

Corsley and Chapmanslade

Parochial Church Council

Annual Report

for the year ended 31st December 2023

**Accepted at the Parochial Church Council on
8th April 2024**

**Presented at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting
28th April 2024**

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Administrative Information

There are, at the end of 2021, two churches in the Anglican Parish of Corsley and Chapmanslade. Situated in the High Street, Chapmanslade is the Parish Church of **St. Philip and St. James'**. In Corsley at the bottom of Deep Lane is the Parish Church of **St. Margaret of Antioch**. The two churches are in the Benefice of the Cley Hill Villages, which is part of the Diocese of Salisbury within the Church of England. The Parochial Church Council is a charity exempted from registration with the Charity Commission.

Parochial Church Council members who have served since the last Annual Parish Church Meeting are:

Rector		Reverend Pauline Reid
Associate Priest		Reverend Gay Maynard (until September 2022)
Wardens:	St. Philip & St. James	Ian Buick
	St. Margaret's	Shane McKean
Deputy Wardens:	St. Margaret's	vacant
	St. Philip & St. James'	Janet Aylesbury
Elected member	1 – Janet Buick	2 – Maggie Thackway
	3 – Michael Attenborough	4 – currently vacant
Deanery Synod Reps:	1 - currently vacant	2 – currently vacant
Secretary:		Sue Fear
Treasurer:		Ian Buick/ Janet Buick

Structure, governance and management

The method of appointment of Parochial Church Council 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 Parochial Church Council.

Objectives and Activities

Corsley & Chapmanslade Parochial Church Council has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical.

Achievements and Performance *Church attendance*

There are 130 parishioners on the Church Electoral Roll at the end of March 2023.

Church Report – Sue Fear

2023 was a year of 'goodbyes' as in October was said a fond farewell To Rev Pauline Reid, who retired as Rector of our parish after 10 years with us. We all wished her well for her retirement in Buckland Dinham.

Sadly, we also lost three members of our church community this year: -

Jean White, who had been a stalwart of the fundraising group for many years. She was usually seen with tea towel in hand or manning the teapot, we will miss her invaluable help.

Barbara Oakham, who had been unwell for several years, but before her illness also helped with fundraising for our churches.

John Helliard, former Churchwarden at St Margaret's, he was always willing to help when asked. Only last summer he drove his car and trailer to Weymouth Ian Buick & Ian Curtis with to collect the new chairs for St Philip & St James.

John knew such a lot about St Margaret's, we will miss all his information.

We need to thank Ian and Janet for their superb work as joint treasures. The PCC members who have worked hard in giving their time for what can often be quite difficult meetings. Thank you for all who organise the fund-raising events that are enjoyed by so many people, for those hidden people who clean the church, arrange the flowers, welcome people into church, read or lead intercessions. Grateful thanks to our churchwardens Shane MacKean for all his help at St Margaret's and Ian Buick in his role at St Philip and St James.

In July there was an open evening meeting at St Margaret's to encourage the people of Corsley to support St Margaret's. Following this the Friend's of St Margaret's was set up, hopefully this will help support with the upkeep of St Margaret's in the future.

At the beginning of December there was a Christmas Tree festival at St Margaret's, with trees decorated by local businesses and organisations. Everyone who took part or just visited really enjoyed the event. Our thanks go to Lou Sandoe who had the idea and organised the event.

I would like to thank everyone who have taken services for us following Pauline's retirement, it has made my job much easier. Also, thanks to Rev Caroline Husband, vicar of Dilton Marsh and our Rural Dean, who has supported us as much as she can, we are very grateful.

Churchwarden's report – St Philip & St James' – Ian Buick

I would like to begin my report by saying a huge thank you to everyone who continues to provide support to me and the whole church community. In particular I would like to thank our retiring Rector Rev Pauline Reid for her ministry and friendship, looking after the Benefice, Janet Aylesbury for her dedicated work as my deputy, Ian Curtis for all his efforts in our re-development plans and applications very ably supported by Terry Rose and David

Gafney who have provided their valuable expertise, cleaners, readers, intercessors, greeters and anyone who has given their time freely during the year. This help has been invaluable since Pauline's retirement when a significant extra amount was added to my workload. Thanks to the help of retired Ministers and Lay Ministers, we have maintained a full schedule of services, which are primarily run using recorded organ music.

