

Report and Accounts for the Parochial Church Council of St Mary the Virgin Marston Moreteyne and Lidlington Year End 2022

Celebrating our Villages' Church Life

1 Aim and Purposes

The primary object of St Mary's PCC is the promotion of the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to the doctrines and practices of the Church of England. It has the responsibility of cooperating with the Priest-in-Charge, the Reverend Andrew Goodman, in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish, the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical.

The PCC is also specifically responsible for the maintenance of the Church and churchyards of St Marys, Marston Moreteyne and Lidlington for the benefit of the people of Marston Moreteyne and Lidlington.

In carrying out these objects, the PCC seeks to comply with their duty to have due regard to the Charity Commission's public benefit guidance in exercising any powers or duties to which the guidance is relevant.

2 Objectives and activities

The PCC is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship at our church and to become part of our parish community at St Mary's. The PCC maintains an overview of worship throughout the parish and makes suggestions on how our services can involve the many groups that live within our parish. Our services and worship put faith into practice through prayer and Scripture, music and sacrament.

When planning our activities for the year, we have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and, in particular, the supplementary guidance on charities for the advancement of religion.

In particular, we try to enable ordinary people to live out their faith as part of our parish community through:

- Worship and prayer; learning about the gospel; developing their knowledge and trust in Jesus.
- Provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish
- Missionary and outreach work

To facilitate this work, it is important that we maintain the fabric of the church of St Mary's and the churchyards.

Our vision at St Mary's (from the Parish Profile 2022 and Annual Report 2019-20)

1. To be a living church, growing in faith and commitment.
2. Sharing the good news of God's love with all residents and visitors to our expanding parish.

We seek to do this by:

1. Developing our response to God's love in worship and prayer.
2. Encouraging children and young people to grow in faith.
3. Expanding the use of the Church as a focus of mission and service to the
4. community.
5. We seek to reach those who are unable to come to church through social media. (2019-20 APCM item 5 was '*Developing our relationship with our church school*')

Our goals:

1. To raise the profile of the church in the village, not only as an historic building and centre of worship but as a place where its extended use encourages members of the community to feel part of the church family.
2. To improve the facilities for our growing work with children.
3. To improve outreach within the village especially to young people and families and newcomers to the area.
4. To encourage the church family and enable them to deepen their faith and develop their talents and abilities.
5. To develop and move forward with our Mission Action Plan.

3 Achievements and performance

Worship and prayer

The PCC is keen to offer a range of services during the week and over the course of the year that our community find both beneficial and spiritually fulfilling. For example, our Tuesday Morning Prayer provides a quiet, intimate and reflective environment for worship, while opportunities are provided for people to engage in more outgoing worship at the Sung Sunday Morning Eucharist and Family Service within our parish.

This year we have been successful in continuing to welcome a small number of young families into our church who have been helped by establishing a new time for the Sunday Family Service of 9.30am, bringing it forward from 11.30am and adjusting the Sung Eucharist to 10.30am from 10am. It is pleasing to be able to report that the new arrangements have been well received since they came into operation on 19 June. They will be reviewed by the PCC in due course.

All are welcome to attend our regular services. The average Sunday weekly attendance, counted during October, was 46 Adults, and 10 Children. We had 28 people attending our Easter Vigil, and on Easter Sunday, 57 adults and 4 children. Our Christmas Carols by Candlelight service for the villages was enjoyed by 70 adults and 3 children and our Crib Service attendance was a packed house with 89 adults and 71 children. At Christmas Midnight Mass and on Christmas Day the number of communicants was 66 with 97 people attending. Around 12 people on average attended our weekday Tuesday Morning Prayer.

As well as our regular services, we enable our community to celebrate and thank God at the milestones of the journey through life. Through baptism we thank God for the gift of life. Ten children were baptised and 1 adult and 1 adult Affirming their Baptismal Faith, both in the traditional way by immersion at Brogborough Lake. In marriage, public vows are exchanged with God's blessing and we had the joy of celebrating the marriage in the church of one couple. Through funeral services friends and family express their grief and give thanks for the life that is now complete in this world, and commend the person into God's keeping. We had 4 Burials and 4 Funerals. We also provide Services and opportunities to pray and reflect on significant moments in the life of our nation, such as the passing of the Queen, participating in the Proclamation of the King, and Remembrance.

Discipleship

We have held courses on Faith and Spirituality advertised to the community during the seasons of Lent and Advent.

