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# Save leigh park st Francis church and st Clare and West leigh vicars

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Stuart Holmes

10 hrs

Having just got back from the Starlight Festival, it must be time again to recognise the amount of work, time, energy & love that Jonathan & Carolyn put into this community - they extend themselves on behalf of the community and people follow - hopefully this will eventually be recognised the powers that be



You, Marilyn Jeffrey, Chris Elmes and 17 others

1 Comment



Love



Comment



Share



Norma Hunt So pleased you've posted a comment. It was a busy but well attended event. Enjoyed by all.

Like · Reply · 5h

2



Write a comment...



Paul Mcleod

9 hrs

I was thinking last night. The church hierarchy decided this cause of action. There's nothing to say they can't choose to stop proceedings. Change tack at any point. Surely with the level of opposition to their plans to make Father Jonathan and Karina redundant, the consistent opposition wouldn't they save time and worry if they responded to over whelming opposition. If I'm right they'll not have had even one parishioner stating being in favour of their plans. If they've had any encouragement it would be from a limited few. Id question those peoples reasons, sucking up to the powers that be - personal gain from change? Give the parishioners what they want now. Doing so before Christmas would be very apt.



You, Marilyn Jeffrey, Darren Mckenna and 7 others

4 Comments



Love



Comment



Share

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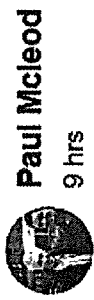
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You, Marilyn Jeffrey, Dairen Mckenna and 7 others 4 Comments

Love Comment Share



Marilyn Parker spot on in every respect.

Like Reply · 8h



Paula Jeffrey-Powell Couldn't have put it better myself

Like Reply · 7h 1



Diane Marie Well said .

Like Reply · 6h



Paul Mcleod Paula why not pass this on to diocese office?

Like Reply · 5h



Paula Jeffrey-Powell Paul Mcleod I will. Thanks x

Like Reply · 5h 1

Write a reply



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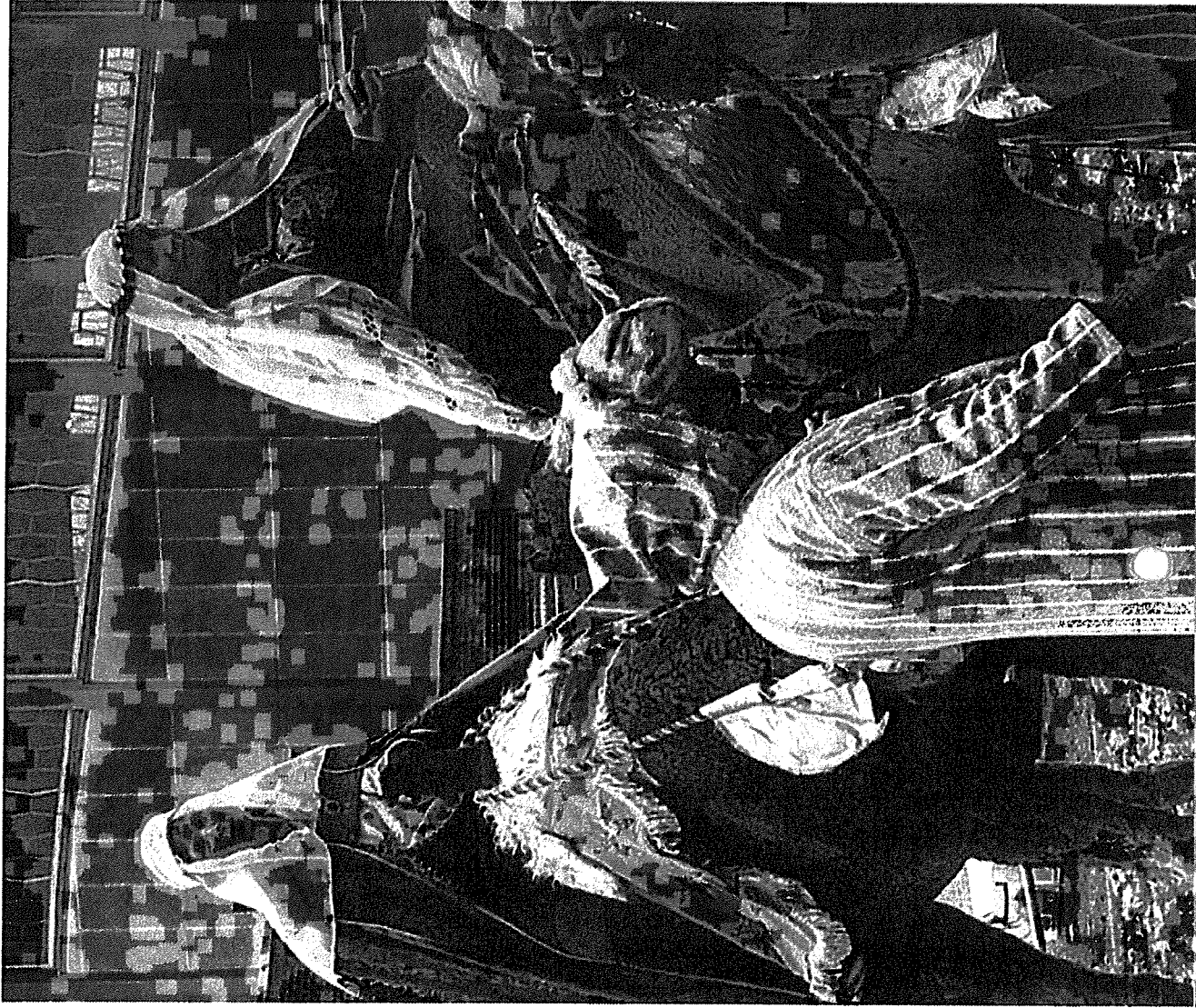
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Darren Mckenna

10 hrs

Everyone involved in today's Starlight Festival give yourselves a big pat on the back, you done our community proud yet again and we salute you xxx



