

Card making for South Sudan – Report to APCM 2024

Our card making sessions continue each month, generally on the first Thursday of the month in the Alec Moore room. There are now about a dozen of us and we are delighted that this includes some members of the community who are not regular members of our church.

We have now been doing this for about 12 years and are proud to have raised over £7000 which included about £1000 last year. In addition to the loyal members of this church who buy our cards regularly, I also sell at some “Win on Waste “ sessions where people can see what happens to the cards that they donate for recycling there. We also look for other opportunities to sell our cards, such as the Minster Fair at the Folk Festival and the Wimborne in Bloom Charities Fair.

The money raised last year was given to Bishop Samuel Peni from Yambio, when he visited Wimborne in January, so we can be sure that the money will go directly to those most in need.

I am so grateful to all the hard work that this group put into making these cards and I would particularly like to thank John and Jenny Spatchet who undertake the mammoth task of sorting the cards received and John cuts them to enable this wonderful team to then make new cards.

However, I also really appreciate the continuing support of all those at church who donate old cards and then buy new ones, who all help to make this project a success.

Jill Beech

CHERUBS REPORT TO PCC – FEBRUARY 2024

Another successful year, with many very happy and busy toddlers and their carers enjoying some fun-filled Friday mornings in the Centre. Dani, whose son left us in the Summer decided to step back from running Cherubs in October. She has been an absolute tower of strength, and we really appreciated all she did. Hannah has stepped in and, with the help of her enthusiastic and cheerful band of helpers, it is clear that the group remains in good hands and retains its friendly, welcoming and supportive atmosphere. It is also noteworthy how very supportive they all are of Church events.

The new shed houses the outdoor toys and is proving a godsend. Although the Cherubs fund had built up a healthy reserve, it wasn't sufficient to cover the whole cost so we had to ask for a loan from church funds, for which we are grateful and which we are steadily repaying. We were incredibly grateful to Robin Hill, who gave up several days to lay the concrete flooring and build the shed, with occasional help from a few volunteers. Having the outdoor space is such a boon and extremely popular with all the children.

We appreciate the willingness of so many members of the congregation to go on to the 'refreshments rota'. There are enough of them to mean they only need to be on duty once a term, and Eileen (known as the Queen of Refreshments) is always there to help and advise.

Now that one of the Dads, Paul, has joined the organizing team, he attacks with great relish the job of setting up the farm/cars/trains/paw patrol toys, which is a real help, and is great at the mammoth task of putting everything away in the right place at the end of the morning. We finish each morning with a story – Hannah has organized a rota of visiting readers, who valiantly battle their way across a melee of sometimes not very quiet noise – and some singing.

We are grateful to Jenny Spatchet and Eileen Roe, as well as to their husbands and Garth, for all their help.

As last year, Vicar Suzanne's presence is invaluable as she not only makes contact with all the Mums, Dads and Carers, but also regularly leads the singing and most importantly, leads the twice-termly Cherubs service in church, which is a great highlight.

