

ANNUAL REPORT

2023

St John the Baptist Church, Boldre

St Nicholas Chapel, Pilley

Boldre Parochial Church Council

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ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

This document is prepared by the Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Boldre.

Vicar and Advisers:

Vicar:	Reverend Simon Newham
Team Vicar, Assistant Priest:	Reverend Terence Handley Macmath
Registered Charity No.:	1200694
Bankers:	Lloyds Bank Plc, 39 High St, Lymington, Hampshire SO41 9ZF The CBF Church of England Funds (CCLA Investment Management Limited), One Angel Lane, London EC4R 3AB
Independent Examiner:	Brenda Peers-Ross FMAAT ACIE, 29 Draft Road, Selsey, Chichester, W Sussex, PO20 OPW

The parish church of St John the Baptist Boldre is situated at the north end of Church Lane, Boldre SO41 5PG. It is part of the Diocese of Winchester within the Church of England. The PCC was registered as a charity with the Charity Commission on 17th October 2022. Its registered name is ‘The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Boldre’, hereafter referred to as ‘Boldre PCC’.

The following have served on the Parochial Church Council (PCC) during the period from 1st January 2023 until the date this report was approved unless otherwise indicated. Additionally, all PCC members have served as a Trustee of the registered charity:

Chairpersons:	Reverend Simon Newham Reverend Terence Handley Macmath (from 6 th November 2023)
Vice Chair:	Sally James
Churchwardens:	Sally James Christopher Knox
Treasurer:	Richard Tolkien
Secretary:	Geoffrey Breeze
Members:	Fiona Bruce Christopher Butler Graham Edmiston David Joseph Ruth Liley Richard Pickance James Puttick (from 23 rd April 2023)

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The PCC is a corporate body established by the Church of England. The PCC operates under the Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure 1956 and is registered with the Charity Commission.

The day-to-day management of the PCC is vested in the Team Vicar (the PCC Chairperson) with support from the Churchwardens. The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. All Church attendees are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll

and stand for election to the PCC. The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules.

At the current size of its Electoral Roll, St John's may have up to twelve elected members of the PCC, with four members being elected annually for a term of three years, and four retiring every year. There is no limit to the number of consecutive three-year terms a PCC member may serve. In addition, there up to three members of the Deanery Synod who are elected for a three-year term and, if not already elected members of the PCC, automatically become so ex-officio. Deanery Synod representatives may serve two consecutive terms of office before being required to stand down for one full term. All clergy licensed to the parish are ex-officio members of the PCC. Members can be co-opted to the PCC for purposes as set out in the Church Representation Rules (none at present). Co-option is for one year only but may be renewed as necessary annually. There are up to two Churchwardens, elected annually for a maximum of six consecutive terms. They must then stand down for two years before being eligible to stand again as Churchwardens.

The Standing Committee, agreed by the PCC, is the Vicar, two Churchwardens, The Secretary, the Treasurer, and Mt Graham Edmiston. It meets between PCC meetings. The Standing Committee considers some of the items that will be brought to the PCC in much more detail and deals with matters that arise between meetings. It makes urgent decisions as needed. It scrutinises the minutes of the PCC and helps to set the agenda. The Standing Committee reports back to each full meeting of the PCC.

VICAR'S REPORT

2023 began with saying 'goodbye and thank you' to Andrew and Diana – and what a wonderful day that was – not because they were leaving, but because there was a full church, a poetic sermon, a wonderful lunch, glorious music and more poetry in the evening and Andrew didn't break down in tears as he feared he would – well done Boldre!

Until a replacement was to be found more of the day-to-day responsibilities fell on me and I must say how much I have enjoyed leading more of the services at St John's and getting to know more of you better. Sally, Chris, Timothy and the whole PCC were a wonderful support in this – thank you!

The PCC put together an excellent Parish Profile (thanks go to Ruth and Roger Liley who did much of the hard work) and Terence and Paul came to join us in September – they both come with their unique gifts that they are so generously using in the service of St John's and the wider community.

Mel continues to use her considerable gifts in William Gilpin Primary School building links with both children and parents and seeking to raise the profile of St John's in their daily life. Our admin teams continue to work more closely together in support of one another and we also continue to do wedding and baptism preparation together – receiving very positive feedback from those who take part.

