

Mulbarton Church – Annual Safeguarding Report 2024

From Lynne Lambert, Parish Safeguarding Officer

1. I have now completed all the required units for PSO, ie Basic Awareness, Foundation, Raising Awareness of Domestic Abuse, Safer Recruitment and People Management and Leadership.
2. David and I will be completing my DBS renewal soon.
3. I intend to complete the following over the next couple of months, some of which may be in conjunction with David and/or Adrian.
 - a) undertake the regular annual Parish Safeguarding Checklist
 - b) work to make sure all groups have up to date risk assessments in place.
 - c) check that correct leader/helper to member ratios are in place
 - d) work with Adrian as to whom may need to be formally "safely recruited" and check role descriptions have been generated and approved
4. As part of my action plan for my Leadership Training I intend to meet with the Youth Group to make myself and my role known to them and to enable a recommended group activity about safeguarding. I shall be liaising with Sarah and Eve about this.

From David Melling, Safeguarding Administrator

A message from Bishop Graham about safeguarding: *"The Diocese of Norwich is committed to safeguarding children, young people and vulnerable adults to worship and grow in Christ safely. I take that commitment very seriously and believe that making our churches safe for all is everyone's responsibility. To enable that, our diocesan safeguarding team provides professional advice and training, as well as supporting those who may have suffered abuse".*

To this end we are striving to get all leaders and helpers of church groups to complete Basic & Foundation Safeguarding training and in many cases this year, also a Domestic Abuse awareness module.

Diocesan policy is that DBS checks now need to be refreshed every 3 years (as opposed to every 5 years previously)

Meanwhile, those in our safeguarding community radar has increased by 64% this year, with 36 Mulbarton parishioners involved in delivering church activities with children or adults at risk, eg Youth Group, Holiday Clubs, Wild Church, Community Choir, Mardlers etc.

Safeguarding has a regular slot on each month's PCC agenda where progress against our 'Promoting a Safer Church' policy and Diocesan approved 'Action Plan' is reviewed.