**Safeguarding Report for Kea Church PCC meeting on Mon 8th July 2019 – by Alan Stanhope, Parish Safeguarding Co-ordinator**

Since our last PCC meeting there have been 2 significant developments

1. Arising from recent PCC and Standing Committee discussions a review of the recruitment and training of our volunteers is underway. In 2017 PCC committed the church to following the diocese **Safer Recruiting** policy and procedure. To recap briefly the process is as follows – the Team Leader of the particular activity identifies the need for a volunteer and produces a job description for the position. A volunteer is identified and interviewed for the position, using standard questions. If all goes well the new volunteer will need to have the appropriate DBS certificate. Once a DBS is to hand the volunteer can begin to serve. Training in safeguarding matters is offered shortly afterwards. The structure of safeguarding training courses has recently changed so there is some updating to be done. The review is aimed at checking our processes and making them more resilient. We aim to have the review completed in 2/3 weeks and a report will be brought before PCC.
2. PCC have already been informed that there is an important and wide-reaching government commissioned National Review of Safeguarding, including the C of E. The House of Bishops of the C of E has just published the **Handbook of Parish Safeguarding** and each parish has been sent a copy. The Handbook is a comprehensive and well written document covering
* Safe recruitment
* Safeguarding training requirements
* How to respond to safeguarding concerns
* How to run safe groups for children
* Confidentiality and data protection
* How to manage those who may pose a risk to others
* Pastoral care of victims and alleged abusers

Clearly safeguarding has been raised to higher level of importance in the C of E and as Safeguarding Co-ordinator for the parish I think **PCC ought to commission a wider review of the implications of the Parish Handbook and how Kea Church measures up, maybe extending the above mentioned review of safer recruiting.**