Particular highlights of the year for me have been leading second Sunday services at St Nicholas' and St John's; the Back to Boldre service for wedding couples, the Good Friday service; the village Fete; the Walhampton drinks do; the Christmas Fayre; and the occasional concert I managed to get to (not forgetting the one in the woods of course)! So, "thank you Boldre" for a good year in which you have made me feel particularly welcomed and valued.

Revd Simon Newham

TEAM VICAR'S REPORT

The last four months have been a steep learning curve for the in-coming Assistant Priest. It has been good to have had a time of Covid-convalescence to take stock.

The initial challenge was simply to manage the fall-out of a move from France to a vicarage managed by the Diocesan Housing Office, with no opportunity to measure anything in advance. I would like to thank everyone in the parish who worked hard before we came (so we don't know exactly who those kind souls are) to achieve that for which the diocese did not accept responsibility and, in particular, Geoffrey Breeze, who worked tirelessly at the vicarage for days to ensure that we could put up curtains and lights. We're grateful to Andrew and Diana for not removing the vegetable garden fencing, as ordered by the diocesan housing director, and to Sally for very generous welcome gifts of groceries, maps, local papers etc. and flowers. As I write, water is dripping through a ceiling in the kitchen, and we are still waiting for essential repairs to be finished. Part of the learning curve has been getting to know the diocesan personnel, structures and resources, and the recent history. I attended the clergy conference in January to meet the new bishop and see how things might change.

The first three months' urgent business was to learn how to manage each Sunday's services (all of which are 'specials' during the autumn) while simultaneously learning how to work well together with the administrator, wardens, Reader and Director of Music - getting to know rhythms, routines, preferred communication styles, expectations and what 'we just do the usual thing' means - for of course, there is no 'usual' in the Church of England. With no formal hand-over, everything had to be discovered from scratch but in time for whatever the next Sunday demanded. I am nonetheless very grateful to Andrew and Diana for their continuing advice and support.

No less urgent was the task of getting to know everyone, and to discover what I could use from previous experience, and what is simply unique to St John's, and what is unfolding in the change from having a very gifted assistant priest and his wife dedicated entirely to St John's, to a priest working here (nominally) one and half days a week, with another parish to look after, and a part-time job. There have been difficulties and disappointments because of the cut in hours, I'm well aware, but I am hopeful that because I'm shared, the two parishes will share other things more easily, and we'll find that we can cut costs and work, and double the fun, while also sharing resources with the two Brockenhurst churches.

Routine parish duties of Sunday services and pastoral offices would be impossible for me without the very generous and dedicated support of Chris Knox (who takes care of all the funerals and interments) and the retired clergy (Richard Elliott, Felicity Boot, Iain Morrison) as well as Simon and Stephen Bennett.

An enormous burden is also carried by members of the PCC who work extremely hard to keep the fabric of the church and its finances in good order. We are all indebted to them for keeping St John's open for business. I'm also very grateful to others in the congregation who faithfully serve by cleaning, dealing with rubbish, catering, unlocking, and locking, arranging flowers, singing in the choir - all the things that one takes for granted until they don't happen. These are all part of one ministry that we share together, and none of them are less important than mine.

A very important part of Christian life is pastoral care, and it is good to see how carefully people at St John's look after one another. A challenge for an ageing congregation is how to keep that loving care going when people move out of the parish, into residential homes, or into someone else's parish, or become too frail to come to church. I have set up a Pastoral Care team to try to meet the needs of those who are housebound: Chris Knox, Felicity Boot and Nick Walford. We had a parish Requiem in November, hoping that those who have been bereaved recently would perhaps find solace coming to a special service. It may be that the online presence that St John's developed during the pandemic could be revived and be an important part of our pastoral care. There have been one or two requests for somewhere for people to leave requests for prayer by others, and working out how this can be achieved effectively is on my 'to do' list.

The congregations at St Nicholas's chapel are important. They are mostly self-sustaining and don't overlap much with St John's. A meeting for Evening Prayer during Advent elicited some requests for more use of the chapel, and more gatherings for silent prayer. The PCC has given permission for Sally to unlock the chapel for private use during her office hours, and we will see how that develops.