Mission and evangelism

A monthly Newsletter is distributed electronically to all parishioners on the church electoral roll and is available in print and online in the Parish Council Newsletter. The Newsletter keeps our parishioners informed of the important matters affecting our church, invitations to events and articles that help develop our knowledge and trust in Jesus. The weekly Sermon Podcast 'TowerPod' is published on all the major platforms and social media.

Pastoral care

Revd. Andrew Goodman has carried out Pastoral Visits to church members and those in need in the villages' communities and also undertaken Home Communion and Anointing for the Sick and Dying to our Care Homes. Members of the church family also undertake pastoral care for one another and their community informally.

Church and Community Engagement

We want to be able to open our church every day to our community for private prayer, reflection, and solace in time of need. We are pleased that a rota of parishioners has enabled us to open the church every day, including weekends and for all public holidays in the past year.

Around 25 people regularly attend our Wednesday Afternoon Teas offering refreshments and opportunities for conversation and pastoral care, accompanied by our musicians practising and playing well known tunes to enjoy. We were pleased to be able to make this an officially designated Warm Space.

We hold a very well organised Playgroup 'Teas and Tots' for the community twice a month attended by about 18 parents and 20 children and babies, who enjoy music, games and toys, refreshments and seasonal input to help them understand and appreciate the Christian story.

Our Social Committee arranges many varied and excellent events throughout the year for the benefit of our community and church and raises needed funds.

Schools Work

Church members volunteer in the school. The church has supported a number of families in the community by shopping for food and essentials. This work is now continuing by supporting the Need Project as well as liaising with the School and Marston Families Initiative to cover the gap in provision for villagers in need between referral and delivery by the Need Project. We also distribute gifts for children and families at Christmas and Easter.

Ecumenical relationships

We hold a monthly leadership meeting for prayer and collaboration with Vale Community Church. From time to time we promote Lidlington Church events and Revd Andrew Goodman is available to support on matters of Prayer, Healing, and Deliverance on request.

Pam Turner, PCC Secretary

Electoral Roll Report

Provisional numbers 134 parishioners on the church electoral roll, 4 of whom are not resident within the parish. Four names were added during the year and 1 child, and 2 were removed through death and 4 because they moved away from the parish. *Stephen Murphy, Electoral Roll Officer*

Fabric Report

Much work has been done in the Lidlington churchyard. Most of the overgrown areas have been cleared. Only the central area remains to be cleared. We have received a substantial bequest which allowed us to purchase a heavy duty wheeled trimmer for clearing the rough areas.

Many work parties were held at Marston churchyard. Hedges have been cut and grass cut in the wildflower area. However, the number of volunteers has dropped considerably so not as much has been achieved as we hoped.

Stone has been found to be spalling on the mullion of one of the windows in the choir area. A faculty is being raised for the repair.. *Stephen Murphy – Churchwarden*

Warden's Report & Risk Management

Oak processionary moth. The forestry commission will be spraying the oak trees in the churchyard to control the oak processionary moth. The trees will be sprayed twice. We are waiting for the contractors to confirm the dates for this work.

Work parties have been poorly attended and much work needs to be done in the churchyard.

We need to recruit more people to act as sidespeople. The main Sunday service is covered but we have trouble covering the family service and any mid week services funerals etc.

We also need people to take on some of the roles for the vergers i.e. preparing the church and altar for a service, monitoring stock levels of consumables and maintaining records of burials.

Lidlington churchyard

Over the winter the overgrowth on the southern boundary has been cleared. We are now moving into the grass cutting season. We hope that by the end of the summer we will have cleared access to all the marked graves.

In the areas without marked graves, grass will be allowed to grow to various heights to provide habitats for wildlife. Some areas in the north east of the churchyard will also be allowed to remain overgrown to provide cover for wildlife.

Risk Assessments

There have been no changes although an additional risk assessment will need to be done for Oak Processionary Moth in the spring.

Fire evacuation procedure - training has been given to sidespeople to act as fire wardens.

Stephen Murphy, Churchwarden

Worship Committee Report

The Worship Committee has met monthly to plan music for services, both in person and on Zoom. This group collaboratively plans the music for forthcoming services and explores ways to enhance worship. The choir have been providing excellent leadership to our worship.

In addition to planning and providing the music for services, John, Marion, Celia and Sue regularly play at Wednesday afternoon teas, their playing is really appreciated.

Stephen Murphy Churchwarden & Vice Chair of the PCC

School Foundation Governors Report

The two PCC appointed Foundation School Governors are James Drinkwater and Juliet Taylor. James was appointed in November 2022 and Juliet in June 2022.

