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## The Benefice is committed to the protection of life in the event of a fire.

- Minster Lovell PCC and Parish of Witney DCCs appoint Fire Wardens annually. The Fire Wardens assist in the evacuation of the building and receive regular training in the evacuation procedure and use of fire extinguishers. The procedure is recorded in the General Fire and Safety Risk assessment.
- A detailed fire evacuation plan for major events and festivals in the church buildings, is written in consultation with appropriate services.
- Fire exits are clearly indicated in each church building.
- Information on fire escape routes is given out at events and services attended by large numbers of people unfamiliar with the building.

## The Benefice is committed to protecting the buildings and content of the churches against fire.

- Parish of Witney DCCs review the Fire and General risk assessment annually and bring it to the PCC for approval.
- The PCCs are responsible for ensuring compliance with all statutory controls in respect of fire safety, and establishing effective liaison with the local fire service and the church insurers.
- Measures provided for fire safety are compatible with the conservation interests of the buildings, as far as is practicable.
- All staff and volunteers are aware of the importance of fire safety and receive appropriate training so that they can discharge their responsibilities effectively.
- The required standards of fire safety in each church are reviewed annually in consultation with the H&S Committee (Standing Committee) and brought to the PCCs for approval.
- The PCCs are responsible for operating a management structure within which the Fire Safety policy can be implemented and fire safety can be effectively managed.
- Reduce the danger from fire as far as is practicable and reasonable by reviewing the Fire Risk Assessments annually.
- The Fire Safety policy for the Benefice is to be reviewed regularly and updated as necessary to reflect changes to use, management or fabric of the building, or changes to the statutory controls that are applicable.

Fire risk management involves looking carefully at areas that combine a source of ignition with combustible material, identifying risk and taking steps to reduce it.

Adopted by Witney PCC                      13 October 2025

Adopted by Minster Lovell PCC        15 November 2022

Signed    *Hester Jones*

Counter-signed                                *Jeremy Lasman*                      Witney PCC

Counter-signed                                *Judith Warwick*                      Minster Lovell

PCC Review date: 5 years from date of adoption