

**ST JOHN THE BAPTIST
MIDSOMER NORTON**

**ANNUAL REPORT
and
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
of the
PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL**

for the year ending 31st December 2022

Incumbent:

Rev Guy C Scott

Bank:

National Westminster PLC
3 High Street
Midsomer Norton
Radstock
BA3 2LE

Independent Examiner:

Mr D Harvey

The PCC has adopted the safeguarding policies and procedures of The Church of England

Registered Charity 1143117

Background

St John's Church, Midsomer Norton has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent, Guy Scott, in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical.

Membership

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is a charity registered with the Charity Commission. Members of the PCC are either *ex officio* or elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) in accordance with the Church Representation Rules.

During the year the following served as members of the PCC:

Incumbent:	Rev Guy Scott	Chairman
Assistant Curate	Rev Philip Hopper	
Churchwardens: up to APCM 2022	Mrs Carol Moore Mrs Beth Davies	Vice-chairman Vice-chairman
Churchwardens: after APCM 2022	Mrs Beth Davies Mrs Hilary Denning	Vice-chairman Vice-chairman
Deanery Synod Representatives: up to APCM 2022	Beth Davies, Carol Moore	
Deanery Synod Representatives: after APCM 2022	Beth Davies, Hilary Denning, Carol Moore	
Elected members: up to APCM 2022	Linda Broadhurst, Robert Broughton, Pat Clynes Sally Curtis, Heather Hill, Margaret Marshall, Les Martindale, David Moore, John Shears	
Elected members: after APCM 2022	Linda Broadhurst, Robert Broughton, Pat Clynes, Sally Curtis, Heather Hill, Margaret Marshall, David Moore, John Shears	
Treasurer	John Shears	
Secretary	Margaret Marshall	
Safeguarding Officer	Ann Munton	

The PCC has adopted the safeguarding policies and procedures of the Church of England

Committees

Standing Committee

This is the only committee required by law. There has to be a minimum of five members, the incumbent and church wardens being *ex officio*. It is usual to have the PCC treasurer and secretary on the Standing Committee. The committee has power to transact the business of the PCC between its meetings, subject to any directions given by the Council.

Standing Committee members
up to APCM 2022

Rev Guy Scott, Rev Philip Hopper,
Carol Moore, Beth Davies,
John Shears, Margaret Marshall

Standing Committee members
after APCM 2022

Rev Guy Scott, Rev Philip Hopper,
Beth Davies, Hilary Denning,
John Shears, Margaret Marshall

Electoral Roll and Church Attendance

There are 90 parishioners on the Church Electoral Roll, of whom 19 are not resident in the parish. The Churchwardens are asked to count their congregations annually and also assess the number of regular attenders. In 2022 the number of regular churchgoers was assessed at 59. These figures partially establish the Parish Share to the Diocesan Common Fund (used mainly for clergy stipends and parsonage houses). The other factor is self-assessed ability to pay and Midsomer Norton is in category E. A new rating system was introduced in 2012 with categories ranging from A to G.

Safeguarding

Number of safeguarding referrals in the last 12 months	0
Number of safeguarding agreements in place	0

DBS checks carried out this year	1
DBS checks due but not yet carried out	1

There have been 6 face to face training sessions delivered in the last year.

Training Course	No. of people completed training	No. of people still to complete training
Safeguarding Basic Awareness	22	Approx 15
Safeguarding Foundation	15	0
Domestic Abuse	12	0
Safer Recruitment	2	0

The PCC has complied with the duty to have 'due regard' to the House of Bishops' Safeguarding Policy and Practice Guidance as evidenced by the Parish Dashboard and have achieved Level 3.

Review of the Year

The full PCC met 7 times during the year. One of these being an extraordinary meeting. The average attendance was 67%. The Standing Committee met on 6 occasions between PCC meetings, and minutes of these meetings were received by the full PCC and discussed where necessary.

Business matters covered, Finance, Parish Share, Church Hall, open & closed churchyards, the Parish Safeguarding Policy, Health and Safety, St John's School, Parish Office, the sound system.

A 'Welcome to Advent Service' was held for the first time and was well supported.

Members of the congregation attended the service at Bath Abbey at which Father Philip was ordained to the priesthood. Philip's family and friends joined the congregation at St John's when he celebrated his first Mass.

The Social Committee organised & catered for the St George's Brunch, Platinum Jubilee Party and Harvest Lunch which raised money for the Fabric Fund. They provided refreshments for the Archdeacon's Visitation and after both the service for Father Philip's first Mass and the Advent service.

It is good to hear our tower bells ringing again and calling people to worship. Ringing has been re-established with the welcome help of ringers from surrounding towers, especially Chilcompton and Farnborough. Mr. Robert Perry has become Tower Captain, and we have a nucleus of learners.

Following the death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II in September, the Union Flag was flown as protocol dictated. The tenor bell was tolled, half muffled, on the announcement of her death and on the morning of her funeral. A Book of Condolence was placed in church for people to sign.

One of the Midsomer Norton Beaver Groups visited to learn about bellringing with demonstrations both on tower and handbells.

Over the past year several local primary schools have made educational visits to the church. Each visit has been gratefully appreciated.

This has complemented our work with St John's Primary School who are now coming back to the church for Harvest, Christmas, Easter and End of Year services. It has been wonderful to see the church filled with pupils and their families each time.

Our relationship with the school been enhanced by our weekly visits to the school to lead Collective Worship. In the Spring term Father Philip was able to make extra visits to support each class in their study on the theme of Salvation.

Since the autumn we have hosted monthly Lunchtime Concerts in the Parish Church. We hope this will encourage more people to come through our doors and discover the Parish Church as a welcoming sacred space and community resource.

Financial Statements (see separate sheets)

Report on Fabric, Goods and Ornaments (Churchwardens)

All the annual inspections that we are obliged to do were completed in 2022 and recorded in The Terrier.

Three trees had to be felled in the open churchyard due to becoming unsafe and at a cost of £6192

The flat roof on the vestry developed a leak in December and advice is being sort on what is thought necessary to repair it.

The church boiler broke down over the Christmas period and was repaired in January

A replacement mat was put in the church hall and wet floor notices have been purchased for use in the church or hall when necessary.

Regular work is carried out by parishioners to keep the closed and open churchyards tidy.

Deanery Synod Report

The Synod met three times during the year.

An update re Somer Valley Food Bank was given at each meeting.

A decision was taken not to hold the Deanery Carol service in 2022 due to low attendance in 2021.

95% of the Parish Share throughout the Deanery had been paid.

All parishes had agreed to pay a contribution to help fund the Radstock College Chaplain.

The reorganisation of parishes was working well.

The church of St Vigor, Stratton-on-the-Fosse is due to be closed.

A successful Deanery Service was held at St John's, Midsomer Norton in July.

The 2022 Annual Report was approved by the PCC and signed on its behalf by

Reverend G C Scott

Rev G C Scott

Date 18 April 2023