Developing in prayer, spiritual receptivity, trust and peace is the most important work all of us do. I look forward to getting to know people better, learning from them, and offering what I can. Here, it is not so much about the culture of a congregation as a whole but, exploring the gifts and experience of individuals. I would like to attend the church's Bible study group (which hasn't been possible yet) and I enjoyed the sessions on liturgy and lectionaries because it gave us a chance to reflect on our varied experiences of God in private and public worship. I have offered everyone the opportunity to have a 'Spiritual MOT' in Lent – a chance to talk about what is most important (and admittedly difficult) to talk about, in a quiet space.

I'm also keen to build up a shared picture of all the ways in which people at St John's serve in the local and national community, for we exist first of all to worship God, but secondarily to serve others. Honouring and encouraging each other's service to the community – local, national, international – could inspire each one of us in what we do and what God would like us to do.

Revd Terence Handley MacMath

CHURCHWARDENS' REPORT

It has been a momentous and very busy year at St John's. From January to September, we were without a team vicar, Andrew and Diana having retired to the delights of Wells. During the interregnum, we managed to hold all our regular and special services and continued to be well supported by our loyal and faithful congregation. There was a very happy atmosphere in church each week and we all felt part of a team that was pulling together. We would like to thank everybody who helped in whatever capacity for going the extra mile to ensure that St John's continued to thrive.

Special thanks are due to Felicity Boot, who stepped in to take many extra services, and to our Vicar, Simon Newham, who often graced us with his presence and kept us on the straight and narrow, not least in PCC Meetings. Also, we owe a great debt of gratitude to Sally James, our Benefice Administrator, who shouldered a very heavy extra burden in running the parish and ensuring that everything was in order.

We said farewell to Andrew and Diana at a special service on Sunday 22nd January. They had been at St John's for nine very happy and fruitful years, and we thank God for them. We are very sorry that they have retired and wish them a long and happy time in Wells, under the shadow of the cathedral.

Other special services held during the year were Africa Sunday, the Hood Memorial Service, Remembrance Sunday, the Advent Carol Service, the Service of Nine Lessons and Carols and the Crib Service, all of which were very well attended.

Having gone through the required advertising and interview processes, we welcomed the Rev. Terence Handley-MacMath as our Team Vicar. She was licensed on Tuesday 26th September by the Bishop of Southampton at a special service at St John's which followed a similar ceremony at St Mary's. We wish her, and her husband Paul, a very happy tenure as she leads St John's into a new chapter in its long history.

On a practical note, we installed under-pew heating in the body of the church early in the year, with radiators in the two vestries and the Tower Room. This system replaced the rather antiquated and inefficient overhead heaters. So efficient is the new system, that we have to turn some of the individual heaters off after a time to ensure that no-one roasts, even in the coldest weather.

All in all, St John's has been blessed with another very good year for which we give grateful thanks to God.

Our 2023 statistics are:

- Average Attendance at Regular Services: 58
- Baptisms: 9
- Weddings: 16

- Funerals: 34

The number of members on the Electoral Roll published on 7th April 2023 was 113, whereof 40 reside in the parish, and 73 outside the parish.

Churchwardens Sally James and Christopher Knox.

VISION & MISSION

Mission can be centrifugal and centripetal. St John's does centripetal well: people open themselves to God through music and liturgy, beauty, quiet spaces, natural materials and churchyards, and St John's offers those things.

My pastoral responsibilities are also to those in the parishes who don't come to church, getting to know them and serving them as I can. I want to find ways of encouraging children to participate in our church life, as the PCC wishes. To that end, I've cast my bread very liberally upon the waters – trying to get to know local people, visiting all the schools in the parish, the Community Shop, lunch club, WI, the two plant nurseries, and with Geoffrey Breeze's assistance again, making links with the local pubs and hotels, with a view to making the church visible in the community. We have used one venue for a post-pilgrimage lunch, another for a PCC awayday, and have forged a relationship with another as a venue for regular play-readings. I take an assembly at William Gilpin school every two weeks, and support Mel Osborne's work there as far as I am able. I've found her to be a very able and very supportive colleague, and Simon Croutear has been very welcoming. I have accepted his invitation to become an ex-officio governor.

