Great PCC Governance and why it matters to God

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National Stewardship Officer

[resource]
Resourcing our PCCs in the Diocese of Chelmsford
Trusteeship…. what’s that about?

• God is generous in blessing us.
• We are stewards/trustees of that which has been entrusted to us.
• We are accountable.
• Not just money, but includes money.
Three biblical angles....

• And the twelve summoned the full number of the disciples and said, “It is not right that we should give up preaching the word of God to serve tables. Therefore, brothers, pick out from among you seven men of good repute, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we will appoint to this duty.” (Acts 6:1-7)

• For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. (Romans 12,4:5)

• It seemed good to the Holy Spirit and to us .... (Acts 15:28)
Chat to your neighbour for a moment...

• What has been entrusted to you as a PCC?
• What does your PCC spend its time discussing?
The essential trustee

Charity Commission publication: The Essential Trustee CC3
Search on Google.
Alternative guide to Trusteeship on Parish Resources site:

www.parishresources.org.uk/pccs/trusteeship/
Duties of a Trustee

**Ensuring compliance:** comply with charity law and with church (ecclesiastical) law. Annual accounts, and register with the Charity Commission if over £100k.

**Duty of prudence:** Trustees must ensure that the PCC is and will remain solvent. This means that you need to engage in financial discussions. Careful discernment is required when stepping out ‘in faith’. You can give to wider mission organisations.

**Duty of care:** Trustees must exercise reasonable care and skill as trustees, using personal knowledge and experience to ensure that the PCC is well-run and efficient. Take special care when investing funds, or borrowing funds for the PCC to use. Consider getting external professional advice on all matters where there may be material risk to the charity.
The PCC Powers Measure...

Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure 1956

1956 No. 3 4 and 5 Eliz 2

A Measure passed by the National Assembly of the Church of England To consolidate with amendments certain enactments relating to parochial church councils and parochial charities.

[5th July 1956]

Primary function: “co-operation with the minister in promoting in the parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical;”
Finance and the PCC...

• Role of the treasurer, and role of the PCC.

• Annual cycle:
  
  ![Diagram]

  - Budget
  - Account
  - Report
  - Review

• Independent examination
Budgeting...

- Why do we budget as individuals?
- Why do we budget as churches?
- ...Effective stewardship
- ...Delegation and authority
- ...Vision gap
Combating static giving…

- Giving to the local church by a monthly, quarterly or annual direct debit via a (church owned) charity.
- Automatic inflationary increase (most givers – 55%),
- Average giving is at a higher level.
- Gift Aid is reclaimed and passed onto the church each month.
- Now 28,000 donors across 24 dioceses.
- Chelmsford take-up behind the curve.
How does it work?

1st of the month

The donor donates £50 by Direct Debit to PGS

3rd of the month

Donation arrives in PGS account £50

4th of the month

PGS claims eligible Gift Aid + £12.50

10th of the month

Church receives donor’s gift of £50.00 from PGS

Once received from HMRC

PGS sends Gift Aid of £12.50 to their church

10th of the month

Their total gift of £62.50 enables their church to continue to grow confidently
Koinonia...

Fellowship, communion – giving in community.

Coin in ‘ere!
Enable donors to give in ways that suit them.

- Most people now carry less cash.
- Donations by card are bigger than cash donations
- Suitable for payments, and for offerings pre/post service. Not yet suitable for offertory collections because of need to choose size of gift, but web based options available.
Make life easier at parish level…

- Parish Buying service – shared buying, energy basket now 100% renewable electricity.
- Guidance and support for parishes doing capital projects (online version later this year).
- Parish Resources: guidance, checklists, resources.

….. And save money too!
Buildings…

- Stewards of the building
- Maintenance Plan + Quinquennial
- Maintenance Booker – Churches Conservation Trust
- Base for mission
Pause for a moment...

• Do you have a clear budget? Do you leave too much to the treasurer?
• Is your building a base for mission? Who comes? How does your building engage with them?
Nurturing healthy communities…

- Safeguarding:
  - Parish Safeguarding Officer
  - DBS Checks
  - Active policy review
  - PCC kept up to date
  - Safeguarding training
Nurturing healthy communities…

- Safeguarding.
- GDPR
  - Data Audit
  - Privacy Notice
  - Consent (where applicable)
Nurturing healthy communities…

• Safeguarding.
• GDPR
• Health and Safety
  • Risk assessment
  • Engagement with Insurers
  • Policy review
Nurturing healthy communities...

- Safeguarding.
- GDPR
- Health and Safety
- Good Employment
Pause for a moment...

• Are you on top of safeguarding?
• Have you looked at GDPR?
• Do you have employees? If so, are you a good employer?
Governance checklist...

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>The Checklist</th>
<th>Sorted</th>
<th>Action needed &amp; date completed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. All PCCs</td>
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<tr>
<td>Have you checked that all of your trustees are eligible to serve?</td>
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<tr>
<td>Using our nomination forms is an easy way of getting trustees to confirm that they are not disqualified. You will need to get a similar declaration from ex-officio members.</td>
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<tr>
<td>See: <a href="http://www.parishresources.org.uk/pccs/pccs">www.parishresources.org.uk/pccs/pccs</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>2. All PCCs</td>
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<tr>
<td>Have the PCC implemented GDPR in the parish? In particular</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Do you have a privacy notice?</td>
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<td>- Have you obtained opt-in consent where you are wanting to rely on consent?</td>
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<tr>
<td>We’ve sample policies, consent forms and guidance available to help at: <a href="http://www.parishresources.org.uk/ppar">www.parishresources.org.uk/ppar</a></td>
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<td>3. All PCCs</td>
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<tr>
<td>Is the PCC up to date with its safeguarding responsibilities?</td>
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<td>Newly updated legislation requires PCCs to have regard to the House of Bishops’ guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults and, amongst other things, to</td>
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<td>a. confirm that they have done so in their Annual Trustees Report</td>
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<tr>
<td>b. ensure the PCC’s safeguarding policy is up to date and in use</td>
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<td>c. Ensure DBS checks are up to date for all necessary people</td>
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<td>Resources to support this are on the Church of England website (See bit.ly/2Gf后勤) and Diocesan websites.</td>
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<td>4. All PCCs</td>
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<td>Are you up to date with inductions for new PCC members, and have you reviewed Trusteeship responsibilities with existing members within the last two years? Resources to help you do this are at: <a href="http://www.parishresources.org.uk/pccs/trusteeship">www.parishresources.org.uk/pccs/trusteeship</a></td>
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www.parishresources.org.uk/pccs
Governance Code

www.charitygovernancecode.org