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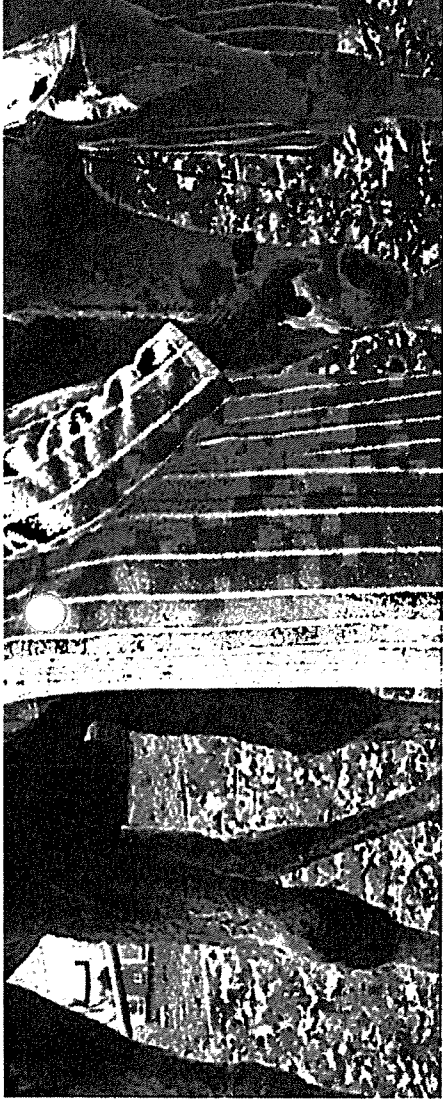
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You, Marilyn Jeffrey, Chris Elmes and 31 others

11 Comments 1 share

Love

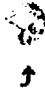
Comment

Share



Michele Chance I'm so gutted I missed this, I had no idea it was on!  
Devon would have loved it xx

Like Reply 10h



Michele Chance replied · 7 Replies · 7 hrs



Colin Andrew Brown Such A Shame That The Weather Is Not That Good Today As It's Been Raining And It's Trying To Start Again And It's Also A Bit Cold And Many People Have Missed This Because Of The Weather Today

Like Reply 6h · Edited



Lee Sykes It was a really good turn out was a great event

Like Reply 8h



Darren Mckenna Lee Sykes it was a great turnout, it's a shame no-one from Portsmouth diocese was there to see the real and meaningful impact events like this have on our community

Like Reply 8h

2



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Like · Reply · 10h



Michele Chance replied · 7 Replies · 7 hrs



**Colin Andrew Brown** Such A Shame That The Weather Is Not That Good Today As It's Been Raining And It's Trying To Start Again And It's Also A Bit Cold And Many People Have Missed This Because Of The Weather Today

Like · Reply · 6h · Edited



2



**Lee Sykes** It was a really good turn out was a great event



Like · Reply · 8h



**Darren Mckenna** Lee Sykes it was a great turnout, it's a shame no-one from Portsmouth diocese was there to see the real and meaningful impact events like this have on our community

Like · Reply · 8h



2



**Lee Sykes** Yeah I was thinking the same but spoke to the guy from the news on how much that church etc means to the community

Like · Reply · 8h





1



# Save leigh park Francis church and st Clare and West leigh vicars





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 **Elizabeth Ayling** We were late to the party but rob liked the donkeys xx  
Love · Reply · 10h  2

 **Michelle Smith** It was fantastic my grandkids were amazed the whole event was fantastic x  
Love · Reply · 10h  3

 **Chelsea Reeves** I'm so glad you put a photo up  my partner thought I was going crazy when I said there had been camels in park parade today  well done to everyone who took part, wasn't able to come myself but I saw the camels walk through park parade and still can't believe how big they are x  
Love · Reply · 9h  2

 Mel Ivemy replied · 1 Reply

 **Kirsty Lisa Dine** I see them walking the Leigh park I thought i was seeing things at first lol. X  
Love · Reply · 8h  2

 **Natalie Price** Took my little lady and oldest son little lady loved it great turn out even with the rain well done to all involved



 3

Laura Bentley · 7h

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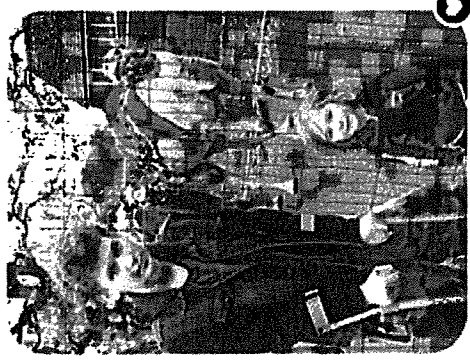
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**Natalie Price** Took my little lady and oldest son little lady loved it great turn out even with the rain well done to all involved



Love · Reply · 7h



**Natalie Price** Darren Mckenna that's my son tom recovering well x

Like · Reply · 6h



**Darren Mckenna** Natalie Price great to see I passed you both the other day but you didn't see me waving like a loon lol xx

Like · Reply · 6h



**Natalie Price** Darren Mckenna ha ha sorry mate was probably trying to watch him to make sure he doesn't full and do the other hip

Like · Reply · 6h



Write a reply...



**Julie Adams** I want to say something im sorry i missed this i was working it look brill and a big pat on the back for johnthean if this was not for him this would not happen and they trying to get him out save our priest please and he goes this will not happen next year

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Like · Reply · 4h

**Moe Horswell** It really was an amazing day, the weather didn't stop the fun. Well done to Jonathan and Carolyn for all their hard work and planning. Touched base with people I knew and made more new friends. This was the community working together, and it was great.

Love · Reply · 5m



2



Write a reply...



Write a comment...



NEW ACTIVITY



**Paula Jeffrey-Powell** shared a post.

14 hrs

Don't forget to join us today for our STARLIGHT Event at St Francis Church Leigh Park to see what preparations your community are making for Christmas! TODAY 24TH NOVEMBER 2018 10am -3pm  
AND THE LIVE CAMEL PROCESSION from St Francis to Greywell Shopping Centre at 10.45.

