

Date	Book number	Page	References to organ and social history
27-Jan-56	107	27	Friday 27 Jan 1956 PCC meeting: Organist: The vicar informed that Derrick Savage had been appointed to this post in succession to G. Webb. [at this time the church had separate posts for the roles of organist and choirmaster]
06-Nov-64	107	187	Stony Stratford Parochial Church Council minutes: The Organ. The organist had been asked to get estimates for the repairing of the organ and in due course they would have to go before the Diocesan Advisory Committee.
06-Nov-64	107	189	[later in this meeting] Christmas Party. it was agreed that we have one on Thursday 28/65. The Social Committee to make the arrangements. There being no further business, this meeting closed with prayer. The next meeting to be on Jan 29/65. signature by Fr Hutchings dated 20th January 1968 [maybe Fr Hutchings only signed off the minutes later when checking the minute book]
30-Nov-64	107	190	Special meeting of the PCC: This was held on Monday Nov 30/64 in the Vestry. The vicar explained the reason for the meeting, which was to obtain from the PCC permission to apply to the archdeacon for a certificate to have the organ repaired. Three estimates had been submitted to the Advisory Committee and the organ advisor had recommended Messrs Starmer Shaw of Northampton who can commence the work after Christmas. The estimated cost would be £1,039. Apart from repairing, a standard pedal board would be fixed. The work would be in two parts, one before Easter and the rest after. After a little discussion it was proposed by Mr C Brown and seconded by Mr R Odell and carried unanimously that we apply for a certificate to carry out the necessary work on the organ and that this work be done by Messrs Starmer Shaw. The secretary to make the application together with a copy of this resolution.
01-Jan-65	107	192	Emergency meeting of the PCC. On Jan 1/65 an Emergency meeting was called owing to the disastrous fire which befell our church on December 26/64.
01-Jan-65	107	193	Insurance: The church was insured overall in the sum of £85,400.
01-Jan-65	107	194	Details of insurance: Fabric £60,000 Fittings, fabrics & books £7-500, windows £3,900 Organ & blower £7,000 architects fees £7,000
01-Jan-65	107	194	Messrs Starmer Shaw had also been and thought they knew of a 2nd hand organ that might suit us, but the advisory committee would have to be consulted on this.
29-Jan-65	107	195	Friday Jan 29th PCC: The organ: This was still under discussion and nothing more at this stage could be done until we know more about the organ that Messrs Starmer Shaw had got for sale.
29-Jan-65	107	196	Union of Parishes: The vicar said the archdeacon of Buckingham was coming next week to meet the vicars and churchwardens of St Giles, St Marys and Calverton to discuss the proposed union of the three parishes in the future. The vicar said that many thanks were due to all and particularly to the ladies for the wonderful job of cleaning they had done in the church, so that we could use it for worship again, he also said that he and the churchwardens would be meeting a representative of the insurance co and Mr Rolls the architect on Thursday next Feb 4th in the church for further discussion on the matter of restoration.
05-Mar-65	107	201	1st meeting new council Friday March 5/65: The organ: The vicar said he and the organist had been to view the organ that Messrs Starmer Shaw had for sale, which was a three manual Console, and as far as could be seen might suit us very well. It was a Willis Organ and had been thoroughly recommended by Mr Clutton the organ advisor. The vicar read the specification of the same and the cost would be in the region of £6,000 an extra stop was recommended which would cost an extra £270 or £120. A contract for tuning four times a year would be 32 guineas. This was much more than we now paid but the vicar thought this could be overcome by money that could be invested for this purpose. Discussion took place and it seemed the alternative would be a new organ which could cost anything up to £20,000. The vicar said he would like to consult Mr Rolls as to whether he thought it would fit in. We could not make a decision now, we could only say we were interested.
07-Oct-66	107	250	Friday Oct 7/66 PCC meeting: Re-decoration: The vicar read letters which Mr Rolls had had from the various contractors who were willing to fit in with the various jobs. He also read a letter about Liturgical
07-Oct-66	107	251	re-arrangements. The archdeacon had been & Mr John Piper who said it was a wonderful opportunity to make improvements, & suggested the church needed more colour & it would be good for members of the Georgian Society to make some suggestions. The secretary of the advisory committee thought the organ should be in the west end, but he also thought they would agree to it being at the side. The vicar had talked with the choir & the organist they preferred the console to be by the pulpit & not in the gallery as had been suggested. After discussion it was proposed by Mr Tarry & seconded by Mr Francis that the Chancel be re-instated as now, minus the screen but that before any final decision is made we have discussions with St Mary's & this was carried.
07-Oct-66	107	251	Friday Oct 7/66 PCC meeting: The organ: The vicar said that Dr Ingram was getting concerned about the final decision regarding the organ & after discussion it was agreed that the secretary write & tell him that we quite understood how he felt but until the architect had submitted the drawings which had to go to the advisory committee we were not in a position to place the order.
