

Safeguarding report 2023 - Paula Barber

Firstly, a massive thank you to Charlotte who has been doing the role of safeguarding officer until recently. I would like to wish her every happiness in her new adventure and on her next journey with her family and in her career.

Since taking over as Parish Safeguarding Officer, I have reviewed all the training which is required to be completed by Church wardens, PCC members and volunteers. Much of the training has been done, however there is still some to be completed. The same work has been completed with DBS checks. I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has taken the time to complete this work.

There is still work to be done with training and other documentation which I will continue with over the next few months. I have also had the offer from Wendy Hopkins, the Diocesan Safeguarding Support Officer, to come to the parish, review what we have done and help put in place any thing else we need to. No date has been arranged yet, but this could prove beneficial.

All documentation for safeguarding information has been updated and is now on display in both churches.

The parish has joined with other churches in using the Diocese safeguarding dashboard. An online tool (like a check box work sheet) [“to help keep administration, governance and compliance on track in Parishes”](#). It is proving to be very useful so far.

We have already completed the checklist for stage 1 and have an action plan to move us to stage 2. If anyone would like more information about the dashboard, please do not hesitate to speak to me.

We have had one potential safeguarding incident which occurred at Winter Warmer, Jen and Tony handled this very well, advice was taken from Beth Miller (Diocese Safeguarding officer) around how it was dealt with and how to move forward if the situation arose again and she confirmed it was dealt with appropriately and gave advice on future dealings. The PCC have been aware of the details of this incident.

At APCM we need to adopt our parish safeguarding policy and the domestic abuse policy.