Believing music and liturgy to be the most promising avenue for encouraging children to take part in our church life, I have put a lot of energy into forming a school-church choir, with the support of David and Helen Woodgates, and some promised help from Winchester Cathedral. At the time of writing, however, we are still waiting for the precentor (who has also promised help to set up an organ scholarship for a student) to tell us what resources are available.

Setting music aside, whether or not St John's has the physical space, liturgical tradition and personnel within the congregation to offer the kinds of activities that parents look for is still a question. A church which is run by and for retired people can serve a mature population very well but may effectively exclude others. For example, if the choir practice for half the year is during school and office hours, it effectively precludes anyone under retirement age from joining. As far as I'm aware, my paper with a wide range of suggestions for people to help grow young disciples, from praying with a national group on Zoom to volunteering to help Mel Osborne with projects, produced no response at all. It was difficult to muster enough stewards to enable the crib service to take place. This is not a criticism, but an open question about what this congregation's charism is, and whether welcoming and building up young people is part of its mission at the moment.

One way in which St John's serves younger people very well is by being available for weddings. As providing a vergger for the growing number of weddings is becoming onerous, we are advertising for verggers, who will be paid by the wedding couples. Weddings happily often lead to baptisms, and it's good to welcome local families who have lost touch with the church back for those occasions.

We know that social media platforms are now the way in which younger people learn about the world, communicate, and transact their social lives and relationships, including donating to the Church, and worshipping. I have no experience of this, and no website skills, so I am very grateful for the work of Don O'Connor and Geoffrey Breeze for their work on the church website, as well as for David Woodgates and his team's work to produce The Bridge. I have enlisted the help of Jeremy Moss from St Saviour's to help us create better information flow systems within the church, and Geoffrey Breeze to continue to help us improve the website. I am very pleased that the weekly pew sheet is now shared with St Mary's, and information and news from Brockenhurst's Spotlight can be included where relevant. Still to be tackled are good use of the noticeboards in the church

and community, and a decision about how to develop a presence on social media. We should also ask people to renew their subscription to the weekly email.

A special community project this year will be the tricentennial celebrations of William Gilpin's birth, 1st to 4th June 2024. This project was initiated by Diana Neaum, and is being co-ordinated by Jo Humphreys, with contributions from Simon Croutear, Alison Bolton and Patrick Kempe (Local Parish History Society), Penelope Chitty and me. William Gilpin's achievements are of interest to teachers, artists, local historians and writers, so we hope that the festival will involve many people in the community and bring visitors from elsewhere. As part of this festival, we will also remember his curate, Richard Johnson, and welcome Di Strathdee (a friend of Don and Ann O'Connor) from St Philip's, Sydney on May 26th.

Revd Terence Handley MacMath

OVERSEAS MISSION

St. John's connection with Byumba in Rwanda is alive and well.

We continue to sponsor three children's attendance at King Salomon Academy, and they are making good progress.

Last year we sent £1,195 to the Diocese of Byumba, which paid school fees for the three children, Asher, Bonheur, and Fabrice, as well as for three months supplies of cereals, milk and soap for the Hannah Ministry.

Sally went over in August, with Sally Hoole, specifically to attend Bishop Emmanuel's wedding, but also to check on the school and the Hannah Ministry.

Since Covid, the church in Byumba has been unable to finance food for the vulnerable children at the Hannah Ministry, so we bought enough supplies to last another three months. Sadly, this has now run out and there is nothing with which to feed the children and they are being sent home. This means that they will probably not eat for days at a time. I hope to be able to raise enough money to replenish stocks – the equivalent of £750 will feed 40 children and several vulnerable adults daily for three months.

School fees for two terms are due also at £85 per child per term.

On 4th February, St John's held its annual Africa Sunday where this year's Lent Appeal was launched. Lyndhurst Deanery Mission Group hopes to raise enough money to bring pastors and teachers here to observe our churches and schools and to share best practice.

