



## **Parishes of Hilpertont, Staverton and Semington.**

**St Michael and All Angels, Hilpertont,  
St Mary the Virgin, Whaddon  
St Mary Magdalen, Hilpertont Marsh  
St George, Semington**

# **SAFEGUARDING POLICY**

## **Promoting a safer church**

St Michael and All Angels, Hilpertont, with St Mary the Virgin, Whaddon, St Mary Magdalen Hilpertont Marsh, and St George Semington are part of the Canalside Benefice within the Bradford Deanery. We agree to work under the safeguarding rules and guidelines as outlined this Policy, and the Church of England Parish Safeguarding Handbook; copies of the book are in all the Benefice Churches.

This policy should be read in conjunction with those documents.

In accordance with the Church of England Safeguarding Policy, our Churches are committed to:

- Promoting a safer environment and culture.
- Safely recruiting and supporting all those with any responsibility related to children, young people and vulnerable adults within the church.
- Responding promptly to every safeguarding concern or allegation.

- Caring pastorally for victims/survivors of abuse and other affected persons.
- Caring pastorally for those who are the subject of concerns or allegations of abuse and other affected persons.
- Responding to those that may pose a present risk.

These commitments are displayed in a prominent place in the Churches.

The Churches within the Benefice will:

- Create a safe and caring place for all.
- Have a named Parish Safeguarding Representative (PSR) to work with the incumbent and the PCC to implement policy and procedures.
- Safely recruit, train and support all those with any responsibility for children, young people and adults to have the confidence and skills to recognise and respond to abuse.
- Ensure that there is appropriate insurance cover for all activities involving children and adults undertaken in the name of the parish.
- Display in church premises and on the Parish website the details of whom to contact if there are safeguarding concerns or support needs.
- Listen to and take seriously all those who disclose abuse.
- Take steps to protect children and adults when a safeguarding concern of any kind arises, following House of Bishops guidance, including notifying the Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser (DSA) and statutory agencies immediately.
- Offer support to victims/survivors of abuse regardless of the type of abuse, when or where it occurred.
- Care for and monitor any member of the church community who may pose a risk to children and adults whilst maintaining appropriate confidentiality and the safety of all parties.
- Ensure that health and safety policy, procedures and risk assessments are in place and that these are reviewed annually.
- Review the implementation of the Safeguarding Policy, Procedures and Practices at least annually.

Each person who works within this church community will agree to abide by this policy and the guidelines established by the Church of England and the Diocese of Salisbury.

## Diocesan Safeguarding Advisers

Jem Carter and Suzy Futcher

The team is available from Monday to Friday 9am to 5pm. You can:

- **Email** [safeguarding@salisbury.anglican.org](mailto:safeguarding@salisbury.anglican.org)
- **Phone** 01722 438651 and press option 3.
- If your query is urgent or out of hours, please contact thirtyone:eight on [0303 0031111](tel:03030031111).

**If someone is at immediate risk of harm, please call 999 in an emergency**

### Helpful numbers:

- Safe Spaces – 0300 303 1056 [Home - Safe Spaces England and Wales](#)
- NSPCC – 0808 800 5000 [NSPCC | The UK children's charity | NSPCC](#)
- Childline – 0800 1111 [Childline | Childline](#)
- Stop it Now – 0808 1000 900 <https://www.stopitnow.org.uk/>
- NAPAC – 0808 801 0331 [NAPAC - Supporting Recovery From Childhood Abuse](#)
- Samaritans – 116 123 [Samaritans | Every life lost to suicide is a tragedy | Here to listen](#)
- Family Lives – 0808 800 2222 [Parenting and Family Support | Family Lives](#)
- National Domestic Abuse Helpline – 0808 2000 247 [Homepage - National Domestic Abuse Helpline](#)
- Hourglass – 0808 808 8141 [Hourglass Services | Hourglass](#)

## Parishes Safeguarding Representative

Hilpertown with Whaddon, Hilpertown Marsh and Semington appoint Stella Wilkes as Parish Safeguarding Representative and supports her in her role which is to:

- i) support and advise the Incumbent and the Churchwardens in fulfilling their roles
- ii) provide a point of reference to advise on safeguarding issues
- iii) promote safeguarding best practice within the local churches.

Stella Wilkes Tel: 07590410245

email: [stella.wilkes@btinternet.com](mailto:stella.wilkes@btinternet.com)

These contact details are displayed in each church.

Dated

Signed

Incumbent .....

Churchwardens .....

## **Appendix 1 – Policy Statement Review**

The Safeguarding Policy for St Michael and All Angels, Hilperton,  
St Mary the Virgin, Whaddon  
St Mary Magdalen, Hilperton Marsh  
St George, Semington

| Version | Review Date | Signed                           | Position<br>(Chair of P.C.C) | Comments/Updates made  |
|---------|-------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------|--|
| 1       | 26/5/23     | Rev John Rees                    | Chair of P.C.C               | Policy reviewed and updated in line with The Diocese of Salisbury Safeguarding Strategy (2019) and the Church of England Parish Safeguarding Handbook (2018) |
| 1       | May 24      | James Newton/<br>David Wildsmith | Chairs of PCCs               | Policy reviewed and updated in line with The Diocese of Salisbury Safeguarding Strategy (2019) and the Church of England Parish Safeguarding Handbook (2018) |
| 2       | March 2025  |                                  |                              | Policy reviewed and updated  |
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