Barbie Watson

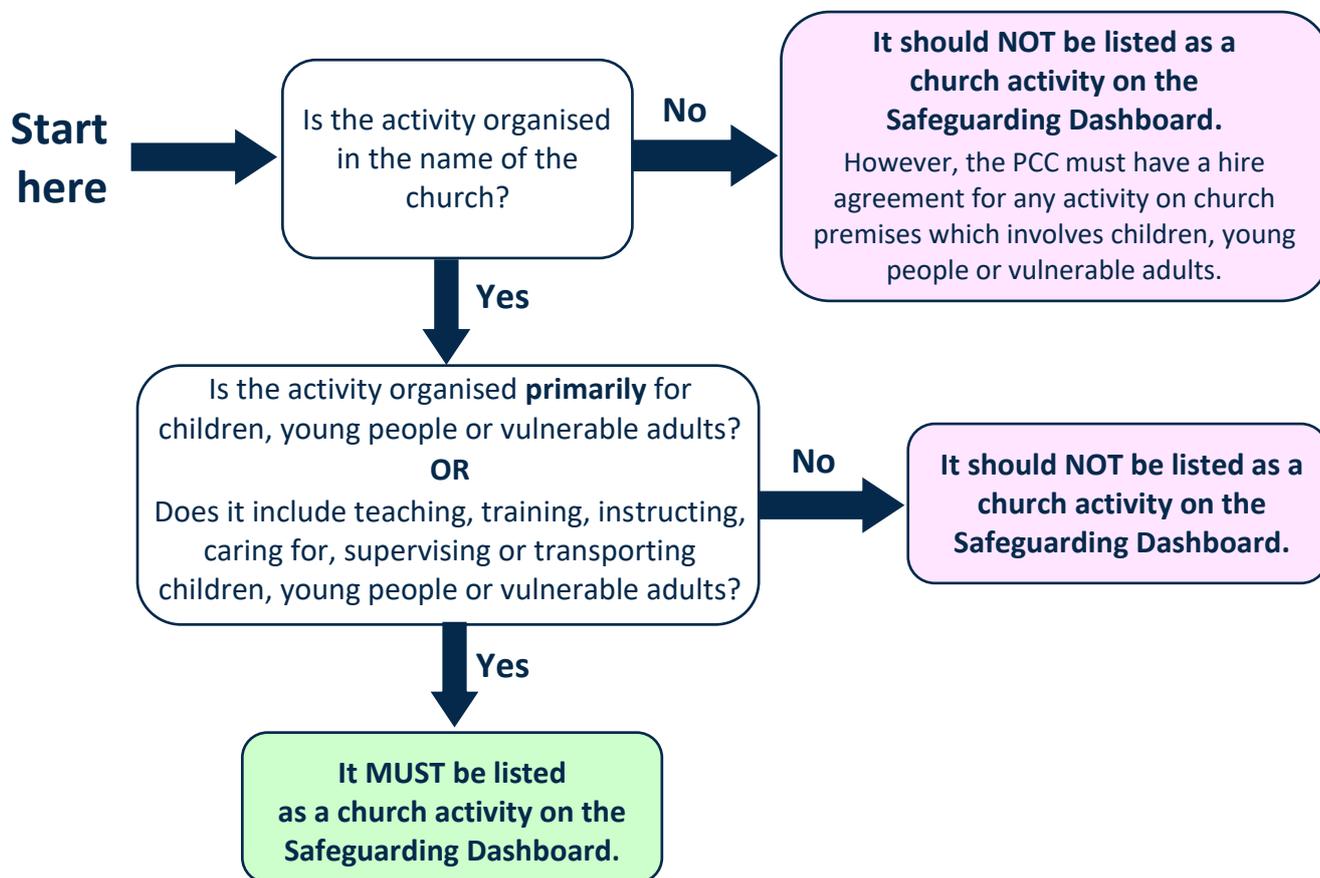
Choir report 2023 for APCM 2024

The choir continues to rehearse weekly and lead the music in the Sunday service. We are ably supported by our volunteer organists Leonie, Kerry and Jenny. We thank them greatly for their support. Jenny moved to London over the summer but still returns to play for us when she can. We continue to learn new music and played a central part in the Coronation Cream Teas musical event in church. Attracting youngsters to the choir is a challenge, but we were pleased to welcome Sophie and Emmeline who sang a duet for us as part of the 9 lessons and carols service. We used a format similar to the traditional carol service but with readings and reflections supplied by the RSCM. (Royal School of Church Music). We also enjoyed carol singing in the local pubs where we raised money for the Children's Society.

Church Activities on the Dashboard

Level 2 of the Safeguarding Dashboard focusses on **Safer Activities**. This requires the PCC to agree the list of church activities that need to be added to the dashboard.

This flowchart will help the PCC to decide which church activities need to be added.



Is it organised in the name of the church?

It's a simple question, but the following examples illustrate that there's not always a straightforward answer

Case Study – Toddler Group

Twenty years ago, some church mums launched a baby and toddler group at St Mary's Church Hall. The leadership of the group changed over the years, and none of the current leaders attend church.

The vicar continues to think of it as a church activity and often drops in to chat with the parents and the group leaders. However, the churchwardens regard it as a community activity which is independent of the church.

Case Study – Camping Weekend

St Peter's is a large church with many families. Two years ago, a group of dads from the church decided to take their children camping for the weekend. It was a great success and the following year an invitation was extended to other dads and children via the church news sheet.

This year many more dads and children are attending the camp. Most assume that it's a church run activity, but the vicar considers it to be just a group of friends who are going camping together.

Ultimately, it is the PCC's responsibility to decide if an activity is organised in the name of the church. This not only affects the safeguarding arrangements, it also has implications for the activity's governance, finances and insurance. All relevant parties must therefore be informed of the PCC's decision.

Who is the activity for? ...and what does it involve?

