

## **Parochial Church Council Report Report for January - December 2023**

The PCC convened for seven meetings during 2023 with an average attendance of 9 people at each meeting. PCC meetings were chaired variously by Church Warden Shirley Davenport for 4 meetings, Church Warden David Turner for one meeting and Rev'd Jane Foster-Smith for two meetings. There was also a Group PCC meeting in November where members of Saxilby, Newton and Kettlethorpe PCCs met to discuss issues relevant to all. This was also a chance for members of all the PCCs to get to know one another.

This was a busy year for everyone. Rev'd Joan decided to step back from her very busy schedule in March and retire. Rev'd Joan will still be taking some occasional offices. Our grateful thanks to Joan for the hard work and support she has given.

I am very happy to report that our new Priest in Charge, Rev'd Jane Foster-Smith, was Licensed at a service on Monday 3rd July. Rev'd Jane takes on this role for the seven Churches in our Group. New initiatives regarding mission and Ministry are very welcome. Welcome Rev'd Jane. We look forward to a bright future for St. Botolph's under your leadership.

During 2023 Rev'd Canon Phillip Wain stepped down from his role as Rural Dean. Rev'd Canon Steve Johnson from Gainsborough has taken up this role. Many thanks to Rev'd Phillip for his work and support.

There was a change of leadership at Saxilby Church of England Primary School in 2023. Our Foundation Governor, Jonathan Wainwright has had a very busy year at the school.

Safeguarding is extremely important and is an agenda item at each PCC meeting. Our Safeguarding officer is Barbara Bussey.

All of our Church Groups have been busy, often working in the background and not immediately obvious to members of the congregation. The Authorised Lay Ministry team works hard for the Parish. Their report will give an insight into the role they take. Messy Church is going from strength to strength and increasing in numbers. Mothers Union continues to meet regularly. The Funding committee managed a full programme of events in 2023. Monthly coffee mornings also being a good outreach to the Community.

The PCC voted to resume the distribution of wine using the "common cup" in May. This began in July.

2023 was a tough year for finances generally across the UK with inflation etc putting up prices across the board. Because of this PCC needed to increase the price of Church Hall lettings and the Foss Focus magazine increased in price by 10 pence a copy. Our treasurer Colin Knowles keeps a watchful eye on the Church finances and produces an updated statement at each PCC meeting.

David Turner celebrated 50 years as Tower Captain in December. Many congratulations! There are many groups that contribute hugely to the life of St. Botolph's. More volunteers would be extremely welcome.  
Karen Baty PCC Secretary.