

St Peter's Church Burnham Annual Review 2023



ST PETER'S CHURCH, BURNHAM ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING 2024

AGENDA for the Meeting of Parishioners (Vestry Meeting)

1. Minutes of the Meeting 2023
2. Election of 2 Parish Wardens

AGENDA for the Annual Church Meeting

1. Apologies for absence
2. APCM Minutes 2023
4. Church Wardens Report (Inventory and Logbook for presentation)
5. Treasurer's Report and Financial Statement year ending Dec 2023
6. PCC Report
7. Deanery Synod Report
8. Electoral Roll changes since 2023
9. Safeguarding Report
9. ELECTIONS
 - PCC MEMBERS
 - DEANERY SYNOD MEMBERS
 - SIDESPEOPLE
10. APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT EXTERNAL EXAMINER
11. AOB
12. DATE OF APCM 2025

St Peter's Church Burnham

MINUTES OF VESTRY MEETING April 29th, 2023

The meeting opened at 11.45am.

The meeting was attended by 30 Parishioners.

The meeting was chaired by Revd Janet Minkkinen.

APOLOGIES

Jane Slatter

Emma Warburton

Vickie Samson-Cole

Clive Walker

1. The minutes of the Vestry Meeting 2022 were accepted as a true record

Proposed by John Carey, seconded by Jenny Dobson, all in agreement.

2. Two nominations have been received for the position of Church warden.

Peter Lewis, proposed by Fiona Burridge, seconded by John Carey

Pamela Rogers, proposed by Ian Fordyce, seconded by Michelle Dunster

Peter Lewis and Pamela Rogers were unanimously elected as Church Wardens for 2023/2024

Revd Janet Minkkinen thanked the Wardens for all their hard work in the past year and all that they contribute to the life of our church. The Parishioners showed their appreciation and support for the coming year.

The meeting closed at 11.55pm.

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING APRIL 29th 2023

The meeting was attended by 30 Parishioners

The meeting was chaired by Revd Janet Minkkinen

The meeting commenced at 12 noon

APOLOGIES FOR ABSCENCE

Jane Slatter

Emma Warburton

Vickie Samsom-Cole

Clive Walker

1. That the minutes of the APCM 2023 be accepted as a true record Proposed by Peter Lewis, seconded by Jenny Dobson.

All in agreement.

2. VICAR'S REPORT 2021/2022

There were no questions arising.

That the Vicar's Report be Accepted

Proposed by Pamela Rogers, seconded by Ian Fordyce.

All in agreement

There was general comment and agreement to recognise and appreciate all Revd Janet had achieved in the past year.

3. CHURCH WARDENS REPORT 2021/2022

Pamela Rogers, Church Warden, expressed thanks on behalf of the Wardens for all the support they receive from the congregation and thanked all those who contribute to the life of the church through groups, volunteering and participation. The Revd Janet was thanked for her continued support, good working relationship and all that had been achieved together this past year.

The Logbook and Terrier were presented for examination.

An explanation of the contents of each were given.

The Logbook and Terrier were signed off by Jaswinder Atwal and Ian Fordyce.

4. TREASURER'S REPORT 2021/2022

Chris Knight, Treasurer, thanked Sheila Warburton, past Treasurer, for the smooth transition in the past year.

The Treasurer outlined the bottom line of our financial position being that more monies go out than come in at present.

There are reserves but we still need to balance our expenditure.

Plans have been put in place to try and achieve this, starting with encouraging an increase in Planned Giving and reviewing Standing Orders.

The new system of Online Banking, recently introduced, has been much appreciated and the amount of work undertaken in setting up this new system was recognised. The Treasurer was thanked for all he does and the responsibility he carries.

There were no questions arising from the Report.

Proposal to accept the Treasurers Report 2021/2022

Proposed by Chris Knight, seconded by Steve Dobson

All in agreement

5.PCC REPORT 2021/2022

There were no questions arising from the Report

Proposal to accept the PCC Report

Proposed by Jackie Loveday, seconded by John Carey

All in agreement.

6.ELECTORAL ROLL 2021/2022

There have been 3 names removed from the Roll

There have been 8 names added to the Roll

Total number on the Roll for St Peter's Church, Burnham is 108

This information will be formally submitted to the Diocese.

7.DEANERY SYNOD REPORT 2021/2022

At present our Deanery Synod representatives are Pamela Rogers,

John Carey and Sheila Warburton.

Proposal to accept the Deanery Synod Report

Proposed by Lisa Warburton, seconded by Peter Lewis

All in Agreement.

Revd Janet explained the Intercultural Hub at St Paul's Church in Slough. She emphasised that St Peter's will continue to be, as always, part of Inclusive Church where all are welcome.

8. SAFEGUARDING REPORT 2021/2022

There were no questions arising and the Report was accepted by the congregation.