One of the key members of our Church Team is PCC Secretary Sue Fear. Sue has played an increasing part in the administration of not only all the tasks which form an essential part of the role. She has also taken on the provision of ministers for services, administration of the 50/50 Club, membership of the Deanery Synod, and a leading role in fund raising, as well as assisting with the management of banking functions. These are unsung duties vital to the continued survival of the Parish and Sue has my unreserved thanks and admiration for all she does.

The year has been dominated by the changes to the seating arrangements in the Church. We are well into the evaluation process. Additional community, school and parish activities have been possible, with a wide level of acceptance and appreciation from users. Further changes involving the use of a screen loaned by Dilton March Parish, together with a projector no longer used in the school have been made, making more accessible services possible for a wider range of ages.

We completed a delayed Quinquennial inspection during the year. Our Church architect has produced a draft report, which indicates no serious issues with the building, which is very reassuring.

During the year I was diagnosed with a serious long term health condition and remain under the care of a consultant at Southmead Hospital. My second period of tenure as Churchwarden has also now come to an end this year. Whilst I am keen to see the remaining development projects underway, I must put my own wellbeing at the top of my priorities, which will result in my retirement in 2025, but could be sooner if advised to stop by medical advice.

I must finish by mentioning the love, help and encouragement unconditionally given to me by my wife Janet who also works as Joint Treasurer, Church Duties Organiser, Messy Church Worker and Fund-Raising Committee member.

With us both in our 75th year, it would be good to think we could at last consider a proper retirement, which would allow us to enjoy some of the pastimes, not currently possible.

St Margaret of Antioch's report – Amy Holley & Sue Fear

The regular services at St Margaret's during the colder months of 2023 were held in the back of the church, which is a much smaller contained space and therefore much easier and less expensive to heat.

In July there was an open meeting to which all the residents of Corsley were invited. This meeting was held to inform the residents of Corsley of the financial problems facing the church and to elicit support for finding ways forward to ensure the future of St Margaret's. As with all churches, St Margaret's requires maintenance and improvements could allow the building to be used more as a community space. The meeting

was very well attended, with lots of interesting discussion and good ideas. In the first instance this has led to the formation of an informal group called The Friends of St Margaret's. This

group provides a focal point to find ways to raise additional money towards the maintaining the fabric of the church. A Facebook group has been created.

We are still waiting for our Quinquennial inspection to be done (it was cancelled by the surveyor, as he had to urgently inspect another church). It is now booked for the week commencing 13 May 2024.

At the beginning of December there was a Christmas Tree festival in the church, organised by Lou Sandoe. This was a lovely community event, with many local businesses, along with pre-schools and Chapmanslade school all decorating a tree. This coincided with "Carols in Barn" hosted at Manor Farm. A

re-telling of the Nativity with traditional carols, which was well attended.

We held three large services this year, Easter, Harvest and Carol Service as well as Remembrance Sunday. Many thanks should be given to the flower arrangers who decorate the church so beautifully which is much appreciated by the congregation.

We would like to thank Shane MacKean for all his work as Church warden. He has also been doing a lot of work in the churchyard sorting the trees and shrubs and making the area look well kept.

Lay Pastoral Team – Barbara Hughes

In May 2023 I took over the lead role from Alan Hopkinson.

We have 8 parishioners in our group and we meet every two to three months for updates and support.

Our aim is to identify and keep in touch with those who are housebound or lonely especially those living on their own.

At the moment we visit/telephone 13 residents in Chapmanslade, plus 27 spread out in Corsley or nursing homes.

We are grateful for all the church groups, coffee mornings, soup lunches and WI etc. which give us the opportunity to socialise with our villagers!

Chapmanslade Church of England VA Primary School – Minnie House

Following the last school report in March 2023, the week beginning the 20th March 2023 certainly was a very busy week for the school. Ofsted called on the 20th March and visited on 21st and 22nd March. All credit goes to Rob Cottrell and his staff team for the "good" outcome and praise that they received and for the pupils who were the most amazing advocates for the school and were praised throughout by the Inspectors.

