not only spiritually but also awakened in many of us a faith that was perhaps lying dormant. Many people have told me, though they might not have shared their thoughts with Ian; he needs to know that. Ian has a rare gift which he has bountifully so shared with us and for that we humbly and sincerely thank him.

He knows that we, as a whole church, would have loved him to be our next vicar but as he has said himself the time isn't right and that there would be someone out there for us.

We cannot thank Ian enough for the teaching, prayer, generosity of spirit and time, of effort and energy that he has given to his Interim Ministry at St Luke's and for the many wonderful blessings which he has bestowed upon us.

26. Closing prayer

The closing prayer was given by Reverend Ian. The meeting closed at 1.15pm

Attendance List

Reverend Ian	Barry Ingram	Barry Horabin	Pat Johnson	Lesley Wright
Sue Smither	Clare Liptrott	Lesley Runcorn	Gail Beswick	Ian Taylor
Alma Marshall	Sandra Vanezis	Mavis Whittle	Derek Beswick	