9.INDEPENDENT EXTERNAL FINANCIAL ADVISOR

Tim Berg was appointed by the PCC, he has audited and approved the accounts for year ending 2022, working alongside Chris Knight, Treasurer.

Proposal to appoint Tim Berg as Independent External Financial Advisor 2022/2023

Proposed by Jenny Dobson, seconded by Pam Rogers.

All in agreement

10.ELECTIONS

DEANERY SYNOD

3 Nominations have been received

John Carey, proposed by Ian Fordyce, seconded by Michelle Dunster

Pamela Rogers, proposed by Ian Fordyce, seconded by Michelle Dunster

Sheila Warburton, proposed by Pete Lewis seconded by Michelle Dunster

John Carey, Pamela Rogers and Sheila Warburton were duly unanimously elected to serve on Deanery Synod 2023/2026

PCC

Jane Slatter is stepping down from her role on the PCC but will continue to be involved in her Stewardship role together with Revd. Janet and Sheila Warburton.

Two nominations for PCC membership have been received.

Jaswinder Atwal proposed by Ian Fordyce seconded by Vickie Samson-Cole.

Jackie Loveday proposed by Vickie Samson-Cole, seconded by Fiona Burridge.

Jaswinder Atwal and Jackie Loveday were unanimously elected to serve on the PCC 2023/2026

11. SIDES PEOPLE

The following names were submitted: -

Maggie Rivett.	Ian Fordyce
Sue Bleach.	Lorna Pecover
Chris Thorn.	Vicki Samson-Cole
Elaine Gruber.	Kiki Kuponiyi
Judy Brown.	Stephanie Peniket
Sue Lowe.	David Burridge
Michaela Cottrell.	

Teddy Gruber was thanked for his service as sides person.

12. THANK YOUS

Revd Janet expressed her thanks to Ian Fordyce, LLM, and Revd Sue and all Parishioners who take on extra duties to help sustain the life of our church. Their time and energies given are much appreciated.

13 AOB

No other business was submitted.

Date of APCM 2024 IS SUNDAY 21ST APRIL 2024

The meeting closed at 12.30pm

General report for the Annual Parochial Church Council of St Peter's Church, Burnham January 2023 until December 2023

Administrative Information

St Peter's Church
Church Street
Burnham
Buckinghamshire
SL1 7HX

Vicar: Revd Janet Minkkinen
Retired Priest with PTO: Revd Sue Smith
LLMs with PTO: Ian Fordyce
Authorised Lay Preacher: Jenny Dobson
Churchwardens: Pam Rogers and Peter Lewis

PCC members:

Lay Chair: Peter Lewis
Treasurer: Chris Knight/ Sheila Warburton
Fees Treasurer: Sheila Warburton
PCC Secretary: Jackie Loveday
Jane Slatter(resigned April 2023), Hannah Lewis, Emma Warburton, Fiona Burridge, Rob Dunster,
Michaela Cottrell, Steve Dobson, John Carey, Vickie Samson- Cole, Jaswinder Atwal (April 2023-)

Safeguarding

Emma kept this all up to date with new information and safeguarding notices, all training and DBS are up to date. Vickie has come on board to work alongside Emma. We have reported 0 safeguarding incidents in 2023. We thank them both for their work.,

Deanery Synod Representatives: John Carey, Pam Rogers, Sheila Warburton

We are a church with heart at the heart of the community.

St Peter's Church is at the centre of the parish and village of Burnham and is an Inclusive, eucharistically centred church in the liberal catholic tradition.

Our church family is an active and visible presence in the heart of the Burnham community, strong on fellowship and celebrating God's love with those around us. Our services offer a range of worship for all ages.

Our **Mission Action Plan** is at the heart, and permeates all that we do:

We are an **Inclusive Church**, part of a network of churches, groups and individuals uniting around a shared vision. We believe in inclusive church – a church which celebrates and affirms every person and does not discriminate. Our Church school of St Peter's holds a policy of being inclusive.

We care about our **environment**; we are a Silver Eco Church. Our churchyard encourages local wildlife with bird and bat boxes and a bug hotel. We encourage use of our churchyard with a tree trail, nature trail and have hosted and organised accompanied bat walks. We have developed a great working relationship with Berks Bucks and Oxon Wildlife Trust

We affirm the faith of **children** through our WOW, Walking on Water services. We have a vibrant ministry with Girls' Brigade, Keynotes and Little Angels Baby and Toddler group.

We care about those less fortunate than ourselves and are committed to **Social Action** in the work of Care and Share and the Listening service we provide.

Figures for Mission year 2023

Baptisms: 28
Confirmations 6
Funerals: Crematorium 14 Church 11 = 25
Weddings 4
Burial of Ashes 29
Electoral Roll 103

Our Worship

Book of Common Prayer 8am every Sunday. Common Worship Parish Eucharist, sung with organist and choir at 10am.