Sally James

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

This year, the main service was held inside the church, due to inclement weather. Wreaths were laid at the altar and then moved outside to the War Memorial after the service.

The following wreaths were laid:

- Boldre Parish Council; Vince Slattery, Chairman.
- Military; Lieutenant Colonel David Mans, PARA
- Boldre WI; Lynne Ball, Chairman.
- William Gilpin School; Simon Croutear, Headmaster.
- H.M.S. Hood; Captain Mark Hamilton, RN
- Honourable Artillery Company; Roger Bell.
- St John's and St Nicholas' Churches; Christopher Knox.

Unfortunately, our usual trumpeter, Doug Barlow, was not able to be present due to illness. However, we were very blessed to have Ethan Rose in his place, Ethan being a very talented young trumpeter who played 'Last Post' and 'Reveille' superbly, both at the main service and at the Canadian War Graves.

This year, there were no representatives of the Canadian Armed Forces, so a wreath was laid on their behalf at the war graves by David Mans. As usual, the children laid poppies on each individual grave and the short service ended with 'Last Post, Reveille' and the reciting of the Kohima Epitaph.

Very many thanks to all those who took part in the two services, to all the marshals and other helpers and particularly to Val Van der Hoven whose faultless staff work ensured that everything ran like clockwork. Who would have guessed that she had served in the army?

Christopher Knox

LYNDHURST DEANERY SYNOD REPORT

Personnel: Rev Simon Newham continued as area dean co-chairing the meetings with Bill Andrews, the lay representative. St John's representatives were Ruth Liley, who resigned at the end of her term in April 2023, Fiona Bruce, who took over from James Brushwood, and Mo Dawson. St John's is entitled to three representatives.

Speakers: During the year, speakers included: Claire Lingard from Envoy – a Church Army Programme to resource and encourage us to share our faith and Greg Eland, Diocese of Winchester Mission and Ministry Trainer – who spoke about lay support and training in Winchester Diocese.

In October, the importance of an online presence was No. 1 on the agenda and tips were given on how to make a good website:

- * 1 in 5 people go to church online but do not physically go to church.
- * 1 in 4 watched an online service during lockdown.
- * 33% first found their church online.
- * 17 million people visit church websites.
- * £2.2 billion donated through church donation page.
- * Most parishes use Facebook.

The church tent: Another successful time at the New Forest Show in 2023, organised by Rev David Potterton of Lyndhurst. The tent provided drinks of tea and coffee to at least 2500 people and between 400 and 500 faces were painted.

Rwanda: The Deanery visits Rwanda regularly, to encourage new and former relationships.

Ruth Liley and Fiona Bruce

FABRIC AND CHURCHYARD

The new under-pew heating system was installed in March at a cost of £34,356 and has proved very satisfactory. The church now heats up very much quicker.

Work on the roof, the stonework, windows, louvres on the tower, bells, and main porch internal door, recommended by the Quinquennial Inspection report issued in January 2021, remains outstanding. Quotations were obtained for the works, and the total cost estimated at £58,246. In view of the overall cost and the need to obtain substantial support for them from the Boldre Church Trust, it was decided to spread these works over five years, and to start with work on the roof. The roof work includes making good the guttering around the building, work on wooden fascia boards, removing plant life and replacing missing, broken, and slipped tiles. A quotation of £17,760 for this work has been accepted and the contractor is due to start in April.

For several years Tim Farquhar and Bob Barlow have themselves undertaken or commissioned maintenance and repair work at St John's and at St Nicholas Chapel but have recently retired from this role. Their valuable practical skills will not be easily replaced by members of the congregation, and we are likely to make greater use of tradesmen in the future.

David Ridout continues to act as overseer in the maintenance of the churchyard and the graves. Internments of ashes are now taking place close to the hedge forming the north-eastern boundary of the churchyard and a number of upright memorial stones have already been placed there.

A total of £7,469 was spent on grass cutting, hedge trimming, renewal of post and rails, repainting of lamp posts and re-erection of an unsafe gravestone during the year.

