



Safeguarding/SQP Annual Review: Explanatory Note

July 2019

The Parochial Church Council or Trustees of Midhurst Parish Church carried out its annual review of Safeguarding policies and practices at its meeting on 13 June. These are combined into a quality assurance scheme to ensure safe recruitment of staff and volunteers required by the Diocese called **"Simple Quality Protects"**.

The PCC reviewed its Safeguarding/SQP procedures against the latest advice from the Church of England in its **"Parish Safeguarding Handbook"** published in 2018.

The PCC approved the latest Safeguarding Policy statement as below. It identified the need for some improvements, notably in ensuring that ALL members of the PCC should be DBSd and undertake a minimum of C1 training. This is now in hand. A further change was to ensure the safety and security of drivers and clients attending the Church's monthly Friendship Teas. This includes adopting the principle that a driver AND escort (two people) should collect/return guests. Finally, the PCC recognised the need for an Induction Pack and supporting training for all new posts, whether paid or voluntary.

The Parish Church maintains a Central Record of all the posts requiring DBS clearance, and itemises the dates on which the DBS of postholders were concluded. Similarly the Record lists all the training required of postholders through the Diocese's C1 and C2 training programme. The Record is reviewed by the Vicar and Churchwardens several times a year.

Midhurst Parish Church takes its safeguarding responsibilities very seriously, being aware that as its range of activities with the community is constantly growing, its good reputation is hard won, and easily lost.

Mike Abbott, Parish Safeguarding Officer

Church of St Mary Magdalene and St Denys, Midhurst

Parish Safeguarding Policy- "Promoting a Safer Church" June 2019

The following policy was agreed at the PCC meeting held on 13 June 2019.

In accordance with the Church of England Safeguarding Policy ("Parish Safeguarding Handbook- Promoting a safer church", July 2018) our church is committed to:

- Promoting a safer environment and culture.
- Safely recruiting and supporting all those with any responsibility related to children, young people and vulnerable adults within the church.
- Responding promptly to every safeguarding concern or allegation.
- Caring pastorally for victims/survivors of abuse and other affected persons.
- Caring pastorally for those who are the subject of concerns or allegations of abuse and other affected persons.
- Responding to those that may pose a present risk to others.

The Parish will:

- Create a safe and caring place for all.
- Have a named Parish Safeguarding Officer (PSO) to work with the incumbent and the PCC to implement policy and procedures.
- Safely recruit, train and support all those with any responsibility for children, young people and adults to have the confidence and skills to recognise and respond to abuse.
- Ensure that there is appropriate insurance cover for all activities involving children and adults undertaken in the name of the parish.
- Display in church premises and on the Parish website the details of who to contact if there are safeguarding concerns or support needs.
- Listen to and take seriously all those who disclose abuse.
- Take steps to protect children and adults when a safeguarding concern of any kind arises, following House of Bishops guidance, including notifying the Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser (DSA) and statutory agencies immediately.
- Offer support to victims/survivors of abuse regardless of the type of abuse, when or where it occurred.
- Care for and monitor any member of the church community who may pose a risk to children and adults whilst maintaining appropriate confidentiality and the safety of all parties.
- Ensure that health and safety policy, procedures and risk assessments are in place and that these are reviewed annually.
- Review the implementation of the Safeguarding Policy, Procedures and Practices at least annually.

Each person who works within this church community will agree to abide by this policy and the guidelines established by this church.

This church appoints: Michael Abbott as the Parish Safeguarding Officer
 Incumbent: Rev'd Dave Willis. Churchwarden: Jenny Dennett.

Date: 13 June 2019

SAFEGUARDING in Midhurst Parish Church – WHO'S WHO? July 2019

| CONTACT | NAME | PHONE |
|---|-------------------|--|
| The Vicar | Rev'd Dave Willis | Office:01730-815356 H.01730- 601096 Email: Vicar@MidhurstParishChurch.net |
| Parish Safeguarding Officer | Mike Abbott | H.01730-814857 Email: mike.abbott@MidhurstParishChurch.net |
| Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser | Colin Perkins | Tel: 01273 425792 / 07500 771210 @: colin.perkins@chichester.anglican.org |
| Assistant Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser | Morag Keane | Tel: 01273 425793 / 07881580310 @: morag.keane@chichester.anglican.org |

Q. What do I do if I have safeguarding concerns?

A. Much depends on the nature, and context of the concern:-

- If low level, it may be appropriate to talk to a Team leader, or if more serious to the Vicar, or.....
- To the Parish Safeguarding Officer, who will talk to the Diocesan Adviser
- To the Police if a 999 emergency

Other useful contact numbers:

Here are the contact details of other agencies that are available to assist, either on a 24-hour basis, or through specialist helplines and services:

- NSPCC Child Protection Helpline: [0808 800 5000](tel:08088005000) (lines free and open 24 hours). Phone if you are worried about a child.
- Child-line: [0800 1111](tel:08001111) (lines free and open 24 hours). Phone if you are a child or young person and are worried about anything.
- National Domestic Violence Helpline: [0808 2000 247](tel:08082000247) (lines free and open 24 hours). Phone if you are experiencing domestic abuse.
- Samaritans Helpline: [08457 90 90 90](tel:08457909090) (open 24 hours). Phone if you feel you are struggling to cope and need someone to talk to.
- Action on Elder Abuse Helpline: [080 8808 8141](tel:08088088141) (free phone Monday to Friday 9-5pm)