WOW (walking on water) children's service 10am on the 2nd Sunday. WoW is led by a team of six people, planning services and leading.

Communion Cafe is held on the 2nd Monday of the month and is led by Revd Sue and her team

We hold morning and evening prayer on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays .

We hold a Midweek Eucharist on Wednesdays at 9.30am.

We have reflected on our services and the numbers who attend. After Easter 2023 we moved our Wednesday 12.30pm Eucharist to 9.30am

Buildings

St Peter's Church and Cornerstone

The churchyard is closed: The north churchyard is maintained by Burnham Parish Council, the south churchyard by Bucks County Council. We are open to interment of ashes- this is at the discretion of the vicar. During the vacancy we will continue to permit this

Mission Action Plan agreed by PCC

Inclusive Church

We are registered as an Inclusive Church. This is now on all our material, posters and communication. Our inclusivity is reflected in our pew leaflets, prayers and sermons. All are welcome in ministry. We encourage everyone to inform us of any barriers to worship and full participation of church activities.

We are committed to challenge anyone who discriminates against others . We include a quotation about one of the nine areas of discrimination in our pew leaflet each week. We have updated our baptism forms to reflect all family types .

We received a copy of Bishop Steven's essay Together in Love and Faith-this is available to borrow from the library.

Communion Café - Revd Sue Smith

Since our last report Communion Café has continued to meet each 2nd Monday of the month in Cornerstone for our Eucharist and fellowship.

The Communion Café team is unchanged with Revd Sue Smith leading the team of Paulann Walker, Sue Lowe, Vickie Samson and Jackie Loveday.

As always, our services are directed at the older members of St Peter's congregation and those who may find traditional worship no longer accessible or those who wish to connect or reconnect with St Peter's. We average around 20-25 people at a service and have had a Harvest service with donations to Care and Share, and a Christmas Service raising £70 for the charity Centre Point.

In addition to our regular services this year we held a Cream Tea and Quiz afternoon in October, which was very well received and which we will repeat again this year.

It is clear that our Communion Café congregation welcome being able to participate in this style of service and enjoy the opportunity to socialise together in the church setting.

The PCC granted us £200 as start-up funds in 2022 which we are now able to repay, and we go into 2024 with a float of £200 thanks to the generosity of our congregation who have in addition over the past year contributed £217 as church collections.

ENVIRONMENT

We have our silver Eco Church from A Rocha. We are continuing to work alongside Eco Partnership collecting clothes etc in our clothes bank. We collect food from Tesco for those in our Little Angels group and for Care and Share.

The badgers are still growing and multiplying alongside the rest of nature within our churchyard. We have developed a great working relationship with Berks Bucks and Oxon Wildlife Trust with whom we have organised evening bat walks.

We currently working on other projects to increase biodiversity.

Fiona and David planted vegetables in the churchyard alongside the flowers in the bed by the South Porch which were donated to Care and Share. We have been praised for the number of pollinator-friendly plants in the churchyard.

The Diocese produced a leaflet on biodiversity which includes a churchyard nature walk for children. This is available to be downloaded on our website or via a QR code on the front door of Cornerstone, as is the Tree Trail.

We try to save paper by having a communal Christmas Card board and by making notepads from our office paper.

CHILDREN

One WOW children services are growing, and gradually becoming known in our community with regular attendees.

We agreed at PCC that all those parents with children coming forward for baptism would need to attend two WOW services. A group leads and plans these services, allowing a change of ideas and creativity. The liturgy is designed for children, Holy Communion was held 4 times with children taking part.

Little Angels, our Baby & Toddler Group, is led by Ian, and a group of volunteers provides refreshments. This group is extremely well attended. We send out a termly newsletter and weekly email. Crafts are Christian based and we end each session with a bible story. We ended each term with a themed party, such as Christmas, Easter and in the summer, we held a Noah's Ark Party, and at Easter an egg hunt in the Church. We changed the start time from 10am to 9.30 to tie in with school drop-off times.

Jenny, Emma and the team continue to run Girls' Brigade. They are certainly a blessing to our church, supporting things that we do especially WOW services, leading and sharing their gift of music, organising the Girls' Brigade Christmas fair.

Puppets4All led our annual Christingle services, raising money for The Children's Society. It was a real joy to have the church full. They also lead a fantastic ministry that they give not only to St Peter's in our WoW services, but to many other local groups and care homes.

Uniformed groups have come into the church to learn about Christianity and to obtain their faith badge.

Girls' Brigade – Jenny Dobson

We have enjoyed a wide variety of badgework across our sections over the year and we all worked together on a project for King Charles' Coronation which we celebrated in a big way as our Seniors and Brigaders were invited to the grounds of Windsor Castle for the Coronation concert. We were also in the front row at the Trooping the Colour parade where we were very excited to see the King and Queen and other members of the Royal Family both in the procession and on the balcony outside the palace.