The following examples illustrate how the flowchart can be applied to various types of church activities:

- **Church Choir**
A choir needs to be added to the dashboard if it has members who are children, young people or vulnerable adults. This is because it's an activity that includes **training**.
- **Light Party** (an alternative Halloween party for children)
The Light Party needs to be added to the dashboard because it's an activity that is **primarily for children**. The fact that it happens only once a year is irrelevant.
- **Messy Church**
Messy church needs to be added to the dashboard because it's an activity that is **primarily for children**. The fact that children are accompanied by their own parents is irrelevant.
- **Open the Book** (Bible stories in schools)
Open the Book needs to be added to the dashboard because it's an activity that is **primarily for children**. The fact that it takes place in the local school is irrelevant.
- **Pastoral Visiting** (for people who are elderly and housebound)
Pastoral visiting needs to be added to the dashboard if such visits are made on behalf of the church. This is because it is **primarily for vulnerable adults**.
- **Toddler Group**
A toddler group needs to be added to the dashboard because it's an activity that is **primarily for children**. The fact that children are accompanied by their own parents is irrelevant.
- **Transporting people to a youth event**
The **transporting of young people** needs to be added to the dashboard if it is organised on behalf of the church. Any private arrangements between parents do not need to be added.

The flowchart can also be used for many other types of church activities. Most will be relatively straight-forward, but your Diocesan Safeguarding Advisor can help with any complicated decisions.

It is recommended that this sheet is given to PCC members when they are agreeing or reviewing the list of church activities that need to be added to the Safeguarding Dashboard.

CHURCH FLOWERS REPORT TO PCC

The ever dwindling Flower Group continued to arrange flowers on a weekly basis throughout the year. This year there were no weddings. The work for the three main festivals was shared with the Craft Group. We are currently trying to be a bit eco-friendlier by not using oasis. This is not proving popular with our volunteers, but we persevere! The main thing to report is that we need new volunteers.

Barbie Watson

St Michael and All Angels, Colehill

Churchwardens' Report to APCM – April 2024

TERRIER AND INVENTORY

The Terrier and Inventory were checked by the Churchwardens – Graham Kewley and Hilary Motson on 5th March 2024.

Additions and deletions have been updated accordingly.

During 2023 the following amendments were noted:

- Addition of new Communion set for use at home visits. Purchased by donations.
- Addition of new CCTV camera and control equipment to assist with live streaming.
- A Dell laptop, previously used for recording services has been removed from use as it is now redundant (and obsolete) due to the livestreaming online platform.

Although not listed on the inventory, a number of hard copies of the various Orders of Service were disposed of as they are no longer in use.

The Book of Remembrance is in the process of being updated with new entries to reflect those who have recently passed and whom we remember with great affection.

CHURCH LOG BOOK

Actions arising from the Quinquennial Inspection and other Faculty/List B works (as noted in the Fabric and Reordering Committee Report) have been added to the Church Log Book as a record of work carried out to the Fabric of the Church.

These include:

- Installation of new Church noticeboard
- Repair and renovation of parquet flooring around original font base and main Church floor.
- Pointing repairs to external brickwork joints
- Repairs to timber frame and lime panels on exterior walls

Copies of the Terrier, Inventory and Log Book are kept in the Church Office and are available for inspection upon request.

Graham Kewley

Hilary Motson

Colehill Community Cafe

Report on:

Activities during the calendar year 2023

For presentation to the APCCM (Parish organisations and activities)

As ever, the Church Management Committee are very grateful to all the volunteers, new and old, who make it possible for the Cafe to open and serve the community.

The Colehill Community Cafe opened for 42 weeks, out of a possible 52 weeks of the year, with many of the volunteers supporting the Community Café Christmas Lunch on 13th December. The weeks of closure for 2023 included 20th & 27th Dec for Christmas week & the week preceding New Year, Holy week and the 5 weeks of August. Two additional weeks closures (4th Jan & 26th July) were used for Team training and planning.

January – February 23

- Successful training day held for the volunteers on 4th Jan
 - Basic Hygiene, Health & Safety was reviewed, the Cafe Risk Assessment was updated and the operational strategy was discussed - to include implementation of a 'co-operative' style of working with no hierarchical management structure
 - Cafe opening hours extended to 10.30 – 1.30pm to provide a Warm Space, with coffee and cake now being served 10.30 – 12pm
 - A change was agreed to move from a fixed price menu to a donations model, to allow people to give what they can afford and free up volunteer time. This was given a trial period with a review at Easter
 - The post-session checklist was introduced as per the 'Safer Food, Better Business' strategy from Environmental Health
- Proactive engagement with Environmental Health at Dorset Council resulted in an informal visit from the Public Health Inspector for support. Very positive feedback was given about our processes and procedures, with no further visit proposed. Improvements implemented include wrapping of cutlery for hygiene reasons. The 'Safer Food, Better Business' plan from Environmental Health was reviewed and updated
- A request for more help saw a return of two volunteers from past (Barbie & Garth W) and interest from one other (Jackie D) who has completed the recruitment form and is supporting the Cashier Team. Other Cafe goers offered help tidying up at the end of the sessions