So much to see and do..... See more

## The Leigh Park and Wa rren Park Starlight Festival

Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> November 2018

# THE CAMELS ARE BACK

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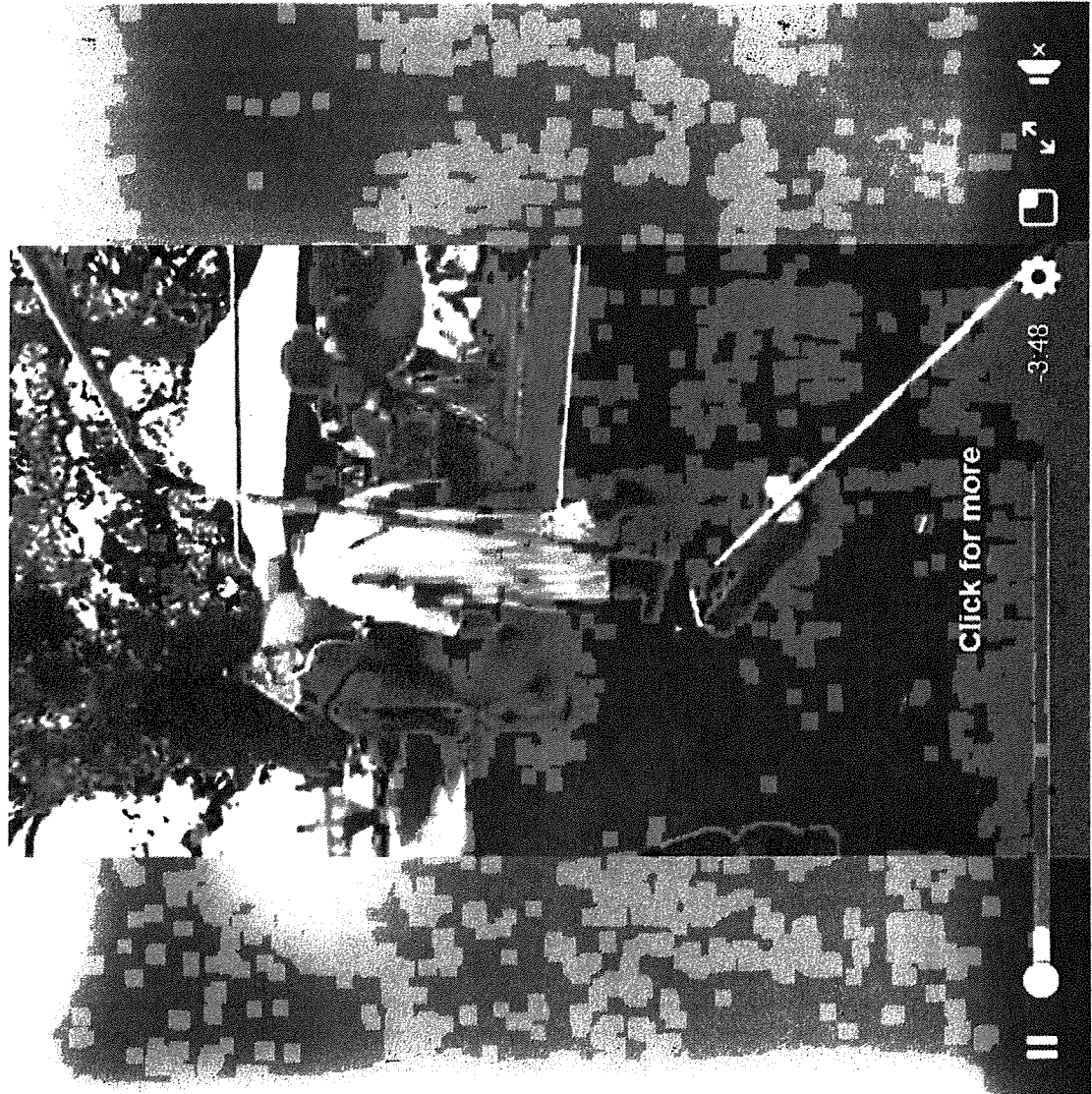
See more



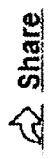
Michelle Smith

9 hrs

Wow wow wot an excellent event held today my 4 grandkids were amazed to see the camels so close and all activities were brilliant thanku so much



You, Marilyn Jeffrey, Chris Elmes and 18 others 2 Comments 3 shares



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You, Marilyn Jeffrey, Chris Elmes and 18 others

2 Comments 3 shares

Love Comment Share

**Paula Jeffrey-Powell** We're glad you all enjoyed yourselves. Thank you for coming. It truly was an amazing day!

Like Reply 7h 2

**Michelle Smith** It certainly was thanks to every involved

Like Reply 7h 1

Write a reply...

**Nicky Carol Parker** It certainly was very high I was like gosh I'm high up long way to fall xx

Love Reply 6h 2

**Paula Jeffrey-Powell** Nicky Carol Parker You absolutely loved being on that camell!!! You all looked fab!

Like Reply 6h 1

**Nicky Carol Parker** Paula Jeffrey-Powell I did was worried about falling off but yes did love it x

Like Reply 5h

**Michelle Smith** U were very brave nicky x

Like Reply 5h

Write a comment...

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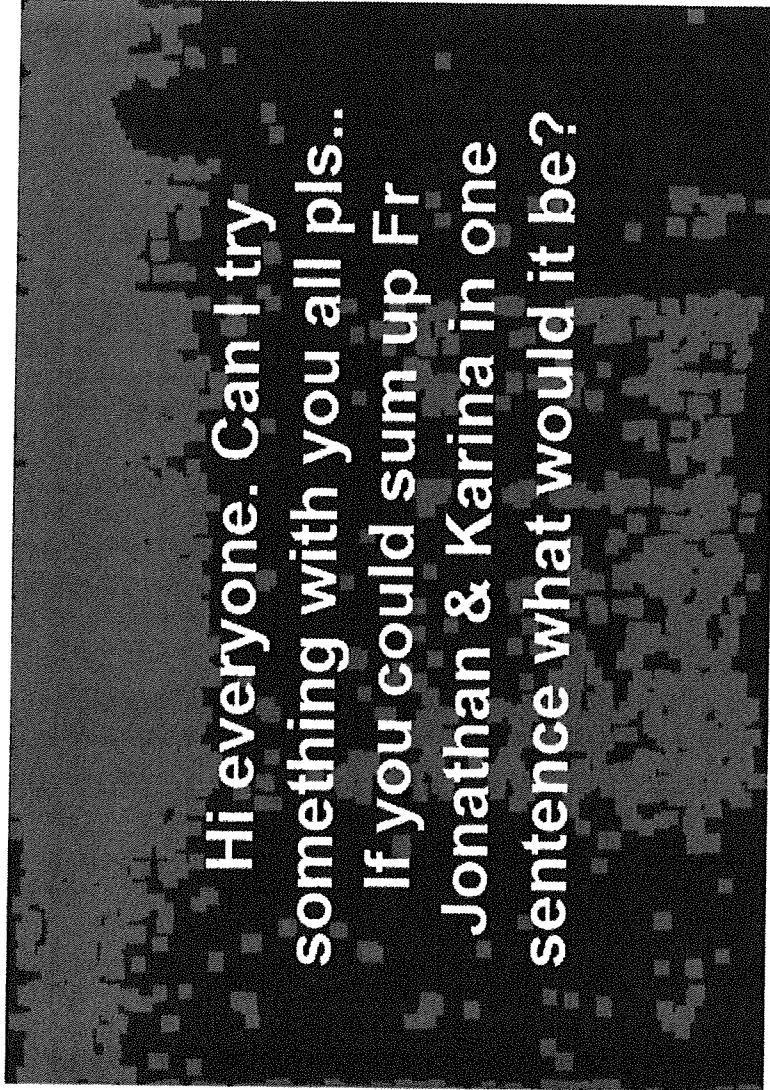
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Write a comment...