We were sad to say goodbye to Lucy one of our Brigaders as she has left to go to university but we are keeping her in our prayers and enjoy her visits to us in the holidays. We are adequately staffed at present with a team of 6 and are guiding our older girls into leadership roles, working with the younger children.

We sadly lost our annual rounders match against the Church in June during St Peter's week (although most of our parents were playing for the church team) and we also enjoyed our own sports night out in St Peter's Park. Our summer term ended with a fun evening in the Rectory garden for the younger girls and a home made pizza evening for the Seniors and Brigaders.

Camp was in Bournemouth this year and we enjoyed a great week together despite the weather being a little temperamental. We had fun on the beach in a very rough sea, went climbing on Bournemouth pier and hiking to Hengistbury head. A good time was had by all.

We are looking forward to another year ahead when we can help girls to 'Seek, Serve and Follow Christ'.

St Peter's School - Sue Lowe

During the period from 2022 to 2023 the relationship between St Peter's school and St Peter's church flourished.

The nursery from the school came into the church to have a good look around. Reverend Janet greeted the children and took them around the church, explaining the features and functions of the various parts and they were allowed to try on the vestments used by the clergy.

Reverend Janet went into school to talk about Peter, the disciple, from whom the school and the church get their name and at Easter time she led a service in the school as well as a service in church, to which the whole school and parents attended.

Members of the church regularly go into school to listen to the children read and the church has two governors serving on the school's governing body.

In September a Harvest Festival service was held in church to which parents were invited and the harvest gifts presented were donated to Care and Share, our local foodbank.

In December the whole school plus parents came into church to watch the nativity play and join in the service.

Towards the end of the school year the year 6 leaving service was held in church and at the end of the year a service was held marking the end of the school year.

SIAMS Inspection

The school had its SIAMS inspection in December which was outstanding. The Diocesan inspectors described the school as 'inspirational'

Our foundation governors-Sue Lowe, Maggie Rivett along with Revd Janet and Pam Rogers were all interviewed by the panel. Pam has stepped in as an Associate Governor during the vacancy.

SOCIAL ACTION

Burnham Care & Share- Michaela Cottrell

It's been a busy year for us at Care & Share. The number of individuals and families the project supported remained consistent throughout and at the end of December annual figures showed a notable increase of need, in the majority of categories, as against the previous year.

We were delighted to receive a Household Support grant from the Dept of Work and Pensions, via Helping Hands at Bucks County Council. The award was based on our projections for the number of clients we supported and the ever- rising costs of basic food items that are put into the bags each week. We are so grateful to all those individuals, families, organisations, businesses etc who regularly donate.

Any item donated to us, is one less we need to buy! We acknowledge the relationship that St Peter's has with the staff and trustees of our partners at Burnham Health Promotion Trust and Maidenhead Foodshare, and Helping Hands, and also Tesco (through Food Diverse), who donate certain foodstuffs every week that would otherwise go into landfill.

We have been at events during the year raising awareness of the work of the foodbank, and fundraising. We attended Burnham Lodge summer fun day, the Donkey Derby, Hitcham & Taplow Society's village green party, food-drives at Tesco Bishop Centre, Burnham summer fete and the Lions' evening Christmas Fayre. Thanks to all who donated tombola prizes and/or came along to support us. In July, a reception was held at the Taplow House Hotel where all the volunteers who work at Care & Share, were recognised by The Buckinghamshire Foundation and received, 'Highly Commended' in the Community Group Category. Our volunteers are the backbone of the organisation. Cake was shared too as the event coincided with our 3rd anniversary!

Before Christmas we launched our Keeping Warm theme. Thanks for all your donations of hot 2water bottles, hotties for children, hats, scarves and gloves that we distributed to our clients. Festive gifts and treats were also shared, hoping to make their Christmas as enjoyable as possible. Our energy support scheme continues to help some who face great difficulty in paying their household energy bills. A Listener from our Pastoral Care Group is present at each session, giving clients the opportunity to discuss their situation in a confidential setting, and being signposted to organisations and charities that may be able to assist.

We are still looking for more 'Street Champions' –a nominated representative to act as collection agents for donations in the road in which they live or maybe you can put a donation box at your workplace? Drop off points for donations can also be made to Burnham Park Hall, the Library, Cornerstone (our wish list request is published in the pew leaflet) and purchases made within Morrisons Local in Burnham High Street, during normal opening hours. Should you like to join the volunteer team at Burnham Park Hall or want to know more, please do get in touch.

PASTORAL CARE GROUP Michaela Cottrell

Throughout the year one of our listeners, Ian Fordyce, Fiona Burridge, Sue Lowe, Martin Bart, Chris Thorn or I, has been present at each of the twice weekly sessions at Care & Share, held at Burnham Park Hall.

They support the clients who use the service, offering a 'listening ear' where they can offload and discuss their personal situation, in complete confidence. Clients can then be signposted to organisations and charities who can assist with specific needs. It is an invaluable part of our outreach ministry.