Please see the Ofsted Inspection report on the link provided:

[hLps://www.chapmanslade.wilts.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/05/10227953-Chapmanslade-Church-126396-Final-PDF.pdf](https://www.chapmanslade.wilts.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/05/10227953-Chapmanslade-Church-126396-Final-PDF.pdf)

The Inspection was quickly followed by the Headteacher Interviews on 23rd and 24th March. These two intense days were followed by two days of interviewing with two strong candidates invited to attend. Once again, the children and staff were amazing throughout. The pupils involved in the interviews were clear on what characteristics they wanted in a new Headteacher, were exceptional in ensuring that they treated the candidates equally and were very clear on the strengths of both. The LA and Diocesan advisers who joined us on the day were also highly impressed by the interviewing pupils', "professional" attitudes and behaviour throughout, as were the Governors. There is no doubt that the final decision in appointing Rob Cottrell as the Headteacher was well received and well deserved.

The school is focusing strongly on the new curriculum and ensuring progress for all pupils and supporting engagement within the community, as well as providing a range of exciting and stimulating activities for pupils.

The school are expecting a SIAMS inspection in the next academic year and the ongoing work related to the school vision, ethos and Religion and World Wide views are clearly evidenced throughout the school and certainly lived by staff, and pupils.

Numbers at the school remain at approximately 100. With the Pan of 17 Reception pupils being potentially met in September 2024. The number of pupils with high needs has increased extensively over the year and the school were sad to lose their SENCO, Mrs. Robertson who moved to a new role within the LA. It was decided that Mr. Cottrell would continue in this role, for the time being. Teaching staff have remained stable although

there have been many long-term illnesses and supply cover is often not available. Covid, colds and flu have also been high amongst staff and pupils. Supply cover for TAs and Teachers is not easily available to cover absences. There have been a varying number of premises projects during the year and particularly involving keeping pupils safe. The opening up of the step entrance and new fencing has ensured that pupils are safe when on the playground and all adults are safer by not accessing the driveway entrance.

Financially the school continues to struggle and recently approved pay increases, higher utility costs and unexpected repairs, have significantly impacted on reducing the school's finances.

The school's travel plan and support for changes through the Taking Action on School Journeys Project (TAOSJ) is under consultation within the community until the end of Easter. It is hoped that a compromise, which keeps the children safe and lessens perceived impact on residents can be approved in due course. New road markings on the Highway and consistent messages to parents regarding considerate parking have certainly eased the congestion particularly in the mornings.

Governance said goodbye to Rev. Pauline Reid, Maggie Thackway and Tom Dore in the Autumn Term. Our thanks go to them for their long service and support. Unfortunately, one new member who subsequently joined us during the year also resigned due to work commitments and health issues. We are very grateful to Rev. Gay Maynard for stepping into the ex officio Governance role replacing Rev Pauline. The Governing Body now consists of two coopted members (one hopefully renewing this month), one Foundation Governor (recently renewed) one EX Officio (Rev Gay Maynard), one staff member and the Headteacher (Ex Officio). Two parents have shown an interest in joining the governing Body and may be joining shortly. The number of Foundation Governors required is still not being met.

Our thanks go to the Church team for their continued visits to lead collective worship and Open the Book sessions and to the PCC for their continued interest and support.

It continues to be a privilege to be a Governor at this lovely school and always a pleasure to visit and engage with pupils, parents and staff.

To find out more about becoming a Governor please follow the links below:

<https://governorsforschools.org.uk/about-the-role/#-an-overview-and-lighttouch>
about the role can be found here.

Minnie House

Chair of Governors

Light Bites Lunches – Maureen Willcox

During the past year Lite Bites has supported eight different charities with a total of £1273.00 in donations. In February we held a special lunch for the Earthquake appeal which was attended by 38 people (rather squeezed into the lower meeting room) and raised £316.50. The other charities we have supported, with donations between £90 and £125, are the Wiltshire Air Ambulance, Dorothy House, the Warminster Food Bank, MacMillan Cancer, and the Red Cross Relief Fund.

At Christmas we always donate to a children's charity and this year we decided to split the donations between Children's Hospice SW and Julia's House. As usual our Christmas lunch was very well attended and we raised £330 for the two charities. This amount was made possible by those who kindly donated items or money towards the meal. I must mention, in particular, Jack at the Cross Keys who not only donated towards the turkey but also cooked and carved it for us I am also pleased to report that this year we did not have any problems with the ovens!! Our willing helpers deserve thanks for their hard work dishing up, serving and clearing away the meal which would not be a success without them.