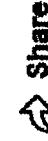
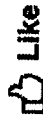
Paula Jeffrey-Powell

21 October



Marilyn Jeffrey and 3 others

30 Comments



Cazz Jones One of the Best things to happen in our community,

Like · Reply · 4w



Karen Davidson The heart of my community. Xx

Like · Reply · 4w



Debra Frances Jane Stanley Asset to the estate.

# Save leigh park Francis church and st Clare and West leigh vicars

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Like · Comment · Share



**Cazz Jones** One of the Best things to happen in our community,  
Like · Reply · 4w 2



**Karen Davidson** The heart of my community. Xx  
Like · Reply · 4w 2



**Debra Frances Jane Stanley** Asset to the estate.  
Like · Reply · 4w 2



**Emma Jane Gibb** Very warm and welcoming xx  
Like · Reply · 4w 2



**Ken Whitwick** They make are community a better place to live in  
Like · Reply · 4w 3



**Bettina Brown** Vital to the future of our community  
Like · Reply · 4w 2



**Paula Jeffrey-Powell** Loving, kind hearted and the heart of our  
community xx  
Like · Reply · 4w 2



**Carolyn Shannon** Trusting and will make themselves available no  
matter what. Xx  
Like · Reply · 4w 2



**Nicky Carol Parker** They are both an asset to the people and  
community of Leigh Park and West Leigh Xxx  
Like · Reply · 4w 2



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**George Hurry** The heart and soul of the Christian community. 2

Like · Reply · 4w

**Stuart Holmes** Living out their calling where God wants them to be 1

Like · Reply · 4w

**Donna Armstrong** Vital part of our community xx 1

Like · Reply · 4w

**Emma Henson-webb** Brilliant 2

Like · Reply · 4w

**Beverley Underwood** Caring happy people with a lovely family 2

Like · Reply · 4w

**Kay Raistrick** Always there, nofjing is to much trouble, kind and helpful. 2

Like · Reply · 4w

**Michael Bartlett** Arc angels the pair of them 2

Like · Reply · 4w

**Corrina Morris** Amazing 2

Like · Reply · 4w

**Annabelle Marie Ranger** Amazing 3

Like · Reply · 4w

**Amelia Marsh Wardle** Like family always there to celebrate our good and sad occasion's 3

Like · Reply · 4w

**Michelle Armstrong** They make the community a better place to

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Like · Reply · 4w



**Amelia Marsh Wardle** Like family ❤️ always there to celebrate our good and sad occasion's 😊

Like · Reply · 4w 3



**Michelle Armstrong** They make the community a better place to live in

Like · Reply · 4w 3



**Michelle Armstrong** Like family ❤️ always there to celebrate good and the sad occasions

Like · Reply · 4w 3



**Andrew Parker** caring and supportive and kind hearted can tell them any thing and they will help you

Like · Reply · 4w 2



**Andrew Parker** i did a silly thing and then went to father Johnathan and told him everything and he listened to me and has helped me so much, he has gave me a book to keep and read and a card to carry round in my pocket to read and to remind me that i am loved and safe and today i went back and we spoke more and we both lit a candle each and he prayed for me and my family and he is helped a lot with my depression and anxiety and pfsd. i truly do not know what i would do without him

Love · Reply · 4w 3



**Jennifer Hurry** Decent, honourable vicars, serving the community and the Lord exactly as the Lord would want them to.

Like · Reply · 4w 2



**Lorraine Saunders** Well i can't speak about karina but fr Jonathan.... He is the Bizz and shame on you Bishop M for not being more vocal in protecting our parish and vicars and shame on you Canterbury for not having a clue how our community works or the hard work Jonathan and Carolyn do for st Francis and st clares

xx

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Love · Reply · 4w



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Like · Reply · 4w



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Like · Reply · 4w



Lorrayne Saunders Sorry Bishop C xx

Like · Reply · 4w



Michelle Bryce Ledgends of the community

Like · Reply · 4w



Allison Watson Both have shown outstanding loyalty to their communities and are trusted by the people to be there for those in need whilst tirelessly working for the whole area.



Like · Reply · 4w



Sherryanne Thomson Angels x

Like · Reply · 4w



Beryl Jones heroes

Like · Reply · 4w



Write a comment...



Cazz Jones

23 October



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Paula Jeffrey-Powell

2 November at 15:13


A question for you all...


IF the Bishop, Portsmouth diocese and Church Commissioners - by some divine miracle - were to ask YOU the community what YOU wanted and grant you your wish in the new plans involving Fr Jonathan and Reverend Karina, what would your response be... What would you ask for? There are over 1000 people in this group alone... Let your voices be heard.

Norma Hunt, Marilyn Jeffrey and 1 other 22 Comments 1 share

Like Comment Share

 **Diane Marie** To leave them where they are and to let them carry on the brilliant work they do!!  
Love · Reply · 3w 7

 **Marilyn Jeffrey** To let our Vicars of LP, WP and WL carry on with their good work in our parishes.  
Love · Reply · 3w 7

 **Chris Elmes** Leave them where they are; pay for professional administrative assistance for them both to take responsibility for finance etc; give Jonathan at least one curate or assistant priest, to help with services etc; drop the idea of one parish; let them carry on with the brilliant community work they do.  
Love · Reply · 3w 6

 **Alison Watson** Totally agree with Chris - if there is money to be invested build on what is already there. Provide additional ordained clergy to help with the fantastic work already happening and admin support so that Jonathan and Karina are freed up to do pastoral work and invest in the buildings so they are fit for future and diverse use

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Love · Reply · 3w · Edited  5

**Janet Horn Was Arnold** I agree with what is written already I couldn't put it into words any better

Love · Reply · 3w  3

**Jackie Cairns** Totally agree with Chris..do.not like the one parish idea the area is huge and the needs of the community are huge as well

Like · Reply · 3w  1

**Michelle Pressman** I completely agree with Chris, he's hit the nail on the head so to speak.

Like · Reply · 3w


**Chris Elmes** Thanks Michelle but I'm a she, not a hel Lol xx

Like · Reply · 3w  1

**Michelle Pressman** Sorry darling xx

Like · Reply · 3w

Write a reply...

