**Word

Description automatically generated with low confidenceParish of St John the Evangelist, Hurst Green**

**Safeguarding policy promoting a safer church**

The following policy was agreed at the Parochial Church Council (PCC) meeting held on 21 June 2022

In accordance with the Church of England Safeguarding Policy, our church is committed to:

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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 who may pose a present risk to others.

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The parish will:

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create a safe and caring place for all

have a named Parish Safeguarding Officer (PSO) 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 on church premises and on the parish website the details of whom to contact with 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 immediately notifying the Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser (DSA) and statutory agencies

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 Practice at least annually.

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Each person who works within this church community will agree to abide by this policy and the guidelines established by this church.

This church appoints Sue Fox and Cathy Hyde as the Parish Safeguarding Officer.

Incumbent: Revd Anna Eltringham

Churchwardens: Cathy Booth and Henk van den Berg

Date: 21 June 2022