

PETERSFIELD AREA CHURCHES TOGETHER
Co-ordinating Committee Meeting
MINUTES



Meeting on 18th March 2026 7:30 pm at Methodist Church

Welcome, Bible reading and prayer

Acts 2:42-47 is a summary of church life, including communication, fellowship, worship, work and witness.

1. Attendance

David Muskett	Methodist Church	Chair
Naomi Gordon-Smith	St Mary's Buriton	Taking Minutes of this meeting
Fr Peter Hollins	St Laurence	
Christine Traynier	St Laurence	Website
Ian Traynier	St Laurence	Treasurer-in-waiting
Christine Tully	St Peter's	Treasurer and Cards
Carolyn Barton	URC	
John Callaghan	Life Church	
Jenny Ballinger	Quakers	
Amanda Greenlee	All Saints Steep	
Sue Jupp	Restoration House	
Ivan Huntington-Thresher	Methodist	

2. Apologies for absence

Revd Bruce Deans	St Mary Magdalen Sheet
Mike Harris	Salvation Army
Josh Thomas	URC
Helen Mason	Restoration House
Suzanne Tong	Froxfield with Privett

3. Items for AOB

Spring Festival John Callaghan

Sunday 24th May in The Square Christian service at about 10.15am.

Co-ordinated by Life Church, but to involve as many as possible. Prayer cards to be distributed.

Suggestions requested for other acts of kindness.

4. Minutes of the last meeting & matters arising

Approved.

5. Treasurer's report Christine Tully & Ian Traynier

Thanks to Christine, who is stepping down after decades as PACT Treasurer.

Ian Traynier to meet with Helen Mason to sort out bank account administration.

Donations have been given to King's Arms, Counselling Service and HomeStart Butser.

Christmas Lunch 2025 used 2024 Reserves. Amanda to chase possible bid to Hampshire Council.

Insurance £243.17 paid to cover period 1 March 2026 to 28 February 2027.

Christmas and Easter cards each cost £880 for printing, plus prizes for designers.

Subscriptions from churches raise £2700 each year – Restoration House to be added in 2027.

6. Easter Card Carolyn Barton

Cards printed, bundled and ready for distribution.

7. Good Friday Walk of Witness

St Peter's refreshments (Hot cross buns)	Naomi to confirm with St Peter's
Salvation army	Check with Steve Field
Chaplaincy in support	John Callaghan
Permission from Rams Walk	Amanda to go to their office with insurance certificate
The Square	David Muskett (and Risk Assessment)
Police	On their website
St Peter's available in case of rain	Naomi to confirm with St Peter's (and microphone)
Publicity and requests for buns	Christine Traynier
Leaflets (200)	David Muskett

8. Thy Kingdom Come 14th to 24th May David Muskett

Thursday 14th May Ascension Service for all at St Mary's Buriton
Sunday 24th May (Pentecost) Spring Festival in The Square
Material available which promotes prayer for specific people to come to know Jesus.
All PACT congregations to be encouraged to hold a joint worship, work, witness or prayer event.

9. Other Events – Joint Worship, Work and Witness

"Thy Kingdom Come" (see item 8 above)

10. Looking to the future shape of PACT

David Muskett and Naomi Gordon-Smith met recently to discuss a new Team approach.

The differences between Town and Village churches were discussed. For example, the World Day of Prayer is held in a Petersfield town venue. We have different things to offer. (St Mary's Buriton hold their own Good Friday Walk and Carols Round the Pond, so do not join these PACT events.)

Attendance at joint events needs to be encouraged. (There was lack of support for HerneFest.)

Vision for the Future: Naomi G-S "PACT has had problems with banking and lack of volunteers. One solution could be to become a Team of Church Representatives without money or insurance, instead of the existing committee structure. The implications of this change would be that cards would not be produced and events would be organized by individual churches. The website is currently paid for, but new ways of communication would be developed. A Petersfield Christmas Tree Festival could be held to advertise all our Christmas services. The Christmas Lunch would control its own finances and administration. Faith Comment could continue."

Insurance is required for the Walk of Witness (in its current form), the Christmas Lunch and linked groups such as IMC.

The cards may bring people to church services, are an opportunity for prayer and involve schools, but delivering them is hard work.

Committee meetings should be about fellowship with each other, including the clergy. A Steering Group could take care of details such as event arrangements, which would not involve a new Chair/Vice Chair working out what needs to be done every year (particularly a busy member of the clergy!!). People volunteer to serve on the committee through duty, obligation, love or whatever, but find it extremely difficult to get a replacement.

This is a good start to a conversation, which will be continued.....

11. Date(s) of Next Meeting(s)

Wednesday 6th May at 7.30pm at Methodist Church, with another in the autumn.

12. Closing prayer**Purpose of meeting:**

A forum for 'communion' and communication between PACT churches, PACT organisations and local Christians, to facilitate events aimed at increasing opportunities for joint worship, witness and work between PACT churches.