04-Nov-66	107	256	Friday Nov 4/66 PCC meeting. The organ: Mr Rolls & Dr Ingram had met the vicar & church wardens and discussed the matter in which it was suggested on the recommendation of the advisory committee the organ be at the back of the church and Mr Rolls was asked to submit fresh drawings for the organ at the West end of the church, together with a sketch of the Chancel xxxxxx & the choir. A letter had been received from Mr J Cowley

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04-Nov-66	107	257	stating that work would commence in the church on Nov 9th. The vicar said Mr Rolls drawings were expected tomorrow and it was suggested that we all meet in the church on Monday 7th at 6-30pm to see them.
16-Dec-66	107	263	Friday Dec 16/66 PCC meeting: The Organ: Mr Larry/Tarry? Proposed, subject to no objection by the archdeacon that the order be placed for the organ; in order that Dr Ingram may be able to make preparatory work in his workshop & order missing parts; & that an appropriate sum be paid with the order & this was seconded by Mrs Dolling & carried unanimously.
16-Dec-66	107	264	West end: Mr C Brown then proposed that Mr Rolls be instructed to produce the necessary drawings for the putting of the organ in the West End & the positioning of the consul (console) & choir in a gallery, & the repositioning of the font. This was seconded by Mrs J Haseldine & carried.
09-Jan-67	107	265	A special meeting of PCC Monday Jan 9/67 (chaired by C Brown in absence of vicar and vice chair R Odell). The organ: A letter was read from Messrs Starmer Shaw in which they asked for confirmation of our decision to purchase the organ & after discussion the secretary was instructed to reply to the letter confirming this, & it was proposed by Mr L Francis that we make an initial payment of £1,000 & ask them if they will make proposals of stage payments for the future & this was seconded by Mr W Clarke & carried.
27-Jan-67	107	270	Friday Jan 27/67 PCC meeting: Organ: Letters were read from Messrs Starmer Shaw & it was proposed by Mr C Tarry that we send them a further £1,250 to make up the sum of £2,250 as requested, this was seconded by Mr Francis & carried.
27-Jan-67	107	271	Choir: Mr C Brown said that he and Mr Osborne of St Marys would like to have more boys in the choir & would like to approach parents if in agreement with the PCC. It was unanimous that the PCC would gladly endorse this.
31-Mar-67	107	287	Friday March 31/67 PCC meeting: West End of Church: Drawings of the proposed Choir gallery were shown & in principal met with the approval of the council. A discussion then took place concerning the slowness of the work. Various people expressed their opinions & felt that the architect could have conducted the work at a greater speed, & the vicar was asked to advise him to get the further drawings necessary, before the next meeting of the Diocesan Advisory committee so they could be presented then & be no further delay in applying for the faculties needed.
24-Apr-67	107	291	Monday April 24/67 PCC meeting: West End gallery: These plans met with general approval but there were a few points we did not feel happy about, & the vicar was asked to discuss this with Mr Rolls & see if some alleviations on minor details could be made which in our view would be more satisfactory.
02-Jun-67	107	292-3	Friday June 2/67 PCC: Arising out of the minutes: Mr C Brown reported that the sub committee had met Mr xxx & Dr Ingram in the church & discussed the West End Gallery & the placing of the Console. Dr Ingram made three suggestions & the one favoured was that the console should be placed in the north gallery. An estimate had been obtained for the cost based on Mr Rolls' drawings the sum being £2,500. Mr C Brown said he thought that this was much too high a price & would have to be reviewed. After discussion it was proposed by Mr C Tarry that we accept the plans for the W. E Choir gallery with the console in the north gallery & that early steps be taken to ascertain the total liability for the church restoration. This was seconded by Mr C Brown & carried unanimously. It was agreed that a faculty for the chancel, organ & choir gallery be applied for at an early date.
07-Jul-67	107	297-8	Friday July 7/67 PCC meeting: Arising out of the minutes: The vicar said the drawings for the choir gallery had been approved by the advisory committee, so he asked for a resolution to obtain a certificate to do the work. It was proposed by Mr L Francis & seconded by Mrs Meachem that a faculty be obtained for the re-modelling of the Chancel & erecting new communion rails & building a choir gallery at the west end of the church in accordance with the plans of Mr Peter Foster & Messrs A Rolls & Partners for installing a H Willis organ according to the specifications of Messrs Starmer Shaw & Sons & this was carried.
07-Jul-67	107	298	The question was raised as to whether the organ now waiting to be assembled in the church is insured & it was left to the vicar to find out, & if it is not, to see about it being insured.
01-Sep-67	107	301	Friday Sep 1/67 PCC meeting: Arising out of the minutes: The vicar reported that the faculty for the remodelling of the chancel & the building of the choir gallery & the installation of the organ had been applied for & work should commence by the end of the month. Organ Insurance: The vicar said that the organ which was in the church to be assembled was at the moment not insured. He had been in communication with the Ecclesiastical Insurance Co. who had advised different ways of insuring & we could have a special insurance against fire for £6-2-6 & this was agreed upon. Concern was expressed about the church being left open when no workman were about & it was felt by the council this should not be & the secretary was instructed to write to Mr Cowley concerning the matter.
