

## **PCC Declarations 2021**

St. Gabriel's Church is the Parish Centre of Worship for the Parish of Popley with Limes Park and Rooksdown, and is part of the Diocese of Winchester within the Church of England. The correspondence address is St. Gabriel's Church, Tewkesbury Close, Popley Basingstoke, RG24 9DU. The PCC is a body corporate and a charity currently excepted from registration with the Charity Commission.

PCC members who have served at any time since the last APCM in 2020 until the date of this report.

Ex Officio members:

- Incumbent: The Reverend Arthur Botham
- Wardens: Mrs Marion Davies and Mr Kelvin Lewington

Elected members:

- Mrs Denise Harding (Secretary)
- Mr Mark Logan
- Mr John Athanasiou
- Mrs Sandra Hubbard
- Mr Stephen Wade
- Mrs Jeanette Wade
- Mr Stephen Aloro

Co-opted Members:

- Mrs Lesley Osman

Deanery Synod members:

- Mr Chuka Uju

## **Governing Documents**

### **Statement**

The Church of England have agreed with the Charity Commission that for the purposes of agreeing 'governing documents', Parochial Church Councils (PCCs) are governed by two pieces of legislation:

the Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure 1956 as amended. This defines the principle function, or purpose, of the PCC as "promoting in the parish the whole mission of the Church". You can find the full text of the PCC Powers Measure in its currently amended form on the legislation.gov.uk database at

[www.legislation.gov.uk/ukcm/Eliz2/4-5/3/contents](http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukcm/Eliz2/4-5/3/contents)

and

the Church Representation Rules (contained in Schedule 3 to the Synodical Government Measure 1969 as amended). You can find the full text of the Church Representation Rules in its currently amended form on the legislation.gov.uk database at:

[www.legislation.gov.uk/ukcm/1969/2/schedule/3](http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukcm/1969/2/schedule/3)

## **Charitable Activities**

The Charitable activities of St. Gabriel's Church include;

- Regular public worship open to all.
- The provision of sacred space for personal prayer and contemplation.
- Pastoral work, including visiting the sick and the bereaved.
- Teaching of Christianity through sermons, courses and small groups
- Taking of religious assemblies in schools.
- Promotion of Christianity through the staging of events and meetings, and the distribution of literature.
- Promoting the whole mission of the Church through provision of activities for senior citizens, parents and toddlers and other special need groups.
- Supporting other charities in the UK and overseas.

## **Charitable Object**

The PCC's charitable object is the advancement of religion which is recognised as a charitable purpose having public benefit.

All regular public worship is provided free of charge and open to all. In addition, the PCC's activities have further public benefits; for example, teaching and taking assemblies offer advancement of education which is recognised as a charitable purpose having public benefit.

Donations to other charities and our own projects provide public benefits in the relief of poverty and need, often for minority groups with particular needs such as the elderly.

Any member of the public may take part in Church activities and services so benefits are to the whole public.

## What is a 'PCC'?

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is a group made up of members of the congregation of the church that support the Incumbent (Vicar) in making decisions on matters that concern the parish, including how the funds of the PCC are to be spent.

The functions of the PCC include:

- Co-operation with the Minister in promoting in the parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical
- Consideration and discussions of matters concerning the Church of England or any other matters of religious or public interest
- Making known and putting into effect any provision made by the Diocesan Synod
- Giving advice to the Diocesan Synod on any matter referred to the Council
- Raising such matters as the Council consider appropriate with the Diocesan Synod

The PCC is known as a body corporate. This means that the Council has a legal identity quite separate from the individual members of which it is composed. However, the Council body is accountable for the decisions that it makes and therefore decisions need to be taken carefully showing fairness, respect for the law and be in line with the regulations of the Charity Commission.

## Safeguarding Declaration

The PCC of St. Gabriel's Church recognises the importance of its ministry with children and young people and its responsibility to protect and safeguard the welfare of children and young people entrusted to the church's care. The welfare of the child is always paramount.

As part of its mission, the Church is committed to:

- The safeguarding, care and nurture of children and young people within our church community and who participate in any activity of the church;
- Safe recruitment, supervision and training for all the children's/youth workers within the church.
- Responding without delay to every report or cause for concern that a child or young person for whom it is responsible may be or may have been harmed in any way;
- Full cooperation with statutory agencies during any investigation into allegations concerning abuse of a child or young person in the church community;
- Providing informed pastoral care to any child, young person or adult who has suffered abuse;
- The management and supervision of any member of the church community known or thought to pose a threat to children or young people.

The PCC recognises the need to provide a safe and caring environment for children and young people. It also recognises that children and young people can be the victims of physical, sexual and emotional abuse, and neglect.

The PCC is committed to on-going child protection training for all those who work with children and youth people.

St. Gabriel's Church 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).