

PARISH POLICY STATEMENT FOR SAFEGUARDING ADULTS WHEN THEY ARE VULNERABLE, 2025

Parish of Affpuddle with Turnerspudde in the Church of England Benefice of West Purbeck and the Diocese of Salisbury. The following policy, issued on 12 April 2024, was reviewed and agreed at the Annual Parochial Church Council Meeting (APCM) held on 25 April 2025:

As members of the PCC, we commit our church community to the support, nurture, protection and safeguarding of all. We recognise that everyone has different levels of vulnerability and that all adults should be offered respect and given inclusion and empowerment within the church.

1. We are committed to adopt and implement a safeguarding policy for adults when they are vulnerable, accepting as a minimum, the House of Bishop's Policy on Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults (Promoting a Safe Church 2006). In addition, the parish will follow the diocesan policy, procedures and recommended good practice, while being responsive to local parish requirement.
2. We are committed to reviewing our policy annually, and as part of this, to check that our parish safeguarding procedures, including DBS checks, where necessary, and training are up-to-date and relevant. PCC members are required, as minimum, to undertake the Diocesan Basic online training course.
3. We will review and endorse all safeguarding policies annually, at the first meeting of the PCC following APCM, so that new members are aware of their responsibilities and confirm the existence of their parish policy on safeguarding adults when they are vulnerable.
3. We will undertake careful selection of all those who will work with vulnerable groups and provide appropriate support and opportunities for training.
4. We will respond without delay to every complaint made, that a vulnerable person for whom we have responsibility may have been harmed.
5. This parish will cooperate fully with the statutory agencies in every situation and will not conduct their own investigations.
6. We will seek to offer informed pastoral care to any adult who has suffered abuse.
7. We will care for and supervise any member of our church community known to have offended.

The Parochial Church Council of this parish acknowledges its responsibility for all work with young adults and adults who may be vulnerable, that is done in the name of the Church. It requires all those engaged in such work to be properly appointed and supported in accordance with current good practice and guidelines issued through the Diocese of Salisbury.

The Parish Safeguarding Representative/Churchwarden: Mrs Elizabeth Whatley

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