Our first Safeguarding Sunday, held on 5th November gave us all an opportunity to reflect on our own safeguarding journeys with prayers and drama. It was a powerful service and many people took part to reinforce the open culture we want to create.

All present were issued with a pocket contact card. Our Inclusive Church is a place where everyone can come to feel welcomed, loved and part of a community and to do so we are committed to protect us all, including those considered vulnerable. We remembered the 4 R's: Recognise, Record, Report and Refer, and most importantly, who they can go to with any questions or concerns knowing they will be taken seriously.

In November, the Pastoral Care Group were all involved in our annual Loved Ones Departed service, in which we remembered and prayed for those who had died. This was followed by refreshments. Families of all those who had funerals for loved ones in the previous 18 months were personally invited.

The vicar or a Pastoral team member visited those ill, housebound or in hospital. Services were taken monthly in the three care homes in the parish, some celebrating with a Eucharist. Home communion was provided to others on request.

If you feel called to join the Pastoral Care Group, please speak with Michaela.

Charities

In 2023 we supported the following charities:

Rennie Grove Peace Hospice

Unlock

Beautiful Gate

Other charities were supported with one off collections

SERVICES AT ST PETER'S 2023 Pam Rogers

Now fully clear of Covid (apart from the odd lingering case) we have seen numbers at our services climb back towards the numbers we were having before the pandemic. We continue to offer the Eucharist by intinction, although more members of the congregation are once again sharing in the Common Cup. We are delighted to be able to offer services not only tailored to the general congregation, but also monthly services for the younger members of our community with our WoW services, and for the older members Communion Cafe.

Our year began with New Year's Day Service followed by bacon rolls in Cornerstone. In February we hosted a Schools' Ministry Day for curates organised by the Diocese. We held our usual Holy Week services including Stations of the Cross; Tenebrae; foot-washing and stripping of the altar on Maundy Thursday followed by the Watch.

On Good Friday we held our usual Children's workshop with craft, cookery, puppets, music and stories. In the afternoon we had an extremely moving interactive service where we dressed the cross. Girls' Brigade made a beautiful Easter arden and decorated the cross with crocheted flowers. We celebrated Easter Sunday with Dawn Eucharist at 5.30am followed by breakfast in 8Cornerstone. This was followed by BCP service and we held an All Age Parish Eucharist at 10am, as Easter Sunday fell on the second Sunday of the month which is usually our WoW service.

With the move of our Wednesday Eucharist to 9.30am, our midweek service numbers have increased. We started Wednesday Welcome in Cornerstone from 10-12 for refreshments. This initiative was started by Vickie and she organised a group of volunteers to help to run it. Payment is by donation only and has attracted not only those at the service, but also people popping in from the village. Plant, jigsaw, and book sales have also been held during this time, and a Christmas Fayre too.

We celebrated the Coronation of King Charles with bells, a screening of the ceremony in church and a sparkling Bring & Share lunch after the service the following day. The congregation was given commemorative booklets. Cliff and his team spent the week before the coronation performing in various locations throughout the village during which a film 'Ring for the King' was made.

We formed a drama group to enhance our services and their first performance was in June promoting Stewardship. We celebrated St Peter's week at the end of June with a Spanish guitar concert, GB rounders, a performance of a Winter's Tale by Friendly Bombs, a fantastic race night and ended with our Patronal festival in church on the Sunday followed by a wonderful Ploughman's Lunch in the Rectory Garden.

We held our Harvest Festival in September with tinned and packet goods going to Care & Share and proceeds from selling our fresh produce going to Beautiful Gate. Revd Janet and Paul treated us to an

amazing and delicious Egyptian feast and great fun was had mummy-making and belly-dancing. Our drama group performed a short sketch on Safeguarding Sunday at the 10am service. We formally said goodbye to Revd Samson- although he had been on secondment to Colnbrook and Datchet since March- with a cream tea. And presented him with a gift from the congregation.

The deanery confirmations were held at St Peter's in October. We had 6 candidates, along with others from the deanery, who were confirmed by Bishop Alan. The Pastoral team and Revd Janet led a moving butterfly-themed Loved Ones Departed service, followed by refreshments in Cornerstone.

We had a service in church on Armistice Day and Revd Janet took the service at the at the war memorial on Remembrance Sunday. This was attended by local uniformed groups and other members of the community.

This year we asked the congregation to make angels to decorate our Christmas tree and donate to Christian Aid Middle East Appeal.

Christmas and Advent were very busy as usual with both church and community activities and services. We enjoyed Girls' Brigade's Christmas performance and our WoW nativity was the usual chaotic, but fun service. We hosted Rotary Club Carols and Burnham Grammar School's Christmas Concert.

We were delighted to welcome members of the community when we opened the church during the Lions' Christmas Parade . Over 100 people enjoyed hot chocolate, mulled wine, festive treats and carol singing.

