

Safeguarding report May 2021

Powick, GMN

Safeguarding arrangements with Malvern Link and Cowleigh Parish with the appointments of Joy Black as PSO and Jo Attrill as safeguarding support in Powick were approved in October 2020 at the annual vestry meeting. The dashboard, maintained by Joy Black gives us a current picture of safeguarding training and the action required for us to become compliant with safeguarding policies. An action plan arising from the current situation will be drafted for PCC's perusal in the summer.

Annual report to the APCM on Safeguarding 2021.

I am glad to report that this Parish is fully compliant with the duty under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016 (duty to have due regard to House of Bishops' guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults) We have been awarded level 3 compliance, which is the highest level available.

We have followed, and will continue to follow, safer recruitment practise when appointing staff and volunteers, in line with both Parish and Diocesan policies, with job descriptions for all posts in place, clear procedures for appointments and DBS checks together with safeguarding training for any whose tasks involve work children or vulnerable adults. There have been two successful DBS applications [both at enhanced level], none refused, and we have, thankfully, not had to refer any cases to the Diocese for investigation.

It is incumbent upon every PCC member to undertake safeguarding training, and all church wardens must have both a full, enhanced DBS in place and complete the Leadership training course as soon as possible after appointment. In this Ecclesiastical year two church wardens have completed the new online C2 Leadership training in safeguarding., and all officers, leaders and volunteers must now retake safeguarding training every three years, as opposed to five years, as was the rule previously.

There are now regular online zoom meetings for all Parish Safeguarding Officers, following a hiatus, due to the restrictions imposed by COVID, with all DBS applications and checks, plus all training similarly moving online.

There is at present, despite constant requests from PSOs, no provision for face-to-face meetings or interactions. The Diocesan team is considering very limited deanery-based group training sessions much later in the year, but I am very happy to help anyone who is unsure of how to access or complete training online.

There are to be some alterations to the National Safeguarding Framework, following a recent review and report, but as yet, none have been released for implementation, other than the three-year renewal point. The Parish dashboard has been updated regularly, with only a few outstanding points to clear. Namely reviews of policies, which will be undertaken by the new PCC following this APCM, and, as we slowly re-open our churches and spaces, hopefully activities will be re-established. New ones such as the Dementia meeting centre will grow, the contemplation centre can open its doors again, and the Arts centre at St Peter's will once again flourish. I am really looking forward to being able to list them on the Dashboard once more.

Joy Black

Parish Safeguarding Officer

MLwC

Training

The current safeguarding training requirements are:

- CO course – a requirement for all members of the PCC. This training can only currently be accessed online.
- C1 (Foundation) – for all lay workers or church workers, paid or voluntary. The training can only currently be accessed online.
- C2 (Leadership) – for clergy, retired clergy, Readers, Authorised Lay Ministers and Churchwardens. This is also online with preliminary reflections and an evaluation task.
- Safer recruitment training for PSO's, DBS administrators and anyone involved in parish recruitment.

All PCC members in both parishes have completed the required CO training.

Additionally, 5 people have completed C1 and 2 people, C2 training

Jo Attrill has attended Safer Recruitment training and 2 zoom PSO meetings

All training being online has made it difficult for some people to access required training. It is hoped that the diocese will be able to initiate some face-to-face training at a later date if the COVID roadmap proceeds. Ensuring appropriate training and processing DBS checks is on-going.

Safeguarding concerns

A simple proforma to record concerns and action taken has been implemented.

The diocese is trialing a formal referral form for those cases which need to be referred on to them.

There is presently one on-going case involving the diocese.

Three cases which came to the attention of the vicar have been discussed with safeguarding support and resources and pastoral care given. These have been recorded.

Pastoral visits

Since the outbreak of the Covid 19 pandemic a number of people have volunteered to keep in touch, through phone calls or visits, with members of the Church congregation or have responded to requests for friendship/contact. A guidance leaflet has been produced to support good practice and to provide a comprehensive list of agencies that can help people who may have concerns.

PCC MEMBER	ROLE	CO	C1	C2	Renewal
Barbara Hill	PCC Member ALM	June 2020	October 2017		
Don Hill	PCC Member	June 2020	October 2017		
Chris Bennett	PCC Member Church Warden	June 2020	October 2017		
Alice Bennett	Deanery Synod Rep				
Rosemary McCulloch	PCC Member	April 2021	October 2017		
Elizabeth Palmer	PCC Member Church Warden		October 2017		
Chris Lester	PCC Member	15/5/2021			
Janet Lomas	PCC Member	June 2020	October 2017		
Peter Hughes	PCC Member	8/5/2021			

PCC MEMBER	ROLE	C0	C1	C2	Renewal
Janet Chill	PCC member Church Warden	July 2020		17/9/2020	9/23
Mary Ward	PCC member Church Warden	11/2/21	11/2/21		2/24
Frances Betts	PCC member	June 2020	18/3/21		3/24

	Assistant Church Warden OTB				
Ken Harris	PCC member Assistant Church Warden	April 2021			4/24
Kay Shuard	PCC member ALM			17/9/2020	9/23
Michael Briggs	PCC member	3/9/20			9/23
Amy Dunn	PCC member	9/4/21			4/24
Meg Allsop	PCC member ALM OTB	Refresher course for Foundation /Leadership 24/04/19			4/22
Julia Davis	PCC member			May 2021	
Jonathan Slade	PCC member	March 21			3/24
Philip Betts	PCC member	June 2020			6/23
Sheila Lynes	PCC member	31/5/20			5/23