Graham Edmiston

ST NICHOLAS CHAPEL

Holy Communion services take place at the chapel on Sunday mornings at 8.00 am and on Wednesday mornings at 10.30 am. The premises are shared with the benefice office, which the benefice administrator, Sally James, attends on Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday mornings. At those times and after the Holy Communion service on Wednesday mornings, the chapel will be open for private contemplation and prayer.

The chapel is also used for PCC and other church meetings.

£992 was spent on grass cutting and hedge trimming in the chapel grounds during the year.

Graham Edmiston

SUMMER FETE

Our principal fundraising event, the summer fete, raised almost £9,000 in 2023.

From the proceeds we were able to donate money to Boldre parish council to help their playground fund-raising effort. Many people from the wider community were involved in both, especially the summer fete. A straw poll conducted on the entrance gate indicated that the biggest draw to the fete was William Gilpin school. This time, Walhampton School ran a stall for the first time. Effective poster advertising and Caldwell signage was also a draw.

Happily, Boldre Produce Fair also had a stall and were able to raise interest for their annual show after the previous year's disappointing cancellation.

Ruth Liley

OTHER EVENTS

The Stewardship Committee, led by Simon Derrick, continued its tradition of hosting an evening drinks party for the church community at Walhampton School in January 2023 and again on 28th January this year, attended by over 150 on both occasions, at no cost to church funds. Last year we were entertained by verse from Andrew; this year we received warm praise and encouragement from Terence.

St John's hosted a performance of Stainer's Crucifixion by the Nova Foresta Classical Players on 4 March and a choral Easter concert by the Romsey Singers on 1st April, both events attracting a full church.

On 16th April St John's hosted a performance by the Sway Handbell Ringers, accompanied by Timothy Rice on the organ.

On 22nd July St John's hosted a picnic and concert: Serenade to Ukraine, organised by John James, to raise funds for Ukraine, with local Ukrainian residents participating. It was intended to be an outdoor event, but the wet weather confined it to the church and a reduced attendance.

St John's annual harvest supper, organised by Carole Morris and her team of helpers, took place at the Boldre Memorial Hall on 9th September, a convivial gathering of 50 local residents.

The benefice annual quiz took place in the Hall on 2nd December. It attracted 60 participants from the St John's and St Mary's communities. Our thanks to David and Helen Woodgates for their roles as quizmasters.

Dita Broster, the music teacher at William Gilpin School, led her adult choir, 'One way Ticket' in a concert at St John's on 10th December of popular classic songs, which was very well attended.

Graham Edmiston

MUSIC

It has been good to have the resources to maintain a music tradition at St. John's - a loyal and able team of choristers who have turned their voices to an array of music covering several centuries, including the 20th century music of Herbert Howell's Like as the hart, sung at Terence's Licensing service in September 2023 - a challenging piece which the team committed themselves to 101%, and it showed. The occasional services of weddings and funerals have continued to demand choral input which is very much appreciated and the presence of musicians leading the singing at such occasions makes such a valuable difference.

On the organ front, it has been exciting to make use of the three (yes, three!) organs that we have at St. John's throughout the year - the famous "Willis" organ of Hereford Cathedral, a fantastic organ from Slovenia built as recently as 2007, and a more modest English instrument which exists at Moseley in Birmingham. Of course, there is not a single organ pipe to be found in sight, for the three organs we have are mere recordings of the real thing, but the sound produced is so pleasingly realistic.

Looking forward, 2024 holds an exciting agenda of music, beginning with a visit from the Romsey Singers in March; details of future events will be made available shortly.

Timothy Rice

ECO CHURCH

Eco Church was raised this year as a new initiative for our parish and David Joseph has volunteered to be St John's eco champion looking ahead to 2024 and beyond. Eco Church is a nationwide, cross-denomination project of A Rocha UK which is a charity committed to mobilising Christians to care for nature. The concept is for the Church to consider how it is caring for God's earth in different areas of Church life and work, being, worship and teaching, management of church buildings, management of church land, community, and global engagement and finally lifestyle. Ultimately, it provides a structure for how we might contribute as a community to a greener and more sustainable society and environment.

The scheme itself takes the form of an online Eco Survey. The survey covers the five areas of Church life and work listed above and the answers are assessed independently, and an allocation of points given to the Church. The points collected contribute toward the attainment of Eco Church awards (bronze, silver and gold) and once an award is achieved, we may apply for a certificate or purchase a plaque for the Church to mark the achievement. We will be looking to initially complete the survey in Spring 2024.