There are monthly School Governor Meetings, which usually take place at the Forest End site, with the exception of December and August. The meetings are very full, with a combination of presentations and some discussion. There is a lot of information to assimilate!

For the current academic year Juliet has been allocated as the governor with responsibility for Year 4 and James has yet to be allocated a particular area of governor responsibility.

The school prayer is clearly displayed in the classrooms and there are wall displays at each site with a poster of the school's Christian message from Jeremiah 29-11

"For I know the plans that I have for you, declares the Lord. Plans to prosper you and not to harm you. Plans to give you hope for the future".

Juliet has attended the Statutory Inspection of Anglican & Methodist schools [SIAMS] session for the new inspection criteria/National update on 3rd November 2022 and also Safeguarding for school Governors on 7th September 2022.

In addition to the governor meetings Juliet is in school most Tuesday afternoons to listen to children from a Year 4 class read. Juliet also meets the head of year 4 at least once a term to assess the support available to staff, children and families. There is a clear culture of pastoral support for all three groups.

Juliet has also participated in a meeting with the school's SIAMS Inspector, as part of our preparation for the SIAMS Inspection on 21st November and on 4th December was one of five governors who met with an Inspector as part of our preparation for the expected OFSTED Inspection. The school Governors were all invited to the school Christmas lunch for staff on 14th December. This was made possible at no cost to staff by a donation from the Diocese.

Our plan for the future is to be more active in the meetings.

Juliet Taylor on behalf of James Drinkwater and Juliet Taylor 22nd March 2023

Social Media Report

We have continued to develop the use of social media to advertise and communicate to our congregation and the local villages. The website is currently being refurbished to ensure it is accurate for the current services and activities provided within our church and community.

We have developed the use of Facebook and Instagram. Both sites have an ever-increasing audience. In the last year we have reached 47500 people through social media. We currently have over 500 people following the church through our Facebook and Instagram pages combined. Our posts continue to regularly reach 2000 people through the local village pages.

The engagement links from these posts averaged at 75 people engaging in the content in some way. We have posted prayers, events, service information and also shared important information from the Diocese of St Albans and the Church of England Facebook pages.

Our peak in interaction on social media was over the Christmas period. We have now begun to analyse the patterns within social media as to whether there are particular days and times that have a higher engagement.

Alongside our posts we have reached and communicated with a number of members within our community through comments and private messages. This has a higher number of messages in comparison to the communication email address.

There are still options to develop our social media use further and will continue to use it to promote and advertise our church.

Nicola Drinkwater - Communications Lead

Deanery Synod Report

I was elected as Deanery Synod representative for our PCC on 17th May 2022 at our APCM. There is a vacancy for a second Deanery Synod representative. During 2022 the Deanery synod meetings were held on:

19th May
21st June
25th October

I was unable to attend the meeting on 19th May, as I was away but I did submit my apologies. The first part of the meeting is usually a guest speaker, followed by standard agenda items, which include:

- Minutes from previous meeting & any matters arising.
- General Synod report
- Deanery synod report
- Financial report
- Safeguarding report

On 21st June we had a presentation from Rev'd Kate Peacock: Deputy Director of Mission & Ministry entitled: "Beyond Reaching New People".

On 25th October, sadly our guest speaker was unable to attend so we had an update about the Diocesan Environmental and Net Zero Carbon Emissions.

The most recent meeting was on 15th March 2023 and we had two presentations about Prison Chaplaincy, for HMP Bedford and The Mount. There was also a plea for churches to consider signing up to be a welcoming church for prisoners on their release, subject to appropriate safety measures being implemented where needed. The forthcoming dates are: 25th May 2023, 28th June 2023, 18th October 2023

Juliet Taylor – Deanery Synod representative, and Revd Andrew Goodman, 22nd March 2023

Children & Families Service and Tea and Tots

Tea and Tots

As requested by mums in the village, we have trialled one session a month in the morning and the other in the afternoon. This has worked well and the afternoon sessions are gradually increasing. Flitwick Children's Centre have been joining us each session: weighing babies and offering advice – this has brought new families to the sessions. We have finally spent the Councillor Ward grant and have purchased £1426 worth of toys, storage and seating for children. These will be added to/replace the existing collection and will be stored at the back of the church. We have new volunteers supporting the sessions and following a trial (to check they are happy) we will complete the safer recruitment process with them.