The church looked beautiful by candlelight.

We sang carols in Sainsbury's and the High Street, raising money for Beautiful Gate and the church. Our popular Nine Lessons and Carols concert was beautiful and the choir was stunning. It was wonderful to see the church so full for our two Christingle services on Christmas Eve. The puppets had us all dancing in the aisles, fortunately before our candles were lit. The day was concluded with Midnight Mass.

We celebrated the birth of Jesus on Christmas Day and invited children to bring a new toy.

Our final service of the year was on New Year's Eve and we said goodbye to Revd Janet as she moved to the coast for her retirement. We had cake, fizz and presented Janet with a leaving gift of Euros for her travels. She will be sorely missed. Revd Janet has contributed so much not only to the life of St Peter's Church, but also to our church school and the community beyond. She brought so much joy and wisdom to us all. We will also miss her husband Paul, who quietly supported Janet, kept us smiling with his humour and was always on hand to help out when needed.

Social and Fundraising –Jenny Dobson

January – December 2023

We had a very full social calendar during 2023 and raised over £4100 for the mission and ministry of St Peter's and over £1300 for our supported charities.

We had a stall at both the Donkey Derby and the village fete which combined raised over £600. Other big fundraisers from the year were the quiz night, the gin tasting and the Spanish concert. Our games and craft afternoons have also proved to be popular times for people to meet up and every penny we raise helps to boost our funds.

In December we opened our church for the first time during the Lions Christmas Lantern Parade and this proved to be very popular, we welcomed many people through the door for free hot chocolate, mulled wine and Christmas nibbles. We left a donation bowl out and raised over £100 which was unexpected but very welcome.

Not all our social events are fundraisers and we spent a lovely day in Eastbourne last summer which everyone enjoyed. We are hoping to go to Bournemouth again this summer. Not all our fundraising efforts

involve socialising such as our Bucket collection for 'Unlock' and our Harvest collection for 'Beautiful Gate'. Some of our social events have been for our supported charities and our Egyptian harvest supper raised £584 for The Rennie Grove Hospice.

The Wednesday Welcome continues to be a success and draws in people from the village as well as regular churchgoers. We aim to offer a warm welcome and a safe warm place for all our visitors and the social and fundraising focus is very much on drawing people in as well as raising much needed funds for our church.

We as a church appreciate all the support that our Church family give to all the events that we put on.

Every event involves a lot of hard work and the more people who help, the less weight is put on the shoulders of those who organise so please continue to do what you do and support when you can either financially, by offering to wash up, run a raffle or help to advertise the events to your circle of friends.

Jenny Dobson

Social and fundraising group chairman

CHURCHWARDENS' REPORT 2023

The past year has been one of contrasts. Cornerstone is once again a busy place. This is overseen by our Cornerstone Co-ordinator, Vickie, ably assisted by an amazing group of volunteers.

While speaking of our volunteers, where would we be without you all? From the Sidespeople who welcome us at the door (it is hard to overstate the importance of their welcoming ministry), to Brian and the Choir, Servers, Flower Arrangers, Intercessors, Readers, Chalice Administrators, Duty Wardens, Bell Ringers (tower and handbell), Coffee Makers, Cornerstone Volunteers, Vergers, Sexton, Puppeteers, Social & Fundraising committee, WoW leaders, PCC Members (especially the Standing Committee who have to go to twice as many meetings as the rest) and Deanery Synod Representatives.

A huge thank you to Fiona and David Burrige, who give their time so generously to maintain the Churchyard, to Ian Fordyce, who not only runs Little Angels on Thursday mornings during term time, but also as LLM leads morning and evening prayer, Holy Communion in Burnham's care homes and also is on the preaching rota for Sunday services, and to Jenny Dobson and her team who run our Girls' Brigade company. We also thank Jenny for her ministry as a Licensed Lay Preacher. Bob Westover stood down as our sexton and we thank him for his hard work over the years. He has been replaced by Roy Ainley.

Thanks to Jackie Loveday, our PCC secretary, who minutes our PCC meetings and collates and distributes the paperwork for our meetings. We are extremely grateful to our webmaster, Steve Dobson, for being the go-to for all things techy and keeping our website and policies up to date. He has worked hard on our Intranet which has made finding and posting documents so much easier for the PCC.

We are now completely up to speed with our internet banking -thanks to Chris Knight for implementing such a robust and efficient system. Thank you to Sheila Warburton, our fees treasurer, for processing the income from weddings and funerals.

Our thanks to go to Tim Berg our independent examiner who has audited our accounts.

The list goes on and any we have left out have been omitted by mistake, we value all of you, without you St Peter's wouldn't be the warm and lively place that it is. Incidentally if any of you feel moved to help with any of these things, we would love to hear from you.

