

A Report from the Standing Committee of the PCC meeting held on 16 June 2022

The Revd Canon Deb Smith held the chair, and six members of the PCC Standing Committee were in attendance.

Only three items were discussed at this meeting.

1. The Fairer Share Count figures for church attendance on the five Sundays in May 2022 had been collated, and the PCC needed to discuss them and approve them before being submitted to the diocese.

There was discussion about the detail and concern that the numbers have reduced considerably since last time. Attendance at the Team Service on 8 May was poor from some congregations which reduced the average figures. An assessment of the affluency category was made, using the Financial Giving Guidelines helpfully supplied by the diocese.

Average attendance each week during May 2022:

31 SMBRI assessed as: category B
26 SSALL assessed as: category C
30 HTBRA assessed as: category C
13 HTBOT assessed as: category C
10 SJWES assessed as: category C
8 SMWAL assessed as: category C

Total: 118 per week across the parish.

2. The diocese has completed one round of consultation with PCCs about the calculation of our Fairer Share donation (how much each parish pays for the clergy, their house, NI and pensions, together with all the training for clergy and laity, and the many other departments of the diocese). Next month we have a subsequent consultation document to discuss at the PCC meetings, so the Standing Committee looked at it and talked about the best way to present the material to ensure clear understanding and the opportunity for reflection and local discussion.
3. The Rector gave feedback on the Archdeacon's Visitation which had taken place this week and at which the local churchwardens were sworn into office for the year. Archdeacon Penny wanted specifically to thank the wardens, both those stepping down and those now starting their term of office, in addition to the many other people who work so hard to keep our churches open, welcoming and sacred spaces for our communities. The Revd Gavin Foster, the Registrar spoke about the legal team available to us at the Diocesan Registry and encouraged us to make contact with them. They are there to uphold order in our church life, to support us with legal issues and help us enact the Church Representation Rules.

Ends.

Bridget Trump, PCC Secretary