March – July 23

- Average numbers attending decreased significantly during this time, possibly linked to the cessation of Wednesday morning services. Often the Café received no customers prior to the 12pm lunch time service
- The Team meeting on 26th July saw 11 out of 22 volunteers attend and discuss:
 - The financial feasibility of continuing the café format on a donation basis. Alan provided a report on the finances of the Colehill Community Café from Jan – June 23, which reflected a positive bottom line. It was agreed that the donation basis format would continue for the time being. This was particularly encouraged as invited donations (with no requirement for anyone to be obliged to offer such) are eligible for Gift Aid, effectively adding 25% to the receipts
 - Staffing levels reflected the need for two additional Kitchen Team members and one additional Serving Team member. Methods of recruitment for these were discussed and actions agreed were carried out

- Current procedures across all roles in-line with the Safer Food, Better Business Guidelines for Caterers. The 'Opening and Closing Checks' form was reviewed and a number of additional checks were agreed to be added
- Hygiene & allergy prevention practices
- Christmas Lunch on 13th December
- Cleaning checklist and rota for the deep clean of the Kitchen Store Room
- Confirmation that the kitchen itself would receive a commercial deep clean

August

- The Café closed for the duration of August and the Annual Deep Clean took place. The Team attended to the overhaul of the kitchen store room – cleaning and tidying the fixtures, fittings, utensils, pots, pans etc. An audit of resources was undertaken
- The services of a commercial kitchen cleaning company were purchased for the deep clean of the kitchen at the end of August and the Centre was subsequently provided with TR19 Grease Certification. Since the introduction of TR19, a document (TR19 Certificate) showing that a commercial kitchen has been cleaned to these standards must be presented to the insurance company to prove due diligence in the event of a fire. This Certification is valid for one year and ours is due to expire on 25.08.24. The cost of the deep clean provided was £1,044.00. The cost for just the TR19 compliance was £350, this should now be considered as an annual expense. As the current volunteers are unable to cover the deep clean of the kitchen themselves, a full deep clean should also be considered as a regular expenditure

Description	Quantity	Unit Price	VAT	Amount GBP
Clean Canopy, Filters, Ducting (where accessible), Fan and Fan Housing to TR19 Grease Standards. Issue TR19 Certificate (unless full clean is not possible due to lack of access).	1.00	350.00	20%	350.00
6 Ring Commercial Oven clean	1.00	180.00	20%	180.00
Dishwasher clean	1.00	60.00	20%	60.00
Sink area clean	1.00	30.00	20%	30.00
Stainless Steel table clean	4.00	30.00	20%	120.00
Fridge / freezer clean	1.00	30.00	20%	30.00
Walls & Floors clean	1.00	100.00	20%	100.00
			Subtotal	870.00
			Total VAT 20%	174.00
			Total GBP	1,044.00

September – December 23

- The Café received a Food Safety Inspection from Dorset Council Environmental Health Team on 20th September, retaining our 5* rating. A number of areas required action and these were completed on the day, to the satisfaction of the inspector. The Inspection report was pinned to the Team notice board for all to see the resulting findings and the Team were emailed to inform them of necessary changes
- Two volunteers from other areas within the Church Centre came forward to join the Café Team. Valuable support for Anne P in the Kitchen is now provided by Helen H. and Hilary M. has joined as a Kitchen Team member to help Eric J. This leaves us needing one further Kitchen Team Member to support Jenny H in the kitchen
- The annual Community Café Christmas Lunch was a huge success with around £450 being made towards funds
- For year-end finances, please see the end of year financial report from the Treasurer

St Michael's Craft Group

The group meets on a Saturday morning for a couple of hours to create decorations that beautify the church and provide inspiration and thought for the various festivals and seasons through the year.

The meetings provide both a forum for thinking about the meaning of the life of the church but also a safe and friendly social atmosphere. There is always laughter and a sharing of views while fingers cut, glue, colour and paste.

2023 projects: an Easter banner, Creationtide boards, Remembrance Day Poppies and Christmas stained glass windows and music posters.

Numbers attending vary between 8 and 14.