We have been very pleased to welcome our "regulars" for our soup lunch and we have seen some new faces who we hope will become "regulars". It continues to be a social occasion where village residents and friends from outside the village, can come along and enjoy soup with bread and cheese followed by tea or coffee and biscuits but, more importantly, a good "chat".

Bell-ringing Team – Michael Attenborough (Captain)

Corsley Tower started 2023 with a compliment of 10 ringers comprising of 8 members of the Salisbury Guild and 2 probationers. At our AGM the decision was taken by members to limit the numbers of ringers attached to the Tower to 12 as a further increase in number would leave practice nights too busy leaving members with few chances to ring and so little opportunity to improve their ringing. As a result, two new members, residents of Corsley, joined during the year one of which has achieved their Guild Membership leaving a total of 11 elected members and one probationer who should become experienced enough by the end of 2024 to join the Salisbury Guild also.

Having a reasonable sized band and creating the post of Vice-Captain we were hoping that 2023 would see us able to cover all services at St. Margaret's and St. John's which we managed to do reasonably effectively, missing very few through the year.

Enquiries were made regarding the replacement of ropes at Matthew Higby & son Ltd and it was found, at the time of asking, that each rope would cost £150 +Vat and with the Tower account standing iro of £600 there would be need for raising funds. One rope will need replacing in 2024 with a further 3 in 2025/6.

Charges for ringing for weddings were raised from £120 to £150 (still below the lowest fees charged by surrounding churches) and ringers agreed to donate £30 of this in total towards the upkeep of the tower. Corsley has always felt that any charge made when ringing for a funeral was requested would never seem appropriate. It was also agreed that members of the tower would pay £5 towards tower funds per annum.

Annual fees for ringer's insurances and Guild membership total £10pa and with this additional tower charge it costs £15 pa to be a full member of Corsley Tower. Probationers have a reduced rate of insurance and without Guild membership it was agreed that they would not contribute to the tower funds resulting in a cost of £3 to join the tower for the first year of learning to ring. These amounts were agreed by members.

Monday learners' sessions have ceased and been combined with Wednesday practices which have been extended by ½ hour from 7.30-9.00pm to 7.00-9.00pm as it was felt more reasonable when considering neighbours to limit midweek ringing to one evening.

Corsley Tower entered the ¼ Branch Peal Week in November and a ¼ of 1260 Grandsire Doubles was rung at Horningsham, the first for a number of years, and the ¼ peal attempt of Plain Bob Doubles at Corsley was not successful. We attempt to ring 1/8 th Peal for service every third Sunday rather than Sunday

Service ringing, and I very much hope that parishioners have noticed an improvement on Sunday Ringing. Sunday ringing commences ½ hour before service and 40 mins on 3 rd Sundays. Horningsham Plough Sunday and any services held there are usually also covered.

2024 sees us hopefully entering bands in the District Rounds and 6 bell ringing competitions.

Home Groups - Trudi Hopkinson

Home group After Alpha report 2023.

The After Alpha group continues to meet fortnightly on Tuesday evenings from 7.30 for two hours. The first half hour is social and we finish the evening with prayers. The venues are now The Anchorage or 93 Lyes Green.

The group lost some members and now only has 7 regulars by the end of the year.

In January 2023 we finished "Fruit of the Spirit" and then started the study of David from the Life Builder Study book by Jack Kuhatschek. We finished that in October and began the study of Heaven written by Douglas Connelly. The last study gives different biblical perspectives of Heaven and is very helpful for our mature group.

This study will continue in 2024.

The group is open to anyone and you will be made very welcome.

The Time to Think group have been studying the women in the bible and looking at their contribution to the work of men in the bible.

Fundraising – Sue Fear

The fundraising in 2023 got off to a great start with our Auction in April, raising over £3000, many thanks to Dennis Barnard for all his input into this event. This was followed by the May fayre held in the grounds of St Margaret's House (The Old Rectory), many thanks to Shane MacKean for inviting us to use his garden. The weather was wonderful and a lovely morning was had by all. Early September saw us at Corsley House doing the refreshments for their National Garden Scheme Open Garden, thank you Glen for asking us and baking cakes as well. Our final event of 2023 was our Christmas Coffee Morning at St Margaret's.