Crib Service and Christmas Party

Our annual Crib Service was extremely well attended and had very positive feedback. The children who took part were very confident and it was lovely to see how much they had grown in the last twelve months. The first baby that ever 'starred' in our Crib Service returned this year and is now a teenager! All children who attend church were given an invitation to attend the children's Christmas party, they were also given a second invitation that they could give to a friend. The social committee made this a special occasion for the children with party games, activities, and a buffet – we all had lots of fun.

Family Service

The change (in time from 11.30am to 9.30am) to the family service has worked well for families. We follow the Diddy Disciples programme of events, but adults who lead worship can plan their own in relation to the story. Songs selected are songs which are sung in school and children enjoy playing instruments and performing actions to them. To increase interaction between the different services, we have introduced a joint refreshment time the first Sunday of the month. We hope to carry out some joint services for special occasions e.g. Christingle, Easter, Mother's Day, Palm Sunday in future years.

Easter

We look forward to welcoming children aged between 5 and 11 to church on Good Friday for a range of arts and crafts. We have charged £2 per child, but this is to just cover the cost of the resources and refreshments. We look forward to our annual Easter card hunt in church on Easter Sunday and sharing the Fairtrade eggs with the children.

Rebecca Eames - Children and Families

Social Committee Report

The social committee has had some ups and downs over the past year. The people on the social committee have continued to strive to come up with ideas so people can have fun and funds are raised for the church. There have been varied events including more recently the success of the Easter Bonnet parade and the Quiz Night. Over the year many events have been successful. We have had lots of food events like a Baked Potato lunch, Fish and Chip supper for St. Andrew's Day, a Family Picnic and the Harvest Supper. All were enjoyed by those that attended and some will be repeated again this year.

Sometimes it is hard to find a balance between making funds and not making it too expensive for those joining in with the activity, especially during this time of economical difficulties. Keeping expenses down helps but inevitably most times there are some. Asking those in church to help out is one way to negate this but generosity can sometimes be stretched and sometimes lost. The social committee are working hard to get St. Mary's noticed through these events and especially through advertising our events through the village and elsewhere.

As a committee, we believe we have made a fair amount for Church funds over the past year. Some events we have done just for people's enjoyment like the fish and chip supper and the bacon sandwiches for the men's club, who also had a history tour of the Church from Spud. Marti Mann organised a Raffle With a Difference. People bought in food for the families in the village who are struggling. Each time they handed it in they were given a raffle ticket. The draw took place at the end of the month and three lucky winners got a prize. This was a good way to say thank you for everyone's continued support.

We have several things planned for the coming months and hope these are successful and enjoyable. They will be displayed on our notice board that Marti has made look much better. She has also matched the other boards to look the same – thank you Marti.

Elaine Murphy Chair of Social Committee

Safeguarding Report

The PCC, to the best of its knowledge, has taken all reasonable steps to comply with their duty under Section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy discipline Measure 2016 (duty to have regard to the House of Bishops' guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults), and to comply with all relevant updates.

The Incumbent and PCC have a duty of care to ensure the well-being of the vulnerable in the church community. St. Mary's PCC have:

- Adopted and implemented the House of Bishops' Policies on safeguarding children and adults who may be vulnerable.
- Adopted a Parish Safeguarding Officer(s) (the 'Designated Person' with special responsibility for safeguarding children and adults), to work with the incumbent and the PCC to implement policy and procedures.
- Ensured that the Parish Safeguarding Officers (PSOs) and anyone having regular contact with children and vulnerable adults is appointed according to Diocesan Safer Recruitment Guidelines, is trained and supported, provided with (alongside the PCC) a copy of the parish safeguarding policy.
- Dealt promptly with allegations or suspicions of abuse in accordance with the Disclosures and Allegations policy in consultation with the Diocesan Safeguarding Officer.
- Displayed the Diocesan and Parish Safeguarding Policy and Procedures, the contact details of the PSOs named person on church premises and wherever possible on the church website.

- Ensured that there is appropriate insurance cover for all activities involving children undertaken in the name of the parish.
- Reviewed the implementation of safeguarding children and adults' policy, procedures and good practice, at least annually.