**Chris Elmes** No worries xx  1

Like · Reply · 3w

**Michelle Pressman** Have got Man-flu at the moment, again! Courtesy of my husband (intend to make him pay BIG time!) but am going to write a letter about this situation to the Dioceses, would you mind if I included your suggestions, as so many of us agree with



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Moe Horswell Firstly I would ask that they kept Jonathan and Karina, and that their jobs were safe - considering all the support they are receiving.

Like · Reply · 2w

Moe Horswell I would then ask if there was money to be spent, that they look at our poor Churches and give them a facelift! How can they expect to attract more people to Church when they are not doing their bit! Our Churches need to be warm, just like the people who attend them.

Like · Reply · 2w

Moe Horswell What have the Pioneers allocated to PO9 done to date? I have asked Jenny but not received a reply. Just aware that Rev Barney and Sarah Barron previously stated appear now to have 'moved on' and that the new pioneer is Stuart!

Like · Reply · 2w



Chris Elmes They moved on in May - to Cornwall! They were the people the speaker at the meeting was not aware had moved. I asked the same question as almost no-one at the meeting had ever seen them or knew them! They are Baptist Ministers as is Stuart and his wife.

Like · Reply · 2w

Moe Horswell They are certainly keeping a low profile if they are not know by many in the community!!

Like · Reply · 2w



Stuart Holmes I'm Stuart - I have been employed in a part-time role following Barney & Sara moving on. My role isn't exactly the same as theirs and, I should point out that whilst Marie (my wife) is a Baptist minister, I am not an ordained person. My role is providing a continuation to some aspects of previous work such as that with Park Community Schools MUNCH and the church etc. I work closely with both Jonathan & Karina who are both supportive and wonderful ministers to Leigh Park & West Leigh. Currently, I

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Write a reply...



**Carolyn Shannon** I would like us to be listened to and both clergy to on an equal setting. Help from the pioneers and money to make repairs much needed to both churches.

Like · Reply · 2w

3



**Chris Elmes** In my time!

Like · Reply · 2w

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We were told that the church life of the faithful would not be altered so it imperative that they both remain as team leaders to care for them. Thank the Carolyn Shannon

Like · Reply · 4w

3



**Helen Young** Between you and Paula Jeffrey-Powell, this will be a brilliant letter, Carolyn Shannon.x

Like · Reply · 4w

2

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grown that they stay as the focal points of this parish. Leigh Park is a huge community and 1 person would never be enough to cater for the church family as it is now let alone the things that are likely to come from the joining of the parishes and the work of the pioneers. We were told that the church life of the faithful would not be altered so it imperative that they both remain as team leaders to care for them. Thank the Carolyn Shannon

Like · Reply · 4w



3



**Heleen Young** Between you and Paula Jeffrey-Powell, this will be a brilliant letter, Carolyn Shannon.x

Like · Reply · 4w



2



**Paula Jeffrey-Powell** Helen Young We can only try... But to make this work we need everyone to join us and write what they would like the Bishop to hear x

Like · Reply · 4w



1



**Carolyn Shannon** Helen Young thank you, I have waited for this post to come so I could say my bit but I didn't want people thinking I was being funny and not know what I was talking about. I have been going to St.Francis for over 45 years, until recently I was the safeguarding officer and I still teach Sunday school, do the church flowers and train children to serve with in the church. We have to make changes to survive but not using the bully tactics that have been used by the diocesan office x

Like · Reply · 4w



3



Write a reply...



**Chris Worthington** Very good letter. What I would like to ask is what will happen to the people father Jonathan and Katrina are helping/mentoring/saving whilst these silly changes take place and if new priests are brought into the community. All that hard work could be wasted and lost. It could take months to repair all the good they have done

Like · Reply · 4w



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Like · Reply · 4w

Write a reply...

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Like · Reply · 4w

**Chris Elmes** It takes years to actually know and understand a community and to be accepted by that community as one of them. Jonathan has done this with love and understanding. It would be hard to find a child locally that doesn't know him as he spends time every week visiting schools!

Like · Reply · 4w

**Mel Ivemy** Father Johnathon and Carolyn welcomed me with open arms. They have helped me no end, especially with my mental health which is very fragile. Often one or both of them has been out in the early hours of the morning, to comfort me or patch me up if needed. I have no doubt that without these two, I wouldn't be here now . X

Like · Reply · 4w

**Paul Mcleod** Hi Paula please forward this on to the Bishop. I attendd the recent meeting about changes to the Leigh Park, West Leigh Church of England diocese. I wanted to show support for the current Vicars Jonathon and Karine and the work of the Chruch of England in those areas. I am not a member of any religious congregation. I was there as a local resident and progressional youth worker. Over fifteen years I worked across the community as a Hampshire County Council youth worker at the same time I was an Off The Record volunteer and I worked for a local housing associatiuon. Your vicars were the only ones back then involved in the community, working alongside organisations I worked with. Someone, some people he decided to suggest changes, ideas for these three parishes. They are just that 'some peoples' ideas. that