I would like to thank all those who helped with these events and everyone who came to support them.

50/50 club – Sue Fear

This year there are 116 members in the club. There has been some people leaving the club and others joining during the year so the membership is never static. The club raises just over £1400 for church funds, with an equal amount given out in cash prizes in monthly draws throughout the year, plus extra drawn at Christmas.

Parish Link with South Sudan - Richard Paul, Charlie Thackway & Gay Maynard

Juba Basic Schools

In 2023, 9 children attending Primary schools in Juba, were fortunate enough to receive a bursary from residents of Corsley and Chapmanslade. An 8-year-old girl, Salma Sabri Ibrahim, is being sponsored by Chapmanslade school. She is proof of how important the bursary scheme is. In her 2nd term exams, she scored an average of 90%, if she did not receive the most generous bursary from Chapmanslade school it is highly unlikely she would be able to attend school. An African proverb I often quote to emphasize a case like this is. "If you educate a boy, you educate an individual. If you educate a girl, you educate a community."

The Juba Diocese undertook a renovation program of 2 primary schools during 2023. Juba Model Basic and C.M.S. received much needed repairs and some upgrading. These 2 schools are classed as permanent structures, being built of blocks. Schools in the very poor areas of Juba are described as semi-permanent, these are constructed of "pole and plaster" in reality a "Mud Hut" with a corrugated metal roof. These require a lot of maintenance unfortunately not always carried out. Bursaries give children like Salma the chance to receive an education. If you would like more information about the bursary scheme or would just like me to send you some photographs of the children and schools, please email me.

Richard Paul. rpaul2011@hotmail.co.uk

Juba Diocesan Model Secondary School (JDMSS)

JDMSS has had another excellent year, achieving the top results in their Secondary School Education Certificate exams of all the secondary schools in South Sudan. The Head Teacher, Robert Kei, continues to lead the school as a shining light of hope despite all the trials and tribulations of South Sudan. Bursary students whose school fees are sponsored by many kind and generous members of this Parish, continue to flourish in their studies. Some bursary students were in the top 10 performing students last year, which is a remarkable achievement considering these are some of the poorest and disadvantaged students in Africa. Without the sponsorship from members of the Parish, these students would not have been able to gain a secondary education. This education allows students to progress to important roles in society and gives hope for the future of South Sudan. If you would like to sponsor a student, an annual donation of £180 pays for two thirds of their annual school fees. The remainder being paid by their family or guardians. There are four school years, though some students might be required to retake a year. If anyone is interested in becoming a sponsor, please contact: Charlie or Maggie Thackway (email: maggiethackway@icloud.com).

Our South Sudan link – Heytesbury Deanery with Maridi Diocese

South Sudan is often profiled as a lawless mess of a country, so it is inspiring to report on the steady growth in mission of the Bible School which began in 1990s, across the border in DRC, which became the Chaima Christian Institute in Maridi and is now a campus for the newly established Episcopal University.

Christianity came to Maridi over 100 years ago in 1922, initially by an Irish priest, William Haddow. Salisbury Diocese has been linked with the church in the Sudans for 50 years, the Heytesbury Deanery Link (of which we are a part) with Maridi was established in 2009 and our partnership in prayer and mission continues to strengthen. Maridi Diocese is approximately 180 miles/5 hours west of Juba, the capital of South Sudan. Some of you will remember the Bishop of Maridi, the Right Reverend Moses Zungo and his wife Mama Rejoice when they visited us, following the Lambeth Conference, in August 2022 as well as some other bishops and their wives.

The Heytesbury/Maridi Support group meets about 4 times a year to plan various fundraising events but more importantly we meet to pray every month – presently on the third Monday at 2.15pm for up to 1 hour, in the Minster Church, Warminster. We raise some £5,000 each year (we would love it if you could help us raise more!) largely from grants and social events. Our annual quiz run by the Two Bobs (Bob Maynard and Bob Monger) is our biggest fundraiser. Some parishioners have also set up a regular STO which is a big help, and some are sponsoring children at the Haddow Primary and Senior Schools. (see separate report) We have begun to recycle greetings cards for sale at local level and are grateful for those who have offered their time to do this.