Parish Safeguarding

At St Mary's we recognise that the few who are determined to harm children or adults, deliberately seek out groups or organisations where they can meet children or other vulnerable people. The Church is particularly vulnerable to these people. Creating and maintaining a safeguarding culture will discourage them from becoming involved for the wrong reasons and make it difficult for them to harm or abuse children or adults if they do. In order to assist with the creation of a safeguarding culture we have as a PCC:

Appointed:

- At least two appropriately experienced designated Parish Safeguarding Officers (PSO) to work with the incumbent and PCC. Both are lay persons and are also DBS administrators for church officers who work with children or vulnerable adults.
- The PSOs are supported, trained and given a copy of the parish safeguarding policy and procedures;

Safer Recruitment practice by:

- Appointing all church officers who work with children, young people and/or vulnerable adults are recruited in line with the principles outlined in House of Bishops' Safer Recruitment practice guidance including regular DBS applications.
- Offering individuals access to safeguarding training and support (in person and on-line)
- Providing appropriate insurance to cover for all activities undertaken in the name of the PCC which involve children and vulnerable adults;

Displayed:

- A formal statement of adoption of the House of Bishops 'Promoting a Safer Church; safeguarding policy statement' is signed on behalf of the PCC and is displayed in church on the safeguarding board.
- Contact details of the Churchwarden and any other local leaders.
- Contact details of the PSOs the Diocesan Safeguarding Team – including phone, email and website details and Information about where to get help with child and adult safeguarding issues, domestic abuse and key helplines e.g. ChildLine
- A hard copy of the Diocese Safeguarding Manual 'A Safer Church' which acts as our Parish Safeguarding Handbook.
- Copies of our Safeguarding policies for children, vulnerable adults and domestic violence

Responded by:

- Promoting an environment, which is welcoming and respectful and enables safeguarding concerns to be raised and responded to openly, promptly and consistently;
- Agreeing policies and procedures to:
 - deal promptly with safeguarding allegations or suspicions of abuse in accordance with the relevant policy and practice guidance and in consultation with the Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser;
 - Report all safeguarding concerns or allegations against church officers to the Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser;

- ensure that known offenders or others who may pose a risk to children and/or vulnerable adults are effectively managed and monitored in consultation with the Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser;
- Complying with all data protection legislation especially in regard to storing information about the 'church workforce'. Including volunteers and any safeguarding records;
- Providing an "activity risk assessment" tool for each those involved in activities associated with either children or vulnerable adults, and run in the name of the Church.

Review and Report Progress by:

- Inviting the PSO to regularly report on safeguarding in the parish. Safeguarding has been added as a standing agenda item at each PCC meeting.
- Reporting to the APCM in an annual report in relation to safeguarding. In the PCC's annual report will be a statement which reports on progress and a statement as to whether or not the PCC has complied with the duty to have "due regard" to the House of Bishops' guidance in relation to safeguarding.
- Using the Parish Safeguarding Dashboard to identify next steps for the action plan.

Supported the Hiring of Church Premises by: (If this was to occur, it has not in this period)

Developing and updating its agreement with any person/body wishing to hire church premises stating whereby the person/body hiring the premises agrees:+

- to comply with the relevant safeguarding guidance issued by the House of Bishops and the diocese.
- to ensure that children and vulnerable adults are protected at all times, relevant staff have had appropriate DBS checks and that all reasonable steps have been taken to prevent injury, illness, loss or damage occurring.
- Ensuring that all those hiring church premises carry full public liability insurance for this, or are covered through the church insurance (for example hire for a children's party).

Support & Compliance:

The measures identified in the list above are checked during parish visitations and as to date no actions are outstanding.

Extra Safeguarding Measures during 2022/23

Poverty: Our Church has continued to support children and families identified through the community with food supplies at this time. All guidance and policies have been followed in order to do this.

Abuse and Harm: Any risks identified have been shared and followed up.

Children/adults with additional needs: where this has been identified, all safeguarding procedures have been followed and social services, the police and the Diocesan Safeguarding Advisor have been involved with timely responses to safeguard an individual.

Where appropriate additional risk assessments have been carried out following clear guidance from external agencies.

Rebecca Eames, Parish Safeguarding Officer

4 Financial Review

The PCC Fund (minus the designated amounts for ring fenced sub-funds such as the Need Fund, Social Fund etc.) started the year at £18,263.34 and closed at £19,875.88. Ring fenced funds finished 2022 at:

- The Social Fund - £7,192.70
- The Choir Fund - £917.02
- The Bell Fund - £1,322.10
- The Need Fund - £664.11
- The Lidlington Graveyard Fund - £17,212.32
- The Fabric/Tower Fund - £13,959.32

The biggest outgoing for the church in 2022 was the Parish Share at £25,690.08, which we were able to pay in full. Our planned giving provided the biggest income for the church at £22,114.62. For a more indepth review of the church finances for 2022, please see the final accounts report.