Report To PCC on Deanery Synod 2023 for APCM 2024

There were 3 Deanery Synod meetings this year.

March -Presentation by Karen Hutchinson-Lay Minister development officer.

June -Synod with Eucharist at St Mary's West Moors. Guest speakers Lizzie Whitbread and Hannah Turring on Projects with Children and Young People. Canon Gill Clarke spoke about the Diocesan vision and strategy 'Making Jesus Known'. This is a 10 year plan.

November- Discussions about what we were doing to 'Make Jesus known.' Sharing of ideas, awareness of limitations mainly due to resources. Thoughts about what we could do together. Treasurer's report including slide showing diocese income and expenditure. Only 81% of Wimborne Deanery share paid so far. However final share payment was 99.3%-the highest across the Diocese!

Jo Clayton & Muriel Jacobs

APCM Report from Eco Church Sub Committee April 2024



Headlines 2023 was an exciting year for Eco Church at St Michael's we...

- declared a Climate Emergency
 - regained our Fairtrade Church status
 - followed up the September Pledges with a Lent Lifestyle Log.
 - celebrated Climate Sunday with a guest preacher.
 - gained our Eco Church Silver Award
 - drew up a 7-Year Plan towards Carbon Net Zero by 2030
 - instigated monthly Win on Waste Collections
- appointed Eric Jones as our Energy Champion to monitor energy usage and support projects.
 - have received quotes for the installation of Solar PV Panels on the Church Centre Roof and received advice and a survey from Low Carbon Dorset. The Finance Committee are now exploring grants towards this project.

Meetings The Eco Church Sub Committee has met seven times in 2023. Since the final meeting in 2023 Jackie Deung has resigned from this committee and been replaced by Rod Chapman. We are very grateful for all that Jackie was able to bring and are assured of her ongoing support in our endeavours.

Ecological Management of Church Grounds We continued with our registration to the Living Churchyard project of Dorset Wildlife Trust. Graham has continued to monitor the state of the church lands and has planted a lot more trees donated by OVO Energy's charitable Trust an Colehill Parish Council. Nigel Davies kept the grounds tidy and maintained hedges and formal mown areas. Since ill-health overtook him, this work has been continued by Graham with some assistance. Margaret Gillingham continued to manage the bedding areas. We are grateful to them for their continued work on our behalf.

Eco Church Status and moving forward We achieved our Silver Award in 2023 by...

1. **Worship** Care for creation continuing to have a regular and significant inclusion in our worship programme through intercessions, hymns, liturgy and teaching. By keeping a Climate Sunday observance with a guest preacher (Rev Hilary Bond) and a bring and share lunch afterwards to continue our discussion. By celebrating Creationtide through four of the five Sundays and it was further enriched by large collage boards on the Creation narrative prepared by the craft group. These made a significant point of interest when we opened up for Architectural Heritage Week.
2. **Buildings** Maintaining energy suppliers from renewable sources. Monitoring of our Church's carbon footprint. Using sustainable cleaning products. We wish to thank Karen Rimmington and Karen Scott for their support in the Church Centre and Alan, Brian, Graham and Eric for their continued efforts to reduce our carbon footprint.
3. **Land** We still need to further the intention to make our grounds more available for spiritual, mental and physical wellbeing.

4. **Community and Global Engagement** We continue to be highly committed to Wimborne Win on Waste by collecting items from the congregation on the Sunday before the Wimborne Collection. We have increasing links with the award winning Wimborne Community Garden who donated flowers to us for two displays and vegetables for soup for the Community Café. We are members of Planet Wimborne. Our Commitment to Christian Aid and Fairtrade help us to keep abreast of Global issues which are also regularly visited in worship and discussions.
5. **Lifestyle** The Lent Lifestyle Log initiative helped to embed our individual and corporate commitment to reducing our personal carbon footprints and to sharing our ideas and actions with others. Regular Eco-Tips in our E Notices help to point the way.
6. **Award** We will now work towards our Gold Award. Our recent focus has been on the 7 Year Plan

Further Steps to work towards Gold Award...