22-Sep-67	107	306	Friday Sep 22/67 PCC meeting: Restoration payment: The secretary read a letter from Mr Rolls together with a certificate for payment of £2,000 to Messrs J Cowley & Son for work on the South West Wall. Mr L Francis proposed & Mr Tarry seconded that payment be made & this was carried. Gift to Fr Painter: It was proposed by Mr C Brown & seconded by Mrs C Millward that a cheque for £5 be sent to him on the occasion of his retirement.

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22-Sep-67	107	307	New Vicar: The vicar said the meeting had been brought forward a fortnight in order that the PCC might be told that the Bishop had nominated the Rev C H J Cavell-Northam Vicar of Lane End Bucks to be the new Vicar of the United parishes of Stony Stratford & he would be coming to meet the liaison committee about the restoration & other matters on Tuesday. The question was raised as to what would happen when Fr Painter was gone. The council felt that some agreement between the two parishes should be arrived at with regard to the morning services as it was obvious a 9-15 & 11 am Eucharist was not possible for any length of time.
30-Oct-67	107	309-10	Monday Oct 30/67 PCC meeting: Arising out of the minutes: The secretary read a letter from Fr Painter thanking the PCC for their gift to him upon his retirement. She also read a letter from the Bishop of Oxford telling us of the appointment of the Rev C H J Cavell-Northam to be the first incumbent of the united benefices of Stony Stratford. A document was read stating the proposal for the union of the Benefices & Parishes from the Church Commissioners which are appended at the end of these minutes. Restoration: A letter was read from Messrs Rolls & Partners together with a certificate for the payment of the sum of £2,500 to Messrs J S Cowley & Son for work completed. It was proposed by Mrs Meacham & seconded by Mr L Francis that this amount be paid and this was carried.
30-Oct-67	107	311	The vicar then announced that he would be leaving St Giles the first week in December his last Sunday being Dec 3rd (Advent Sunday). He was to be instituted by the Bishop of Oxford to the Parish of St Agatha's Brightwell Cum Sotwell on Thursday Dec 7th at 7-30 pm.
17-Nov-67	107	315	Friday Nov 17/67 PCC meeting: Organ: The secretary presented a request from Messrs W Starmer Shaw & Sons asking for a 2nd instalment on the organ the sum of £2,250. Mr L Francis proposed & Miss Faines seconded that we pay it & this was carried.
17-Nov-67	107	317	Mr C Brown said that this was our last PCC meeting with our vicar and he wished him on our behalf every happiness in his new parish & with his new PCC.
10-Dec-67	107	318	Special meeting of PCC held at St Mary's Parish Room Dec 10/67 after course of instruction. Fr Cavell-Northam presided at a meeting of both PCC held in St Mary's Parish Room for Friday Dec 15/67 at 8-45pm. He said we had now reached a period when a lot of discussions would have to be made & he would suggest that we must meet in future after each instruction. It was put to the vote as to whether we meet as a separate council or jointly. A vote was taken, 14 votes to 9 in favour of joint meetings. He then told us that he proposed to issue a newsletter each week which would be distributed as we left church each Sunday & asked us if we would be prepared to share the cost & each PCC agreed to pay £5. The copies would be free during December & 1d per copy afterwards. The question was asked about those people who did not attend church & it was suggested that 4 copies be pinned together & issued as the formal Parish Magazine. Fr Cavell-Northam then said a working party for the moving of properties would be needed also for clearing purposes. Mr Larry Francis agreed to convene & form this working party. Fr Cavell-Northam then went on to say
10-Dec-67	107	319	that he would suggest that St Mary's sacristy be used as the vicar's study & as a place where interviews & Parish business could take place, & that the choir vestry be used as a Parish office. These premises could be connected up to the vicarage heating system. They would have to be partitioned off from the main body of the church. It was then proposed by Mr Stock & seconded by Miss Full that we accept these proposals & this was carried. The question next arose about the obtaining of faculties. We had now got to the stage where we could ask for a general faculty for the renovation & refurbishing of the church. Two plans for this work were passed around for inspection & comments were invited. Plan I & Plan II. Plan I had been turned down & Plan II had been accepted by the architect Mr Foster. It was then proposed by Mr Stock & seconded by Mrs Meacham that we accept Messrs Rolls & Partners Plan II No 602. 20.1 with the addition of a new floor & this was carried. St Giles PCC being the legal body to obtain a faculty for the work to be carried out in the church & St Marys PCC to obtain a faculty to remove their properties into St Giles, & this was agreed upon.
10-Dec-67	107	320	The secretaries of the respective councils to make an application for these faculties. This concluded the business of the meeting. C J Brown 29/12/67
			Friday Dec 29/67 & Friday Feb 9/68 & Weds Feb 14/68 were the last 3 meetings of the PCC of St Giles but these did not mention the organ.