

**Minutes of Blessed Hugh Faringdon- Finance Committee Meeting  
9 March 2026 at 8.30pm**

**Present:** Fr Claro, Andrew Chell, Lorraine Brabin, Neill Taylor.

**Apologies:** N/A

Opening Prayer: Fr Claro led with an opening prayer.

**Matters arising and Finance Report.**

The bank balance of £29,765 is in line with expectation, as we have had significant expenditure recently, (£2130 on servicing and maintenance of all 3 boilers including the flushing of pipework and radiators. And a bill from the architect.)

The presbytery boiler is currently working satisfactorily but the church boiler is failing to ignite. The church boiler is now out of warranty, and a second opinion has been requested from the manufacturers, Viessmann. This is likely to cost approx. £ 400 but will determine if a new boiler is needed (estimate £10K.). Viessmann boilers are very good but tend to be priced at a premium, Neill recommended a quote for another make is requested at the same time. Expenditure above £5000 will need approval from the diocese before proceeding.

The church hall boiler is heating the hall satisfactorily but failing to heat the water in the kitchen, this is due further inspection this week.

The architect’s fee was for the whole of 2025, approx. 7 visits to monitor the church wall for £ 522.

The Gift Aid claims are completed for October to December 2025 and receipt of £1116.50 is awaited.

**Current finance statement.**

ACCOUNT	Balance 9 March 2026	Balance 12 January 2026	Balance 17 November 2025	Balance 15 Sept. 2025	Balance June 2025	Balance March 2025	Balance 20 Jan 2025	Balance 2 Dec. 2024
CDP Buckland								
Current account	<b>29,765</b>	<b>34,001</b>	34,497	32,540	29,226	30,900	£32,120	£30,437

**Buildings Report.**

The architect requested a quote to dig a trench for inspection of the church foundations / underpinning for a 2-day period. The quote was £1560.00 which is considered rather high, so a one-day period has been requested and is awaited. This second quote is for a one-day inspection for £ 946 and has been accepted and recommended to proceed.

The dishwasher is currently not in use and awaits inspection by an expert. It is believed to be about 4 years old.

**Pastoral Area Amalgamation** –No further developments.

**PPC Matters**

**The notice board** selection is ongoing; JP is investigating a modification to the existing board. PPC are considering a retreat and possibly extending it to the wider pastoral area. We await a reply from Fr Liam at Boars Hill. We may need to ask for a collection from attendees or from parish funds for Boars Hill.

AC reported to the congregation re progress on the wall and also reminded them regarding BACS offertory giving and Gift Aid. 2 new gift aiders have come forward, and one person has increased their monthly giving.

More 'goody' bags may be needed for the children (after a thorough search around the premises!). The Youth Group may need to purchase some refreshments for their meetings on Friday evenings. Both the latter requests were approved.

It was noted that the Sunday morning "noodle" breakfasts are financed by donation, and our grateful thanks are due to all concerned.

The recent CAFOD Family Fast Day collection raised £80 in cash with completed gift aid forms plus the direct donations to CAFOD direct.

The report from Gabrielle Smith, (18 February) re Closer to Christ was noted regarding the progress of the appeal and notably the money received by the parish. AC to check this out.

**Date of next meetings 2026– Mondays; 11 May; 13 July**

**See emails from Lorraine dated 12 January 21.06-21.08 for links.**

The meeting closed with a prayer, led by Fr Claro.

Minutes by A. Chell