- We need to host more guest speakers to inform us on lifestyle and environmental matters
- We need to consider the use of rainwater
- We need to consider the possibility of using recycled paper in the office
- We need to consider the use of wildlife feeders
- Reduce the carbon footprint of transport to church eg Lift sharing
- Continue to improve the level of awareness of the congregation
- Maintain a working relationship with the Parish Council and Dorset Council regarding our environmental matters
- We need to become more proactive in campaigns concerning national and global environmental issues
- Become more aware of using the LOAF (Local, organic, animal friendly and fairtrade) paradigm in purchase and preparation of food
- Check on the ethical credential of any investments held and encourage personal ethical investments
- We need to further explore how to make our church grounds available for spiritual and mental refreshment
- We should continue to search for ways to connect with Creation and help it such as encouraging wildlife friendly gardens.
- We need continue to encourage hirers of the Church Centre to follow our Eco ethos more, eg recycling, Fairtrade products, single use plastic.

Globally, this Year, we have understood, more than ever the strong links between Fairtrade, Eco Living, and the threats and consequences of Climate Change. We must maintain this thrust, as a central part of our Christian witness.

John Spatchet February 2024

St Michael and All Angels, Colehill

Annual Report of the Fabric and Reordering Committee 2023/24.

The Fabric and Reordering Committee meet at least quarterly to discuss progress of work and report any H&S issues. The Faculty Jurisdiction Rules (2015) which govern those items of work which require either Faculty or other permission have been amended further during 2023 to assist churches with Net Zero objectives. The Churchwardens, Treasurer and Vicar now have access to the online system for requesting the appropriate permissions.

Cleaning is now more consistent thanks to the new cleaning contract.

General maintenance tasks continue to be undertaken by volunteers where appropriate, with scheduled maintenance for legal compliance and specialist tasks undertaken by external contractors where necessary.

CHURCH FABRIC MATTERS CONCLUDED

- Clear glazed windows are now subject to a cleaning regime.
- Parquet flooring repair/renovation completed thanks to a significant anonymous donation.
- External brickwork steam treated to remove salt efflorescence.
- Repointing of brickwork joints at various locations on Church exterior completed.
- Repairs and redecoration to timber framing and lime panels (underway Feb 2024)
- Moss cleaned from external paths.
- Gutters cleared to remove leaf litter.
- New noticeboard installed.
- Camera system mounting bracket installed to improve live stream capability.
- Further lighting improvements

CHURCH CENTRE FABRIC MATTERS CONCLUDED

- 96 Qty new folding chairs procured to replace damaged items at risk of failure.
- Emergency lighting replaced with LED units
- Loop hearing system fitted to Alec Moore Room
- Assistance alarm fitted to accessible toilet to comply with Approved Document M and Equality Act.
- External shed extension completed to provide additional storage capacity.
- New shed installed on patio for Cherubs storage
- New warning signage installed at access point to car park.
- Annual deep clean of kitchen and extractor hood
- Fob access now in place for security system

SIGNIFICANT MATTERS FOR 2024

- Faculty application to be completed for projector screen under the reordering project. Approval in principle agreed by PCC.
- Progress with Net Zero objectives to reduce carbon emissions – including fitting of solar PV panels to Church Centre subject to PCC approval.
- Identify and rectify water ingress to roof/dormer on south side of Church roof.
- Renovation of the reredos triptych panels subject to List B / Faculty approval.
- Redecoration and upgrade of WC facilities to ensure that they remain fit for purpose.
- Consideration to CCTV upgrade to improve coverage and security.
- Quinquennial Inspection due September 2024 – this will result in further work schedule!

N.B. The leasing of woodland parcel to the owner of Merrifield House which was reported during 2022/23 has not been progressed further due to the property going back on the market.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

- Regular site walks are conducted to identify emerging issues and hazards. Church and Centre Risk Assessments are reviewed annually with action plans in place for remedial works.
- Fire Risk Assessments for Church and Church Centre have been updated in line with amendments made as a result of the Building Safety Act 2022 and Section 156 thereof.
- Legionella temperature checks at sentinel outlets are now in place on a regular basis.
- Folding chairs in the Church Centre have been replaced following an audit which identified a number of chairs at risk of failure.
- Emergency lighting luminaires in the Church Centre have been replaced with new LED units due to batteries at end of life.
- Fencing along the front boundary of the patio has been replaced with a more robust structure to reduce risk of Cherubs absconding!
- Regular inspections and recording of checks of working at height equipment / ladders (PUWER) now in place.
- A small number of portable electrical items have been disposed of to reduce PAT testing burden.

It remains the responsibility of all persons using the Church or Church Centre to report any defects and hazards so that they can be dealt with in a timely fashion. The continued efforts of all members of the congregation who have assisted with building related tasks during the year is very much appreciated.

