**APCM Safeguarding Report 2022-23**

Since the last APCM, PCC meetings have been online with the exception of one in September 2022 where we welcomed Revd Jez Carr to the church. Safeguarding continues to be a standing agenda item at each PCC meeting, and this year there has been no safeguarding incidents.

Safeguarding continues to be a strong focus within the church, with members of the PCC and volunteer helpers/leaders being encouraged to complete relevant training.

Safeguarding Sunday was integrated with the Christ the King service. A leaflet was available for the congregation at that service and in the church.

We now have Tsungai Muchegwa as our Safeguarding Advisor in Buckinghamshire and Louise Whitehead as the Head of Safeguarding in the Diocese. They have formed a Parish Safeguarding Officer working group, of which I am part, to look at ways in which the role of Parish Safeguarding Officer can be made easier. This is proving to be extremely useful.

All DBS checks are now current, and Confidential Declaration Forms are in place for everyone. Safer Recruitment Guidelines are a standard procedure for all new volunteers.

Safeguarding records are maintained in hard copy in the locked vestry and on a spreadsheet owned by me. The Diocese are considering investing in an online app that keeps all safeguarding records securely online, and that should be easier to maintain than a spreadsheet. I have expressed an interest in piloting this.

Toddlers in the Woods, the 8 O’clock Club, Open the Book, Pastoral Care and the Bible Study groups have been reaffirmed as a church approved activities and safeguarding checks have been undertaken.

We have looked in more detail at the requirements for safer recruitment this year, and the PCC has reviewed our Safer Recruitment and People Management practices.

The following policies have been reviewed and updated;

* Recruitment of Ex-Offenders
* Safeguarding
* Safeguarding Complaints procedure
* Social Media Policy
* Statement of procedure for the recruitment of Ex-Offenders

Our Safeguarding Action plan is at Level 3.

Many thanks to everyone for their constant support this year.

***Olwyn Davison-Oakley***

***Safeguarding Officer, Holy Trinity Seer Green and Jordans***