

St James' Parish Fabric Committee

Tuesday 2nd December 2025 at 18:00

Present: Robin Evett, Patrick Anderson, Anthony McConachie (Chair), Anne McConnochie & Fr Patrick

Apologies: Michael Robertson & Lucia Burgio

Meeting started: 18.20

1. Opening Prayer

Fr Patrick leads the committee in prayer.

2. Hall Toilet

The Chair outlined the historical and on-going issue with the toilet block and particularly the ladies' toilet. The committee investigated the site. It had been previously suggested that steel beams could be used to stabilise the block. It was agreed to follow up on this option.

Action Point: PA to check his contacts for a local Structural Engineer and arrange a site visit.

Action Point: The Chair is to check contact details of previous Structural Engineer as a Plan B.

3. Emergency Lighting

The Chair confirmed an electrician had visited the site and assessed the choir loft was straight forward. The Tower Room however appeared an issue as there was no permanent live feed and cabling would be external. The committee did not accept this and asked for a 2nd opinion.

Action Point: PA to contact his electrician for a site visit and review.

4. Lintels

Cracks are visible in several lintels. A Stonemason will be required to investigate but not a priority at this time

5. Cabling

Old cables are visible around the church and house. They should be removed if not required but not a priority at this time.

6. Painting

Re-painting of external doors, gutters and garden gate are required. Defer until March due to weather

7. Garage

Consideration should be given to replacing the garage. Not currently a priority.

8. Fence at Cliff Top

The fence along some of the cliff top is in a poor state and should be replaced. Consideration and costings to be sourced for both a wooden fence as well as metal railings.

Action Point: The Chair to source several prices for this work.

9. Replacement Gutters above Stair Window (House)

Water is overflowing this gutter on occasions, and the gutter probably needs replaced. Advice required.

10. Protective Glass at Stained Glass windows

The protective glass detracts from the stained-glass windows and should be removed or replaced. Not a current priority

11. Floodlight on Church Tower

The current floodlight does not appear to be working. It should be removed and consideration given to more appropriate floodlights to light up the Tower like others in town. A lighting specialist may be required. Not a current priority.

12. Moss on Church Roof

This issue is noted but not currently a major cause for concern or priority.

13. A.O.C.B.

AMC raises concern regarding the exclusion of MHT (Crail) from the committee. It was noted that MHT had plans to take care of the issues at Crail without referring them to the Fabric Committee. It was conceded MHT would benefit from the experience, knowledge and contacts within the committee and therefore agreed that larger items from MHT (Crail) should come to the committee for discussion.

Action Point: The Chair will redraft the remit document for the Fabric Committee and circulate to all members.

RE raised the issue of quinquennial maintenance/fabric reports for the property. Fr P confirmed he had set this in motion while at the archdiocese and it was being rolled out to all parishes.

14. Date of the next Meeting

Thursday 22nd January 2026 @ 17:00

15. Closing Prayer

Fr P led the committee in a closing prayer.

Meeting closed 19:20