+Moses requested help with the construction of 10 small houses to accommodate adult students coming to Maridi to study and train – many are training for church ministry. The support group applied for a grant for £21,000 from the Community of St. Denys which was approved, we also added to this from our own funds to enable beds to be purchased; the houses are now finished, although there is still a need for mattresses and kitchens.

We asked if each house could be named after a church in our deanery – could your church/parish adopt 'your house' and pray for the students using it? We hope you will use the picture to talk about our deanery link at the APCM and find space for it in the church.

Post Thrive Initiative – Rev. Gay Maynard

As stated in the last report the Thrive project has come to an end but the initiatives that were instigated by the project continue to reach out to our community. Janet Buick, Trudi Hopkinson, Judy Munro and Gay Maynard continue to plan through the year for Messy Church, Open events with the Church Messy Tent. We organized a walk and worship day at Heaven's Gate Longleat during the summer holiday last year but it was a very wet day and the planned picnic had to be transferred to St. Margaret's church. We were a small but select group of children and adults, we enjoyed a nature hunt, and being thankful for God's creation.

We also give thanks for those who regularly join us to help with the activities and pitching the gazebo. Special thanks to Clare Firman-Ford and Louise Sandoe.

Crafternoons now run twice a month in the Three Horseshoes Pub since beginning again following Covid restrictions. New people, moving into the parish, have joined us and our numbers continue to grow. In the main people bring their own craft but also on occasions we work at something together, as we did for a table top sale. We also share a short time of reflection using stories to make us think.

Safeguarding – Sarah Humberstone

Following Pauline's retirement, Sarah Humberstone agreed to take on the role of safeguarding officer for the Benefice.

Joint Treasurer's Notes – Ian and Janet Buick

The most significant feature of the accounts in 2023 was the increase in percentage of our Share Payment to the Diocese. We paid £28,000 in the year, an increase of £10,000 on 2022. Note 4 on the Financial Report highlights that the final payment in the year was banked by the Diocese in January 2024, so the apparent surplus in the general fund is actually only £3774. The accumulated deficit for the years 2020 to 2023 is now £46,019. It will be difficult to know how 2024 will go, in terms of our ability to pay our share. The cost of the outstanding quinquennial work to be done once we get both current reports is likely to be well in excess of £100,000. The need to do the most urgently rated items on the reports would impact our ability to pay the share.

There is a very welcome change planned in the parish share calculation, which will, at long last, significantly reflect the number of parishes in a benefice. If, for example, another parish joined with our current two, the extent of the share payment which relates to the priests salary and other costs will be reduced. This could bring us closer to being able to provide our full share.

As before, the main key to being able to increase our contribution towards the share payment is the extent of our planned giving. We have had a reduction in contributors during the year, and as members of our congregation pass away or leave, the amount given also fell. This amounted to a reduction of almost £1000 compared to the previous year.

Whilst the figures look slightly better overall, the trend in reduced giving is starkly highlighted by the gift aid tax relief. The year saw a big catchup as we continued our work on the accounts, in order to get to grips with taking over the role of Treasurer under very sad circumstances in 2020. The figure of almost £9000 is not going to be repeated once we complete the catchup in 2024 and only a single year of tax relief is claimed at a time. The new accounting system we have just acquired will allow gift aid to be recovered more promptly.

We have made significant progress towards bringing our financial systems up to date. A card payment machine was brought into operation during the year. The PCC decided to move our ageing accounting system over to an on line, church dedicated one. This will make it simpler to operate and much more accessible. It will become operational during 2024 and allow someone else to take on the role. A new portable payment terminal will also be introduced in the middle of 2024, making it easier to make donations in our increasingly cashless environment. Mobile wireless technology will be introduced to enable these changes to take place.

The ongoing critical state of our finances highlights the need to continue pursuing alternative uses for our churches. St Philip and St James Church continues to move in this direction with the introduction of chairs and tables, and consideration of the need to provide a toilet facility. At St Margaret's Church, the welcome creation of a Friends Group has brought a new sense of focus towards keeping it open and repaired. We must, however, keep the balance between supporting each village's local Church building and the continuing need to fund their operation. Churches which are beautifully maintained, but without a priest or congregation, are no longer fulfilling their purpose in providing the whole community with its spiritual needs or any of the practical requirements for Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals.