Of course, this list wouldn't be complete without a special mention for Reverend Sue who does so much to support the ministry of St Peter's, especially for leading the Communion Cafe on the second Monday of each month where mainly older members of the congregation can meet for worship followed by coffee and conversation.

The upkeep of a building that is over 800 years old is a constant and ongoing task, and we try to work on items from our Quinquennial Report as well as any more urgent jobs that arise from time to time. All the jobs in the report listed as urgent have now been completed. Next on the list are repairs and maintenance to the roofs and gutters and repairs to the stonework, which we are hoping to address once the weather is a little warmer.'

Roy kindly redecorated the cloakrooms and hallway in Cornerstone. The projector cabling was re-wired and Dynorod cleared the gullies after a blockage caused flooding Templewood filled the holes in the West wall of the church which were caused by squirrel damage. Our biggest expenditure was on 9 bell stays, but these will last for some time.

Sadly one of the benches in the churchyard was vandalised, and although we approached Men's Sheds to fix it, unfortunately it was beyond repair. Our existing benches were given a new lease of life after being sanded and polished by Men's Sheds. We are so grateful for our ongoing relationship with this wonderful community group. The bin was removed from the Memorial Garden, as it was constantly overflowing and the council did not empty it. We decided to join the 'Leave the leaves' initiative which meant less work and is much better for the environment.

The badgers continue to be a problem in the churchyard we are getting closer to putting up a fence to prevent people from falling down the many holes. We plan to mark off a 147m² area with posts and chains with a gate for access.

The Berks, Bucks and Oxford Wildlife Trust has generously agreed to pay for this, so we are just waiting for the necessary permission before we can go ahead.

We welcomed Dawn as our new cleaner and she has been doing a marvellous job in the church and Cornerstone.

So everything was proceeding nicely, and we felt things were running as smoothly as we could hope when our wonderful vicar, Reverend Janet informed us that she would be retiring. It is safe to say that we will all miss her strong leadership, her gentle support, her sense of humour and her smile. Her departure has left a gap that will be hard to fill as we go into the New Year in vacancy. She and Paul have moved to Lee-on-Solent, where we wish them a long and happy retirement.

Finally, thanks to all members of the congregation, being a Churchwarden can be a difficult and at times a challenging task and without your support it would be much harder, so thank you all,

Pam & Pete

PCC REPORT 2023 Jackie Loveday

All PCC members play a valuable role in the life and leadership of the church. The PCC meets regularly to support clergy, by discussing matters and making decisions not only on finance and buildings but also about the life of the church, its mission and involvement in the community, its social life and activities.

During this period the Membership of the PCC stood at 16, with all members regular attendees of meetings.

Five meetings have been held with no Extraordinary Meetings required. Peter Lewis continued as Lay Chair. The PCC held an Away Day in June facilitated by Revd Janet, giving an opportunity to reflect on the challenges and opportunities that might lie ahead.

A new Information and Security Policy was developed by Steve Dobson, and adopted by the PCC, to improve confidentiality, integrity, and availability of information. Steve also introduced an updated Website, Internet and Social Media Policy and heads the recently formed Website Group.

A revised Safeguarding policy, introduced by Emma Warburton was approved and adopted by the PCC.

The PCC authorised and supported the opening of Cornerstone each Wednesday morning from 10am-12noon as the 'Welcome Wednesday' initiative, providing an opportunity for fellowship and outreach into the wider community. This initiative was overseen by Vickie Samson and has been warmly welcomed.

The PCC together with Revd Janet agreed to discontinue the 4pm Eucharist on the 2nd Sunday as numbers were dwindling, continuing with the 8am Eucharist followed by the WoW service.

Approval was given by the PCC for the purchase of new Bell Stays overseen by Rob Dunster.

Approval was given by the PCC for an application to be made to the Community Support Team at Buckingham Council for a grant in support of Burnham Care and Share. This was overseen by Michaela Cottrell. The grant application was successful.

In July 2023 the PCC received the official notification from the Diocese of the acceptance of the resignation of Revd. Janet.

In July the PCC endorsed the initiative for a Cornerstone kitchen co-ordinator and Vickie Samson volunteered for this role.

The PCC reviewed fees for services which fall outside of the Statutory Fee regulations and agreed standard charges that would be applied.

The PCC approved the 4 charities that will be part of our official fundraising and spear headed by named Charity Champions.

All charges for Cornerstone hire, salaries, honorariums and fees were reviewed and agreed by the PCC at years end.

The Minutes of every PCC are posted, after approval, on display in the south porch.

DEANERY SYNOD REPORT 2023 - Sheila Warburton

Representatives are elected by Parishes to serve a 3 year term. It is the role of Synod reps to provide a link between Synod and the parishes to disseminate information from Synod to the parishes and vice versa.