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Paul Mcleod Hi Paula please forward this on to the Bishop. I attendid the recent meeting about changes to the Leigh Park, West Leigh Church of England diocese. I wanted to show support for the current Vicars Jonathon and Karine and the work of the Chruch of England in those areas. I am not a member of any religious congregation. I was there as a local resident and progressional youth worker. Over fifteen years I worked across the community as a Hampshire County Council youth worker at the same time I was an Off The Record vounteer and I worked for a local housing associatiuon. Your vicars were the only ones back then involved in the community, working alongside organisations I worked with. Someone, some people have decided to suggest changes, ideas for these three parishes. They are just that 'some peoples' ideas, that doesnt make them right. Savings benefits to any change should take into account the parisheners feelings. Their good will be priceless. A main purpose of the changes seems to be about getting more money from the church nationally. To do this it would appear the diocese must free up money from its current budget.I think keeping the congregations happy - keeping Father Jonathon and Karina is important. Failure in listening to your congregations could see you lose some of the members. I realised through reading notes prior to the meeting that the three churches parishes have been underfunded for some years.Why do they have to lose to bvery loved, supported Vicars to release more money? This isn't about a business, fancy ideas for re-organisation, its a bout a group of people who share the same religion, a faith. In 1987 ST Frances and the reverand Graeme Knowles were fundamental in establishing the 3-ways project in purbrook way. The revamp of the existing youth club,a new building for Off The Record youth counselling charity and a hosing project for 28 young people. Over the next fifteen years I worked with many great people from your churches. The churches aren't in an affluent area the issues people face are harder. The areas are akin to inner city areas. The Vicars I kinew all these years ago went on to bigger things. One took over ST Marys in Fratton. One became the Bishop of Carlisle then the dean of Westminster. Father Jonathon and Karina have remained loyal to their congregations they love their conragations and in turn are much loved by them. Through the support of your clergy residents have much better outcomes than can be gained by congrgations in more affluent areas. After years of Austerity, cuts your clergys help has been invaluable. The residents have lost enough. any will not have

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much better outcomes than can be gained by congregations in more affluent areas. After years of Austerity, cuts your clergys help has been invaluable. The residents have lost enough. any will not have someone to turn to. For 31 years I worked across four out of eight districts of Hampshire county districts. I didnt see the same impact elsewhere. Ive seen the difference your Vicars make including the help given to people of no faith. Ive seen many non believers accessing these churches for lots of other reasons than prayer. Your Vicars are great at welcoming people in. I ask that the diocese improve the three parishes resources not cut anywhere. That they retain the current Vicars. A possible idea of replacing them with clergy of a lesser rank would be wrong. The buildings their use, the current vicars are all distinct and needed. The elderly and frail, disabled might have a problem if they have to travel further to get to church. Ive mentioned my links to St Frances. For several years I ran the youth club at St Clares. I live round the corner from St Albans. Ive attended events there and grew up in West Leigh. Therefore I know each church is important. In strategy it mentions new housing estates, new churches, will this come from selling any of the land current churches are situated on? You have no guarantees youll get new parisheners from new estates. You do know you have parisheners at current venues. Those congregations like where they can worship, no guarantees theyll be able to access new sites. Thank you Paul

Love · Reply · 3w



**Paula Jeffrey-Powell** Thank you Paul Mcleod I will most certainly share your amazing post. Thank you for your continuing support, it is very much appreciated.

Like · Reply · 3w



**Paul Mcleod** At the meeting I thought it would be too long and people were so passionate I thought it better to let them speak. Just going to collate notes re meeting and subsequent media bits.

Like · Reply · 3w

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Paula Jeffrey-Powell

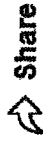
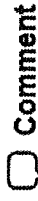
9 November at 18:58

OK... Am I under the right impression to say the community believe the Diocese of Portsmouth are just going to go ahead and remove our priests from us and make them redundant, regardless what the community want? Would I be right in thinking the general consensus is that regardless of them saying they will listen to what the community wants...WE DONT BELIEVE THEM?!

Would I be right in saying to the diocese ACTIONS SPEAK LOUDER THAN WORDS!... If you (Portsmouth Diocese) ARE TRULY LISTENING TO US then you will ensure you re-arrange your plans to enable our priests to remain with us where they belong! You still have time to change this before you make this legal. Come up with a new plan which includes our priests. Comments welcome...or you can just click 'like'....

Michelle Pressman, Darren Mckenna and 9 others

18 Comments



Chris Elmes Absolutely- this is just what I believe.

Like · Reply · 2w



Diane Marie Exactly how can they ignore the very people they say they want to reach out too!

Like · Reply · 2w



Paul Mcleod Indeed the church employees have given the impression that they have their plans and intend to do what they want regardless of congregation views, wishes and the negative consequences of their decisions .

Like · Reply · 2w



Alison Watson I haven't read one comment here yet that is in favour of the new Diocesan plans. Can we therefore hope that the Diocese do as they have stated and listen to the community and

want regardless of congregation views, wishes and the negative consequences of their decisions .

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Like · Reply · 2w



**Alison Watson** I haven't read one comment here yet that is in favour of the new Diocesan plans. Can we therefore hope that the Diocese do as they have stated and listen to the community and leave our parishes as they are

Like · Reply · 2w



**Paula Jeffrey-Powell** I doubt it!

Like · Reply · 2w



**Chris Elmes** I doubt it - that would mean someone admitting they've made a mistake and that just won't happen!

Love · Reply · 2w



**Paula Jeffrey-Powell** Anyone have any answers to my post here please? It is for a good reason 😊

Like · Reply · 2w · Edited



**Darren Mckenna** Amen!!!! Wholeheartedly endorse this stance (sorry I've just read it) after the 27th only 'legally interested parties' are involved in the process and not the community? How can we all become legally interested? Can we all invest a pound into a new com... See more

Like · Reply · 2w



**George Hurry** Darren Mckenna im with you on this.

Like · Reply · 2w



Write a reply...



**Carolyn Shannon** If it's these changes are supposed to reach a



3



3



1



2



2



3



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George Hurry Darren Mckenna im with you on this.

Like · Reply · 2w

3

Write a reply...



Carolyn Shannon If it's these changes are supposed to reach a broader spectrum of people how can it be only those

Like · Reply · 2w

1



Carolyn Shannon Who have a legal interest

Like · Reply · 2w

2



Jill Dunham There's nothing wrong with changing the way you 'do church', but getting rid of two people who are committed to and loved in the community and bringing in other people who may or may not be new to the area is not the way to go about it!

Like · Reply · 2w

5



Stuart Holmes I think its clear that we already have two dedicated, community-minded, pioneering vicars in post - all they need are the extra community workers/pioneers around them. thats the way forward.

Like · Reply · 2w

2



Chris Elmes But not, unfortunately, in the view of the Diocese.

Like · Reply · 2w

1



Stuart Holmes I agree

Like · Reply · 2w

2



Norma Hunt I agree Stuart. That is what I said in my email to Jenny to forward to the Bishop. All what they say they'll do, is already being done, just want some of that money to enlarge on it, without going to the Mission Fund or raising the money ourselves.

1

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**Michelle Pressman** Hi Paula, I think everything has been covered really, I feel that Father Jonathon has been treated disgustingly, the community's wishes are being ignored. Ultimately the Diocese plans will weaken the Church of England's presence in this parish.