As mentioned in the Churchwarden's report, both of us are approaching 75 and need to take a step back from such intense activities. This is the last year we will be continuing in the role as Treasurers. The coming year will be taken up with setting up the PCC financial management in a way it can be handled by others.

The Church law dictates that if there is no Treasurer, a Churchwarden has to undertake the role. This has been the situation since 2020, but cannot continue beyond 2024. A Parish and its Churches without either Treasurers or Churchwardens cannot continue. We would like to thank everyone, especially Sue Fear for their ongoing support in the time we have been Joint Treasurers.

The biggest challenge we face is not purely financial. It is about how we face the future in a society which no longer places the same value on collective worship, and the community support that an active parish can provide.

Appendix: Safeguarding policies

Cley Hill Parishes

Parish Policy Statement for Safeguarding Adults who may be at Risk

The following policy was reviewed and agreed at the PCC meeting held on 21st March 2023

- As members of the PCC we commit our church community to the support, nurture, protection and safeguarding of all. We recognise that everyone has different levels of vulnerability and that all adults should be offered respect and given inclusion and empowerment within the church.
- We are committed to adopt and implement a safeguarding policy for adults when they are vulnerable, accepting as a minimum, the Salisbury Diocese Framework for Safeguarding and Good Practice (August 2016). The parish will follow diocesan procedures and recommended good practice, while being responsive to local parish requirement.
- We are committed to reviewing this policy statement annually, and as part of this to check that our parish safeguarding procedures, including DBS checks are up-to-date and relevant.
- We will review and endorse all safeguarding policies annually, at the first meeting of the PCC following APCM, so that new members are aware of their responsibilities and confirm the existence of their parish policy on safeguarding adults when they are vulnerable.
- We will undertake careful selection of all those who will work with vulnerable groups and appropriate support and opportunities for training. We will adhere to the Safer Recruitment Practice Guidance 2016 published by the National Safeguarding Team and approved by the House of Bishops.
- We will respond without delay to every complaint made, that a vulnerable person for whom we have responsibility, may have been harmed.
- This parish will cooperate fully with the statutory agencies in every situation and will not conduct their own investigations.
- We will seek to offer informed pastoral care to any adult who has suffered abuse.
- We will care for and supervise any member of our church community known to have offended.
- The Parochial Church Council of this parish acknowledges its responsibility for all who work with young adults and adults who may be at risk of abuse, that is done in the name of the Church. It requires all those engaged in such work to be properly appointed and supported in accordance with current good practice and guidelines as noted above.

Cley Hill Parishes

Parish Policy Statement for Safeguarding Children & Young People

The following policy was reviewed and agreed at the PCC meeting held on 21st March 2023

- As members of the PCC we commit our church community to the support, nurture, protection and safeguarding of all, especially the young and vulnerable. We recognise that our work with children and young people is the responsibility of the whole church community. We are fully committed to acting within current legislation, guidance, national frameworks and the Diocesan of Salisbury Safeguarding Framework and Good Practice Guidelines. We will also endeavour to act in an open, transparent and accountable way in working in partnership with the Diocesan Safeguarding Advisor, Children and Adult Social care Services, the Police, Probation Service and other agencies to safeguard children and young people and assist in bringing to justice anyone who has committed an offence against them.
- We will ensure that all necessary checks are made to promote the safe selection and recruitment of ordained and lay ministers, paid workers and volunteers working with children and young people, and to provide the necessary supervision, support and training to them in order that they can undertake their roles effectively. We will adhere to the Safer Recruitment Practice Guidance 2016 published by the National Safeguarding Team and approved by the House of Bishops.
- We will respond without delay to every concern raised that a child or young person may have been harmed or be at risk from harm or abuse, or be at risk from the behaviour of an adult or child.
- We will fully cooperate with the Diocese and appropriate statutory agencies during any investigation into abuse, including when allegations are made against a member of the church community
- We will ensure, in partnership with the Diocese and other agencies, that care and supervision is provided for any member of our church community known to have offended against a child or young person, or to pose a risk to them.
- We are committed to reviewing our safeguarding Policy annually, and as part of this, to check that our parish safeguarding procedures, including DBS checks, are up to date and relevant. Our Policy will be endorsed at the first meeting of the PCC following APCM so that new members are aware of their responsibilities and to confirm the existence of the parish policy.

Our Parish Safeguarding Representative is: Sarah Humberstone