

# Parish Support Newsletter

## March edition



DIOCESE OF  
CHICHESTER  
KNOW LOVE FOLLOW JESUS



### Here's what's to come this month:

Can you believe it is March already? Spring is coming!

We wanted to thank all of the parishes who have taken the time to complete the mission statistics returns on the parish returns portal. We really appreciate the time and effort it takes so thank you for your contributions. To the last few remaining parishes, access to the mission statistics return will be closed on the 13<sup>th</sup> March so please do complete your mission statistics return before this date.

As the Cornerstone roll out gathers pace, there will be a Cornerstone workshop coming to an archdeaconry near you this year. For those who have already taken part in a workshop, we would love to hear from you about how you are implementing it in your parish and any feedback about the platform. For those who have not heard of Cornerstone, please take a look at this [Cornerstone video](#)

We hope you enjoy this month's newsletter!

*The Parish Support Team*

#### In this newsletter you can expect:

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Unauthorised  
direct debits

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accounting  
support and  
APCM

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PCC trustee  
training

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Easy fundraising  
Impact Fund

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Church House  
vacancies

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## Unauthorised direct debits

We have been informed that another Diocese and at least one PCC have had an unauthorised direct debit set up and payment taken from their bank account.

In each case the payment was made to 'Hotmart BV' for £734. We believe that the bank details have been taken from the church and Diocesan websites to set this up.

Under the Direct Debit Guarantee, as long as you report an unauthorised payment to your bank as soon as possible, you should receive a refund.

Our advice is to review whether you need to publish your bank details online and certainly to be vigilant in regularly reviewing your bank statements.



## End of year accounting support and APCM

If you require advice regarding producing end of year accounts, the Diocese of Chichester has purchased a 2 year subscription with the Association for Church Accountants and Treasurers for all churches within the diocese to use. ACAT will provide appropriate advice, training and information on accounting, financial, legal and other related issues. To sign up, please see the attached instructions.

For accounting templates and information regarding APCM, please see the following links:  
<https://www.chichester.anglican.org/annual-reporting/>  
<https://www.chichester.anglican.org/apcm/>



## PCC trustee training

If you are thinking about becoming a PCC trustee this year but would like to know more about what it entails, we are running a PCC trustee training session on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March on zoom between 7pm and 8pm. To sign up, please click this link:  
<https://www.trybooking.com/uk/GBWN>

In June, we will be running training for PCC trustees, treasurers and secretaries. To sign up, please see below:

For **PCC secretaries**, please sign up [here](#).  
For **PCC treasurers**, please sign up [here](#).  
For **PCC trustees**, please sign up [here](#).



## Easyfundraising Impact Fund

The easyfundraising Impact Fund is offering 20 unrestricted grants of £500 to UK not-for-profit organisations, including church and faith organisations.

The grant is unrestricted, so it can be used wherever the money is needed most to support your work.

**When to apply:** 23 February – 5 April

**Who can apply:**

The fund is open to UK based:

- Registered charities
- Other not-for-profit organisations
- Sports clubs and teams
- Schools and education settings
- Social enterprises and CICs
- After-school and youth groups
- Churches and religious organisations

**How it's awarded:** The application form is straightforward. Grants will be awarded to organisations that best explain how they would use the £500.

**Apply here:**

[www.easyfundraising.org.uk/impact-fund](http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/impact-fund)



## Church House Vacancies

We currently have an exciting opportunity available:

**Children, Youth and Families Strategy Delivery Officer**

We are seeking to appoint a part-time Children, Youth and Families Strategy Delivery Officer to work closely with parishes, diocesan teams, and project boards to enable the delivery of the Children, Youth and Families stream of the Diocesan Growth Strategy. For more information, please see [here](#).

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