Scott Hill, Treasurer

5 Reserves policy

It will be proposed that the PCC try to maintain a balance on unrestricted funds that equates to at least three months' unrestricted payments. It will be held to smooth out fluctuations in cash flow and to meet emergencies.

6 Plans for future periods

Vision and Mission Statement

Rev. Andrew Goodman has started working with the congregation to develop a Vision, from which with the help of a small team, we will develop our Mission Action Plan. This will include reviewing:

1. Our Welcome both physically in the building and in our Services and activities
2. Our Mission to promote the Gospel for the benefit of the community and overseas.

A particular focus will be to address the lack of attendance by Children and Families and the ageing congregation. We are currently experimenting with using a selection of 100 Songs and Hymns in our Worship, mostly chosen by the congregation, as a first step in making our services more welcoming to newcomers from the parish community.

Pastoral Care:

We are in the process of setting up a team for Home Communion to include visiting the Care Homes in the parish. This has taken longer than hoped. We are also exploring how best to enable and equip members of the church to undertake pastoral care.

7 Structure, governance and management

The Parochial Church Council is a corporate body established by the Church of England. The PCC operates under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure. The PCC is a charity for the purposes of the Charities Act 2011, exempted by order from registering with the Charity Commission.

The PCC is the executive committee of the parish and consists of clergy and churchwardens, together with representatives of the laity. The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. All who attend church are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC.

The PCC is responsible for promoting the mission of the church, its financial affairs, and maintaining the building and contents. All members of the PCC are Trustees of the church which is a registered charity. Meetings are held regularly, usually every 2 months.

The Standing Committee is a sub-committee of the PCC who meet between PCC meetings. They consist of the Incumbent, churchwardens, PCC Secretary and Treasurer. They are able to carry out the business of the PCC between PCC meetings, subject to any directions given by the PCC. The PCC delegates Committees and Volunteers to carry out its work, who report to the PCC; Worship Committee, Music Committee, Finance Committee to be appointed, Children and Families Committee, (Family Service, Christening Team, Teas and Tots), Safeguarding Officer, Social Committee, Communications Officer, Sidespeople etc.

Recruitment, induction and training of PCC members: the members of the PCC are either ex-officio or elected by the Annual Parochial Church Council Meeting (APCM) in accordance with the Parochial Church Council Powers Measures or co-opted through the course of the year. The appointment of PCC Members is governed by and set out in the Church Representation Rules. PCC Members are provided with assistance in their roles by their fellow committee members for support. There are also two members of the PCC who have been elected as representatives of the Deanery Synod.

All the members of the PCC are DBS (Disclosure and Barring Service) checked and complete online Safeguarding Training as required by the Diocesan Safeguarding Officer, with the support and guidance of the PCC Safeguarding Officer.

Training in compliance with health and safety, disability discrimination legislation, child protection, and other matters affecting the parish is undertaken by means of courses arranged by the diocese or deanery that are attended by a PCC representative who reports back to the PCC as a body, and the dissemination of reading matter.

During the period June 2022 to March 2023 the PCC has met 5 times with an average of 95% attendance, and the Standing Committee met 5 times (there were 5 members); with 90% attendance.

8 Administrative information

Name and Church Dedication of the PCC: Parochial Church Council of St Mary the Virgin Marston Moreteyne with Lidlington, within the Diocese of St Albans, Church of England.

Church and PCC Correspondence Address: St Mary the Virgin Church, The Green, Marston Moretaine, Bedford MK43 0NF

HMRC Charity Registration: Number 632341.

Membership:

Revd. Andrew Goodman was licensed as Priest in Charge on the 28th March 2022.

Chair and Priest-in-Charge	Revd. Andrew Goodman
Churchwarden	Stephen Murphy
Representatives on Deanery Synod	Revd. Andrew Goodman and Juliet Taylor

Elected Members

Treasurer	Scott Hill
Secretary	Pamela Turner
Safeguarding Officer	Rebecca Eames
Electoral Roll Officer	Stephen Murphy
School Governors	Juliet Taylor and James Drinkwater
Communications	Nicola Drinkwater
Children & Families	Rebecca Eames
Social Committee	Elaine Murphy
	Marti Mann
	Sonia Nockels

During this period Angela Parris stepped down as a member of the PCC and Standing Committee.

The day to day management of the church is undertaken by The Revd. Andrew Goodman, the Churchwardens and PCC, and a number of volunteers.

The Independent Examiner for the church accounting procedures is: Richard Williams, 4 Campion Court, Marston Moreteyne, Bedfordshire MK43 1GW

Bank: Santander Bank, High Street, Bedford.