Graham Kewley

,Mission and Outreach Committee Summary 2023-24 for the APCM

This year our focus has been primarily on:

1. Building relationships within our community and
2. Making Jesus known

1. Building Relationships

As a church we have specifically focused upon connecting with the Guides, St. Michael's Middle School and the Community Library. Our intention is to nurture partnership working which will be of mutual benefit to the mission, life and finances of each body. For example, the Guides provided "manpower" at the Coronation Cream tea, family craft events and the Christmas fair. The School choir was also an integral part of our Christmas celebrations, which brought families into church. We are hoping to work more closely together over the coming year on joint fundraising and outreach events.

One member of this committee has made strong links with the Children's worker at the Minster, enabling us to promote each other's family activities. We are also looking to further develop links with the Community Garden.

2. Making Jesus Known

We have tried to keep this at the forefront of our thinking when planning and supporting events. Many members of our church family, including non-worshipping individuals, have carried out acts of witness on a daily basis by welcoming visitors to regular weekly worship and community events. This includes our Community Cafe, Coffee mornings, Cherubs toddler group and the opening of the Centre as a "Warm Space". In addition, there have been several "special events" which have extended an open invitation to the wider community including:

- Family Craft mornings during school holidays
- Lent Lunch
- Coronation Cream Tea
- Architectural Heritage Week
- The season of Remembrance
- Christmas fair

Additional funds have been raised, usually by donations, and shared between the Church and other charities, namely Christian Aid and the Wimborne Food Bank

The Lay Ministry team has been a strong presence during events.

We are currently exploring how we might make the church open to all during the week as a quiet space for prayer, reflection or simply to escape daily life and "take a breath".

MU Prayer and Fellowship Group report 2023/24

MU Prayer and Fellowship 2023/24

Our group continues to thrive and survive. We have 16 members. One member moved away last year and two members are soon to be enrolled.

We meet monthly on the second Thursday at 2:30 in the centre hall. Leadership is shared with readings prayers and we continue to make use of monthly intercession sheets that come from Salisbury, and these prompt thought and discussion

We share information re- notices and events from Saint Michaels, the diocese and MU, swiftly followed by tea, biscuits, and plenty of fellowship (chat) we close the meeting with The Grace at about 4pm.

During the year we have supported with voluntary contributions MU projects eg Salisbury Women's Refuge and Rockley Park Caravan. Individually we have contributed to projects abroad.

As a Mothers Union we are very much a part of St Michaels Parish life and many members are involved in aspects of church and our outreach to the wider community.

This year Sheilah Soper has visited and talk to us about her travels in Karika and Pauline Wallis also visited and led a meeting. Both most enjoyable.

Our Deanery Carol service was as usual kindly hosted by St Mary's West Moors, lovely to see the Deanery groups together.

We have enjoyed two lunches at The Stocks and our regular summer tea and Christmas party.

Very many thanks, must go to Jill Beech who deals with all the business and paperwork which comes from Salisbury and keep us informed and up-to-date. Also, of course that we get our MU Subs in on time!

We welcome new members male female, married or single and look forward to the next year.

Any queries do ask. Margaret Val or Di.

APCM 2024 – Report on Peacehaven Fund

The Peacehaven Fund was established in 2022 and was in response to the invasion of Ukraine and the continued oppression in Afghanistan. It was intended as an ecumenical project to provide a home for a Ukrainian and an Afghan family by raising donations from a wide range of local churches. St Michael's agreed to provide the accounting resource required

As at the end of December the project had raised a little over £53,000 and the balance on the fund as at 31 December was £7,816. The original intention had been to raise sufficient funds to cover the rental on two properties for a twelve-month period. However, thanks to the generosity of over 100 donors, the fund can sustain rentals to the end of April this year. At that point the fund will be wound up.

No new donations are currently being received

Alan Motson
29 Feb 2024



Report from the Local School Committee of St Michael's Middle School, March 2024

In 2023 the School remained part of The Initio Learning Trust. It is also a Church of England Middle School (Years 5-8 ages 9-13) under the auspices of the Salisbury Diocesan Board of Education.

Headteacher, Mr Darren Ayling, has now settled into this role and has worked hard to build positive Church/School relationships.

St Michael's remains a popular school with all year groups full except year 7 which is filling up again after some left to grammar school. Our intake for next year is set to be another full one. Many ex-students still tell me how much they valued their time at St Michael's.