David Joseph

SAFEGUARDING STATEMENT

The PCC has complied 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).

In the year, 3 DBS have come up for renewal. One has renewed successfully and the other two are the subject of further discussion.

4 members of the PCC completed their Basic Awareness training, 6 completed their Foundations Pathway training and 5 completed their Domestic Abuse Awareness course. Safeguarding training is in hand for Church Welcomers.

Safeguarding is a Standing Item on every PCC agenda. No safeguarding issues have been raised this year.

A Dashboard introduced by the diocese in 2022 is working well and is a useful tool in maintaining an up-to-date overview of safeguarding performance throughout the year against the Diocesan Safeguarding template.

Those who are kind enough to volunteer for roles within the church are asked to complete some simple safeguarding training. They are also requested to apply for a DBS certificate, which can be done online. The first stage is for the Benefice Administrator to provide the volunteer with the basic information to enable the volunteer to start the application process. The second stage is for the identity documents used by the volunteer to be verified by the PSO, usually by a quick meeting in the Benefice Office.

Your PSO is constantly reminded of the importance of safeguarding. It is stressed to him that everyone should know what to do if they have a safeguarding concern of any kind. That concern should be shared in the first instance with the PSO on safeguarding@boldrechurch.com who will escalate it to the Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser (DSA). If the concern is an emergency or there is a risk of immediate harm, the police must be alerted as well as Social Services. A report will then need to be written and emailed to the DSA who will manage the response.

Nicholas Walford

This report was approved by the Boldre Parochial Church Council and signed on its behalf by:

Name: Terence Handley MacMath

Position: Team Vicar

Signed *Terence Handley MacMath*

18th March 2024

Attachment: Boldre Parochial Church Council Working Groups during 2023

MEMBERS OF BOLDRE PCC WORKING GROUPS (2023)

<p>OVERSEAS MISSION SALLY JAMES REVD. CANON ANDREW NEAUM PENELOPE CHITTY GRAHAM EDMISTON CHRISTINE NASH</p>	<p>CHURCH & CHAPEL FABRIC TIM FARQUHAR BOB BARLOW WITH GRAHAM EDMISTON</p> <hr/> <p>CHURCHYARD DAVID RIDOUT GRAHAM EDMISTON CHRIS KING</p>
<p>EVENTS RUTH LILEY SANDY WALFORD ANDREW & DIANA NEAUM JILL MATHEW RICHARD PICKANCE HILARY KNOX MAGGI COBB ANNA BRUCE GRAHAM EDMISTON MARY JEANS</p>	<p>FINANCE RICHARD TOLKIEN KATHERINE WHARMBY GRAHAM EDMISTON</p> <hr/> <p>DEANERY SYNOD REPRESENTATIVES RUTH LILEY FIONA BRUCE SALLY JAMES</p> <hr/> <p>FLOWERS @ ST NICHOLAS CHAPEL JILL MATHEW, CAROLE FENNING, ELAINE FENNING, ANGELA GRAINGER, CAROLE MORRIS, GILL CRUTCHLEY</p>
<p>STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE SIMON DERRICK SANDY WALFORD JO HUMPHREYS GRAHAM EDMISTON NICHOLAS WALFORD RICHARD TOLKIEN CHRISTOPHER KNOX SIMON NEWHAM</p>	<p>FLOWERS @ ST JOHN'S JANNY BERNAYS, CLARIE BROOKE-SMITH, SANDY BRUCE, ANNABEL COLLENETTE, GILL CRUTCHLEY, MEL DACUNHA, JACQUI DAVIES, SUSAN HEAD, ANNE HENLEY, SARAH LATHAM, DIANA NEAUM, NETTY OLDFIELD, JENNY PICKANCE, JEAN POTTER, ANNETTE RIDOUT, DIANA STEWART, JO TURNAGE, GWYNNETH UNDERWOOD, JUDY UREN, ELIZABETH WALKER CHRISTABEL WATERS, JANE WILFORD</p>