

allsaintsworcester

STANDING FOR ELECTION TO THE PCC

What is the PCC?

The PCC (Parochial Church Council) is part of the leadership structure of All Saints (along with our ministry leaders, group leaders, and some of the staff team).

It is made up of:

- the stipendiary (paid) clergy
- the two churchwardens (elected every year for a one-year term)
- the three Deanery Synod representatives (elected every three years for a three-year term)
- 12 elected PCC representatives – four are elected each year for a three-year term

Within the Church of England structures, the PCC of a parish church has specific responsibility of “co-operating with the Vicar, in promoting the whole mission of the Church”. It also has legal responsibility for the maintenance and development of the church buildings, finances, governance, health and safety, safeguarding and HR. PCC members are the trustees of the All Saints Worcester Church and Worcester Foodbank with legal responsibilities and are covered by indemnity insurance.

The PCC is a council, not a committee; and plays its part in discerning what God is up to in the church and the best way to get behind that. It helps provide wise council for the clergy as together they develop the ongoing wider vision for the church.

What is the time commitment?

PCC members give on average 3-6 hours a month. The PCC meets 9-10 times a year on a Monday night from 7.30pm-9.30pm. We also have a PCC away day each year. PCC members are expected to attend all meetings unless extenuating circumstances prevent this. They may be invited to join a sub-group focusing on a particular area of responsibility (Finance Group or Mission Partner Support Group) or other time-limited project groups. All PCC members are asked to consider an area of church life where they can give attention, support and encouragement or lend their particular skills.

Who can stand for election?

To stand for election candidates must fulfil the criteria to be on, and remain on, the electoral roll:

- be baptised
- be over the age of 16
- be either a resident in the parish or a resident of another parish and have been habitually attending public worship for the last six months – i.e. you normally attend one of our weekly Sunday worship gatherings

Given that those on the PCC are representing the rest of the church and helping make important decisions for its future, it is obviously hugely important that they are people who are actively participating in church life, demonstrably modelling a commitment to our vision, values and priorities that others can emulate and follow and able to speak on behalf of the wider church family. Indicators of this commitment would include attending a gathering regularly on a Sunday, participating in a smaller midweek community such as a life group and serving on a team.

What is the process for standing for election?

If you have prayerfully discerned that God may be calling you stand for election to the PCC, the process for doing so is as follows:

1. Please first chat to Rich or one of the churchwardens to find out more about what is involved and ask any questions you may have.
2. Complete a nomination form and find two other people also on the electoral roll who will submit forms supporting your nomination (nomination form found at allsaintsworcester.org.uk/apcm or request one from pcc@allsaintsworcester.org.uk)

3. Attend the APCM.
4. If you are elected then you we will instigate our safer recruitment process, including: collecting references, and applying for an enhanced DBS.

Disqualification (Church Representation Rules s46A and 46B)

A person shall be disqualified from being nominated, chosen or elected or from serving as a member of a parochial church council if the person:

- is disqualified from being a charity trustee under section 178 of the Charities Act 2011 and the disqualification is not for the time being subject to a waiver by the Charity Commission.
- is included in a barred list (within the meaning of the Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006)
- has been convicted of an offence mentioned in Schedule 1 to the Children and Young Persons Act 1933 (unless the person's disqualification under this sub-section has been waived in writing by the bishop of the diocese in question.)
- has been so disqualified from holding office under section 10(6) of the Incumbents (Vacation of Benefices) Measure [1977]

Note

- In order to confirm that all newly elected PCC members are eligible to act as a charity trustee, they will be required to sign a declaration confirming their eligibility to hold office as a charity trustee (i.e. non-disqualification under charity law) and will be asked to sign a Fit and Proper Person declaration. By confirming that you are eligible for election, you are confirming that you are able to sign these declarations.
- PCC members need to have a DBS (Disclosure and Barring Service) check as part of our commitment to safer recruitment.
- PCC members are also trustees of Worcester Foodbank and their names and contact details will be supplied to the charity commission under the registration for both All Saints Worcester charity and Worcester Foodbank charities.