During the year the following teachers have joined the staff, Mrs Macfie as an English teacher, and Mr Manley as head of PE. Mr Daniel Patrice has joined the Year 5 Team and Mrs Clare Prosser has become our new Head of Science. She had an unfortunate start due to injury in a road accident, but this was covered by Mr Andrew Arthur who delayed his retirement until she recovered. Most recently Mr Montecute left as Head of Year 5 for a deputy headship. Internally Mrs Charlotte Holmes has taken on Year 5 leadership Mrs Anna Thompson-Brown has taken over responsibility for RE, along with her responsibility for worship, SIAMS and the Church Schools Flourishing Programme. For these responsibilities Anna now holds a place on the School Leadership Team. Mrs Kelly Ramsey as SENDCo also now holds a place on the School Leadership team and is assisted by Mrs Emma Clipson who is her new Assistant SENDCo. The school has also appointed a two Caretakers Mr Kann and Mr Jolliffe. Our previous Assistant caretaker and Site Manager having retired. As a Church we are particularly grateful for all the help we received from Andy Lovering during his years of service as Site Manager. Both Suzanne and I were present at his retirement party and thanked him for his kindness towards the Church.

The school continues to have a successful sports profile with very high uptake levels for participation in extra-curricular sport. Many of the school teams have had success at county level and beyond. Year 6 Girls Football team won the County Championships and now move on to the South of England Finals. The Boys Under 11 Cricket team are Dorset Champions having beaten Clayesmore in the Semi Final and Dumpton in the Final 275-235 and finished 3rd in the Southwest. Four of our students form the St Michael's Skiing team and they came 3rd in the Senior Schools category, winning our first ever skiing trophy. One came 2nd individually in the primary category and another 2nd individually in the secondary category. She went on to come 4th nationally. Ex-students continue to perform well, notably Tom Prest still doing well for Hampshire in Cricket and Piers Copeland who won the British Indoor Championships 1500m.

The school recently launched a Cubing Club which has proved very popular and also runs an Eco Club which has gained Eco School Green Flag Status for St Michael's.

Many Key Stage 3 students are involved in working for their Bronze and Silver Art Mark Awards which are very prestigious. The Art department arranges various visits to exhibitions and to Bournemouth Arts University and was involved in an installation/performance at Badbury Rings called "Glow Badbury"

The Music department has made full use of the three new Music pods which are proving their worth for lessons and practice and the school has been awarded the Music Mark for the work of the department and the emphasis placed on Music in the curriculum. The students took part in another remarkable Carol Service in the Minster on the theme of Christmas Around the World and are now working towards a production of Peter Pan at the Layard Theatre.

Collective worship is going well with strong links to St Michael's through Suzanne but also with other regular visitors from local churches. The students are taking an active part in the review and leadership of worship.

There was a repeat of last year's successful Service of Five Lessons and Carols at Church just before Christmas for those students who wanted to attend. At the request of students Suzanne celebrated a Christingle Service at the school which was a great success. St Michael's was represented, again this year, at the Colehill Remembrance Sunday Parade and Peace Service. Students have attended Experience Church and Experience Easter. Darren, Anna and Suzanne have worked very hard at developing our church/school links.

The Careers Information input has continued to show encouraging developments with several opportunities for Key Stage 3 to explore career possibilities.

Academic standards remain high with good results at SATs and good overall progress shown over the four years.

There are currently five Foundation Members on the Local School Committee for St Michael's. They are Nick Elborne from St John's, Eileen Roe, Suzanne Pattle, Graham Kewley, and John Spatchet from St Michael's with vacancies from Wimborne Minster and St Michael's. There should be a majority of Foundation Members as the school was historically a Church Aided School but with 2 Staff Members, 2 Parent Members and the Headteacher, we are only breaking even at present. In order to comply with national best practice the Trust has decided that from now on Members can only serve 2 consecutive 4 year terms. This means that John Spatchet retires in July '24, Graham Kewley retires in December '24, Eileen Roe in August '26 and Suzanne Pattle in January '27. We also lose Nick Elborne in October '25 and remember we already have 2 vacancies to fill, one from St Michael's and one from the Minster. If the Church is to fulfil its commitment to education in Colehill we need to find 3 Member volunteers immediately and to instigate a rolling programme for the others. To add to this the committee is currently without a Chair and John Spatchet is Vice Chair and acting Chair and about to retire. We are also operating without a Clerk at present.

Please consider prayerfully if you might engage in these important and rewarding roles. Please let Suzanne or John know if you might consider these positions or need information.

Mr Ayling would be happy to welcome any interested members of the congregation to a guided tour of the school in operation. If there is interest perhaps such a visit or visits can be arranged rather than making individual arrangements which could be disruptive.

John Spatchet, Acting Chair of St Michael's Local School Committee, February 2024.