

## **Clarification of Winwick Groups**

We do hope that those of you who attended the meeting with our Vicar, Kevin Montgomery on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> April 2026 felt that it was productive. It was certainly informative, but one thing that emerged was the fact that there still appears to be some confusion about the role and personnel of the various groups within the village – both those linked with the Church and those independent of it.

With help from Kevin, we have therefore put together a description of the various entities, their roles and the personnel connected with them. We do hope this helps to clarify things!

### **The Church**

**The Parochial Church Council or PCC** as it is commonly known, is the decision-making body of a Church of England parish. It consists of clergy, churchwardens and others elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting of the parish. The PCC helps the Vicar in sustaining the life of the church including the finances, church building, governance, safeguarding and mission and ministry of the church. Because each church is also a charity each member of the PCC is also a trustee. Until the recent meeting, our PCC consisted of just our Vicar, Kevin Montgomery and Church Warden, Bruce Green. However, 2 further members were co-opted at that meeting – Bob Deakin and Sally Bradbury – and Jeremy Spencer will also join later this month, following his required Baptism.

**The ‘Friends of Winwick Church’** are a group of parishioners who support the Vicar and Church Warden in whatever way they can and specifically by organising a church cleaning rota and considering and implementing fund-raising ideas. By way of personnel, they are an ‘ad hoc’ group, with a core of around 3 or 4 ladies, including Mandy Healy, Heidi Harratt and Sally Bradbury.

### **The Village**

**The Winwick Parish Meeting (WPM)** is our smaller version of West Haddon Parish Council. It has responsibility for “managing” the village. It consists of a Chair, Dave Harratt and (newly volunteered) Clerk, Noel Pluck, following the sad death of Andy Hickinbotham in January. Most villagers will have received a recent update from Dave Harratt and will therefore understand that the WPM is responsible for communications with West Northants Council regarding the negotiation of the annual precept, receiving and circulating details of any planning applications and any other WNC plans that may affect the village and also raising ‘FixMyStreet’ reports for road repairs, excluding potholes. They are then responsible for using the precept funds to arrange annual village grass mowing, including 5 mows of the churchyard and yearly servicing of the church clock and any other maintenance issues that may be brought to their attention.

**The Guardians of Winwick** was formed around the year 2000 and currently has 4 signatories to the bank account – Trevor Sherman, Mandy Healy, Heidi Harratt and Phillip Bradbury. It was originally formed to raise funds for the various Millennium projects that the village wished to undertake – including (by no means exhaustively) the stained glass window in the church, the four community benches situated around the village and a HUGE number of bulbs that were distributed and planted all around the village. It has continued to raise funds, mainly from small events such as the Duck Races, to pay for the ongoing maintenance of the benches etc. It has also raised monies from grant applications to outside bodies for specific items e.g. the Windfarm fund which contributed towards our new defibrillator – now installed in the old telephone box, which was purchased by WPM from WNC for £1 for that purpose!

[May 2026]