St Peter's Reps 2023-2026: John Carey

Sheila Warburton

Pam Rogers

Area Dean: Revd Janet Binns

Associate Area Dean: Revd Chris Ferris

Lay Chair: Javed Gill

Treasurer: Sheila Warburton

Deanery Synod met on 4 occasions in 2023:

Topics discussed/presentations included:

Deanery Finance – Parish Share/Deanery Share - updates on progress and agree 2024 share

CAP (Christians Against Poverty) – Tim Wumbunya

Mission/Outreach/Stories across the Deanery at each meeting

Vacancies across the Deanery

Deanery Pastoral Reorganisation

Deanery Prayer (Thursdays at 4:00 pm on Zoom)

Emerge Advocacy presentation by Joy Wright (CEO and found of EMERGE)

Wexham Park Chaplaincy presentation by Edward Issitt (based at Wexham Park Hospital)

Schools Update by Wayne Dixon (Christian Connections in Schools)

Communication – development of website and logo

Developing Strategic Deanery Plan/questionnaire/survey to Synod members initially – Javed Gill

Greenhouse Project – St Paul's

Children & Youth Work Funding Bid – working group developing proposal

ELECTORAL ROLL 2023/2024

There have been 11 names removed from the Roll

There have been 12 names added to the Roll

Total number on the Roll for St Peter's Church, Burnham is 112

This information will be formally submitted to the Diocese.

SAFEGUARDING REPORT 2023

1 Introduction

Safeguarding is a standard item on the PCC agenda and a report is given at each meeting. We are working in line with the Church of England Safeguarding Policy and Practice Guidance. Extra meetings are communicated from the Church of England and attended as required, although none were attended last year.

2 Formal Obligation

There is a formal obligation for the PCC to report to the APCM, which it does.

3 Safeguarding Roles

Parish Safeguarding Officer: Emma Warburton

DBS Recruiter and Verifier: Emma Warburton and Vickie Samson

Safeguarding team – Emma Warburton, Vickie Samson, Janet Minkkinen (and the churchwardens as necessary)

4 Safeguarding Policy, Guidance and Information

The safeguarding policy is updated annually in line with diocesan requirements and we use the Diocese policy, this is displayed in both Cornerstone and the entrance porch. We also have an ex-offenders policy in place and this will be updated annually too. We work in line with all safeguarding practices outlined by the Church of England, including safer recruitment. We also ensure that all volunteers and employees have completed the relevant safeguarding courses and have a DBS check at the appropriate level.

5. Safeguarding Learning and Development

The following courses have been completed by the following number of people during 2023:

Basic Awareness - 4

Foundations - 7

Leadership - 0

Safer Recruitment - 1

Raising Awareness of Domestic Abuse - 1

The following courses are yet to be completed by the following number of people:

Basic Awareness - 4
Foundations - 8
Leadership - 4
Safer Recruitment - 2
Raising Awareness of Domestic Abuse - 5

Some of the courses that need completing are for people who did their training 3 years ago and so now need to do it as a refresher. In addition some people have now taken on new roles and now need to up their training.

The majority of courses which need to be completed by the congregation are online, and this has been challenging due to the age of most of the congregation. To overcome this we have given support where required, and have shown people how easy it can be to complete the necessary modules. They have been grateful for the support and this is something we will continue to do.

6 Safer Recruitment and People Management

We are compliant with all areas of Safer Recruitment and People Management Guidance and we need to ensure that this is maintained, especially with regards to volunteers.

7. Concerns Raised

There have been no concerns raised in the year 2023.

8. Additional Information

None

9. Next Steps

Safeguarding poster need updating.

Creating a sense of open communication about any concerns or worries that people have
Making sure that if people have concerns they raise it with PSO and not the family/person directly as they are not necessarily aware of the wider background of the family/person

PAROCHIAL CHURCH FEES – Sheila Warburton

The table of Statutory Parochial Fees is on the notice boards in church and Cornerstone. In addition to the statutory fee, the PCC sets the fee for the verger, organist, bells and choir for services such as marriages and funerals together with any other fees such as heating costs; these are included under non statutory fees.

A Fees Treasurer is elected annually by the PCC and a separate bank account is used to receive fees.

Total fees received during 2023:

	Statutory Fees		Non Statutory Fees	TOTAL
	Due to Diocese	Due to PCC		
	£	£		
Marriage Service	916	654	1,800	3,370
Wedding Banns & Certificate		361		361
Funeral Service in Church	1,186	995	1,687	3,868
Crematorium following Church Service	224			224
Funeral Service at Crematorium	2,923			2,923
Burial of Ashes	1,168	3,264	900	5,332
Monuments	145	638		783
Searches in Church Registers				0
Other Income		3	257	260
TOTALS	6,562	5,915	4,644	17,121

Note: Wedding deposits, fees, etc, paid in advance held until service takes place

TOTAL NUMBER OF SERVICES/OTHER

Marriage Service	4
Funeral Service in Church	10
Crematorium following service in church	7
Service at Crematorium	14
Burial of Ashes	29
Monuments	9