

### **Annual report on the proceedings of the Parochial Church Council (PCC) 2022-23.**

The PCC is composed of members of the clergy licensed to the parish and currently 17 members of the laity, including two representatives of the daughter churches and the co-opted Director of Music. The prime purposes of the PCC are to cooperate with the Rector in promoting in the parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical, considering matters of religious or public interest and acting as a link between the parish and the deanery and diocesan synods. The PCC fulfils this function principally through its committees, which are composed both of members of the PCC and other members of the church. In addition to a short meeting following the annual meetings, the PCC has had five regular meetings since the previous APCM, at which it received reports and proposals from the subcommittees and committee reports from St James' Swards End and St John's Little Walden, as well as dealing with matters relevant to the whole PCC.

The council has complied with the duty under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016 (duty to have due regard to House of Bishops' guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults).

Some of the matters on which the PCC has focussed over the past year, in approximate chronological order, have been:

- Regular reports on the state of the church's finances
- Consideration of service patterns to ensure sustainable clergy coverage
- Consideration of provision for maintaining and improving the organ
- Consideration of provision for maintaining and improving lighting
- Consideration of the role of servers
- Bishop Guli's Travelling Well Together paper was introduced to the church this year and informed Lent Groups
- Recruiting new Michael Swindlehurst Organ scholars
- An Equal Opportunities Policy was introduced
- Review of Safeguarding Policy and implementation
- 2023 budget and approval of financial accounts 2022

*Anna Martin*  
*PCC Secretary*