

APCM 2023/4: PCC Report

The PCC, comprising sixteen members of the Christ Church family, has met eight times in person since the Annual Parochial Church Meeting in May 2023 and once briefly on zoom in order to approve the accounts. There are 220 names on the Electoral Roll. We have met six times since the last APCM including a Quiet Day in January at the Benedict's Centre in West Malling.

Safeguarding is on the agenda at every meeting. The PCC continue to be committed to safer recruitment and the best care and training opportunities for our staff. A new Human Resources committee was set up in 2022 to ensure we maintain the highest of standards. Our thanks to *Rachel Dixon* our Safeguarding Officer and *Cath Johnston*, our PCC link for safeguarding. During the year various initiatives were launched, including the introduction of 'Scoot' a puppet dog, whose pictures are displayed around the church highlighting areas where children (and adults) need to be more careful. This was Rachel's suggestion and the idea has been praised by the Diocesan Safeguarding Team.

Finance is on the agenda for each meeting and the end of year accounts for 2023 have been approved by the PCC and are presented at this APCM. Our thanks go to *Gina Ikonomu*, the church treasurer, to *Catherine Ibrahim* our Church Administrator and Finance Assistant, and to Neil Chadwick, who takes care of the Gift Aid.

The **church properties** are now let commercially and the monthly income from both help with the disparity between our income and necessary expenditure. Our thanks go to our Church Wardens, *Phil Wearon & Sara Cunningham*, for their oversight of the church site, properties, the grounds, the kitchens and overseeing the cleaners. Spinnaker Trust continue to use the office space and the Pre-School meets daily during term time.

The PCC have advertised for a **Ministry Leader for Young People** but as yet no appointment has been made. The PCC have discussed our future needs for ministry with young people and currently volunteers help with a new group for younger teenagers on a Sunday. Discussion about a **Ministry Leader among Older People** is currently on hold. Our thanks go to *Catherine Humphries* our part-time **Ministry Leader for Families and Children**.

Ministry and Mission is always an agenda item with a different focus of ministry being considered at each meeting. In addition to the regular *Life Groups* there have also been several additional courses and events including *Alpha, Wellbeing*, a *Volunteers Sunday*, a course on *Romans* and currently a course on the *Bible*. On behalf of the PCC, Churchwarden Sara Cunningham is looking into CCC equipping itself to care for the environment through the Christian Charity AROCHA.org.uk award scheme.

Premises Management is always on the agenda and we are grateful to our Church Wardens for overseeing the care of our buildings. In particular Phil Wearon has invested a lot of time in ensuring the church centre runs efficiently. There is also a small team who keep the church grounds outside looking tidy and attractive.

Finally, **Thanks** go to *Dave Johnston* for his chairmanship of the PCC and for his leadership at CCC. Thanks also those who have served on the PCC for the last twelve months, some of whom are now standing down (John Hemming Clark and Tony Gibbens). We welcome all potential new members following the APCM this May.

Angela Scott PCC Secretary