Like · Reply · 2w



3



**Chris Elmes** You are so right - and, in my honest opinion, at the meeting the Archdeacon spoke volumes by her contemptuous body language.

Like · Reply · 2w



4



**Michelle Pressman** The minutes of the meeting were written in a very condescending manner also x

Like · Reply · 2w



2



**Chris Elmes** I've never seen minutes like it and shall be writing to say as much and to explain why there were interruptions - because what the Diocese said was factually incorrect!

Like · Reply · 2w



2



**Michelle Pressman** You go girl !! xx

Like · Reply · 2w



3



**Darren Mckenna** Chris Elmes that's it exactly the 'interruptions' where not the outbursts of a rude and uncultured mob unwilling to participate in structure discourse but the heartfelt cries of a community that has had its voice muffled and restrained, we all feel sidelined in a process being done to us and merely spoke up at the moments when things where untrue or unfair. If they continue to refuse see this then their hearts really are in the wrong place.

Like · Reply · 2w



2



**Paula Jeffrey-Power** Apparently the same has been written for Gosport and Isle of Wight notes from their meetings

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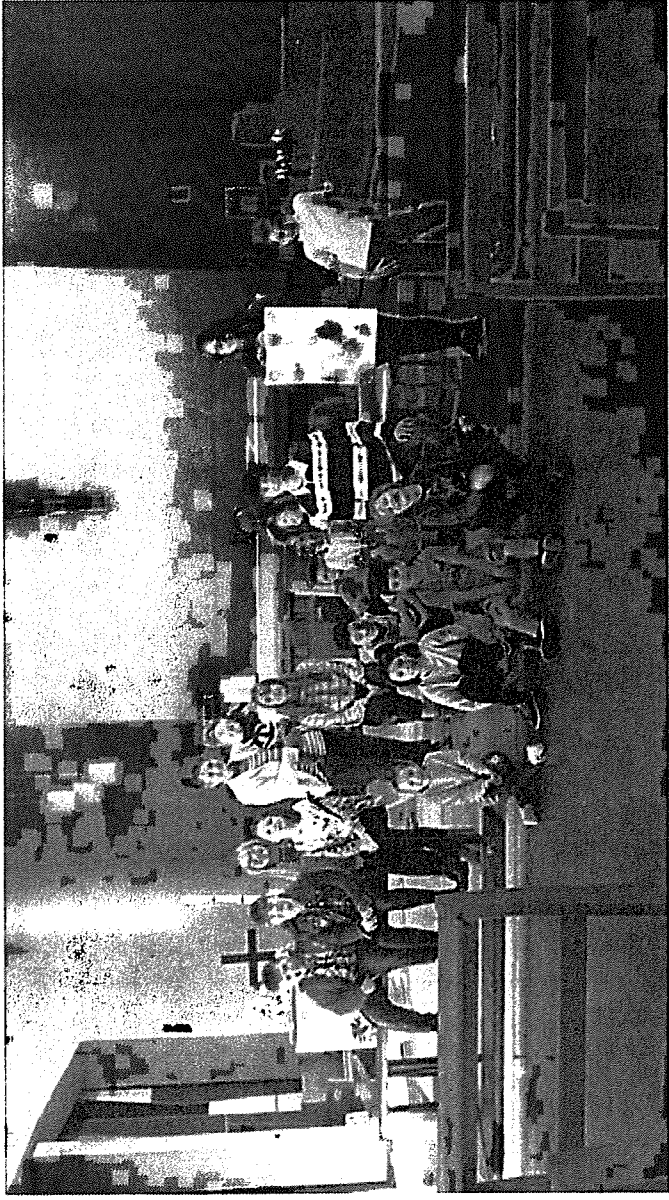
**Paula Jeffrey-Powell**

6 November at 13:20

A very special 'THANK YOU' to all B'buzz children and families who came to St Francis Church to show their support for Fr Jonathan!

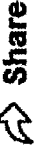
If anyone would like to join us, you would be very welcome. The more the merrier! ☺

You can find more details on our young people's B'buzz club and what we do along with lots of other Church and community information and activities on our website... <http://stfrancisleighpark.org.uk/>



Charlene Maines, Stuart Holmes and 13 others

1 share





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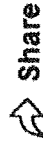
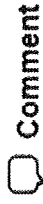
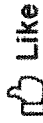
What I want to know is where does the 'Sacredness of Priesthood' come into the diocesan plans?... Clearly it doesn't! The long process the priests have to go through to get where they are today... from saying 'yes' to God (which for some might take months, even years to find the courage to do so!) to accept their vocation calling, to finding the courage to see their vicar and be referred to a Director of Ordinands and Vocation Advisor... From that they go through various interviews, placements, studying and form filling.... and that's just the exploring part!! After all of this, they go to a 'Bishop's Advisory Panel' for three days where they decide if the person has a true calling to priesthood (in their minds!) by meeting the 'Criteria' of the Church of England. They also have to meet with their bishop who is a part of that decision process.... After this if they get the 'yes' they then go to theological college for training and at the end are then ordained as a deacon for a year and sent to a parish church to train and then ordained as a priest the following year. After the 3-4 years in parish training they then go on to their own parish etc and begin Mission in their places of responsibility. This is no easy process!

It's not like the secular world where you go for a job interview one day and start the next... It takes years for these ten priests to be where they are today! I know this personally because I have supported friends through this process and have been through part of it myself twice! Though I had to give up both times for personal reasons and lack of confidence in my capabilities, I made some amazing friends through a group formed online for discernment and have stood by them through the rollercoaster of emotions that are involved in this whole process and are today wonderful priests and we have remained close friends to this day!

So my question to the Portsmouth diocese is... Where in all this Parish reorganisation removal of priest's is the 'Sacredness' of Priesthood?!

Stuart Holmes, Darren McKenna and 7 others

1 Comment



Helen Young Please send links to them!




1

# Save leigh park st Francis church and st Clare and West leigh vicars


Public group




 Photo/Video  Get together  Poll ...

NEW ACTIVITY ▼

 **Paul Mcleod**  
1 hr

I have found it strange that the Anglican church have ignored their successes, certainly locally and in doing so appear willing to import trendy ideas from other Christian groups. They are misguided, possibly in attempting to 'grow' their churches or put simply get bigger congregations. If they trust and support their current ministers, give them more support, curates, admin support they will do better. They'll also be doing what their congregations want. After all through consultation they must surely be listening to what their congregations want and through the process be aiming to keep existing parishioners on top of hoping to get more. After all in following a business, organisation idea they surely wouldn't want to gain a few new customers at the expense of losing a bigger number of current customers. Surely not worth trying something to be trendy, new for that to happen.


 You, Marilyn Jeffrey, Darren Mckenna and 1 other

 Love  Comment  Share

 What a comment


Community Nativity Play

 The British New Test... 2

# Save leigh park st Francis church and st Clare and West leigh vicars

Public group

with the diocese's proposals for reorganising the church parishes and removing our vicar. As most of you will know Fr Jonathan and Reverend Karina are not the only ones affected by all of this... There are TEN priests in total in the Portsmouth Diocese who face redundancy - sorry, get it right Paula, 'LOSS OF OFFICE'! - In Layman's terms in the Secular world it IS redundancy regardless how much... See more

 James Bremridge · Darren Mckenna and 4 others · 9 Comments

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**Marilyn Parker** I cannot believe for a second that other places where this is happening are happy with the new plans... What a load of rubbish!

Like Reply 11h  2




**Paula Jeffrey-Powell** There are a couple of priests in the diocese whose parishes have accepted the diocese plans - I know this personally. Sad but true. However, I also have to respect that everyone is entitled to their own decision for whatever their reasons.

Like Reply 11h  2




**Darren Mckenna** The cognitive dissonance is staggering! They remind me of the manufacturers of austerity, bankers and Tory crooks telling us they have our interests at heart while holding our heads underwater.

People of Newport we stand with you!

Like Reply 10h  2



**Carolyn Shannon** Be strong Newport, we are with you!

Like Reply 10h  2



**Nicky Carol Parker** This is disgusting what I have just read why don't the people above father Jonathan and Karina ie the diocese in this case just leave things to g and let the 10 people involved do what they do best... gods work xx

See more

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**Paula Jeffrey-Powell**

5 hrs

**GOOD LUCK NEWPORT** on Isle of Wight for your meeting tonight with the representatives from Portsmouth Diocese!  
You are very much in our thoughts and prayers!  
Make them listen! 🙏



James Bremridge, Chris Elmes and 5 others



Like



Comment



Share



Write a comment



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This evening the Parochial Church Council of Newport Minister meets with representatives from Portsmouth Diocese and the Collect of the day seems appropriate

Et...  
See more

You, Marilyn Jeffrey, Darren McKenna and 5 others

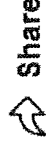
7 Comments 1 share



Like



Comment



Share



Paula Jeffrey-Powell Always in our prayers x

Like Reply 15h



Paula Jeffrey-Powell How are things over your side? x

Like Reply 15h



Alison Watson My thoughts and prayers are with you, if we all voice opposition maybe we will be listened to. Hope all goes well tonight.

Like Reply 12h



2



Paula Jeffrey-Powell We are in solidarity with you all

Like Reply 12h



1



George Hurry We stand with you Newport. God Bless.

Like Reply 10h



2



Bettina Brown We support you Newport

Like Reply 8h



2



Janet Horn Was Arnold We support you Newport x

Like Reply 7h



2

16 November at 00:22

# Save leigh park - st Francis church and st Clare and West leigh vicars

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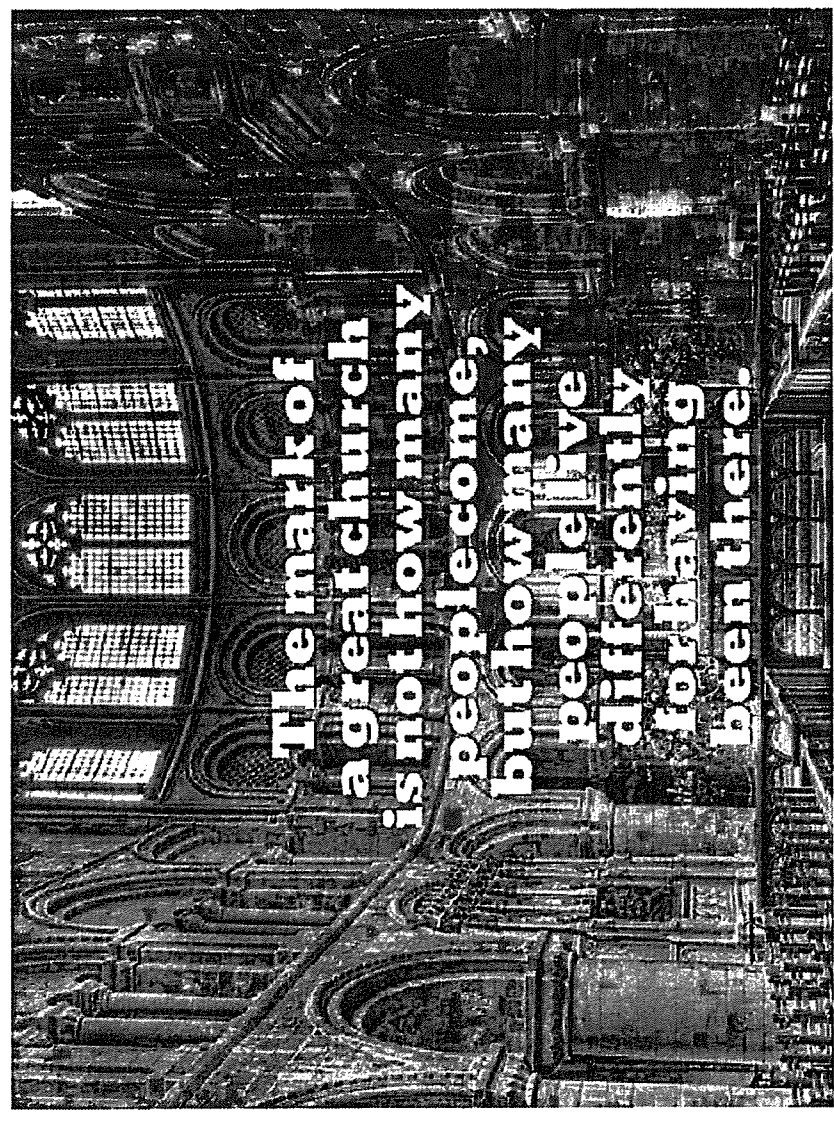
mythology of ancien... 14

New Testament Stud... 1

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I don't know what you lovely people think of this but to me this sums up our Churches, our Community and it's priests in abundance!  
... And I feel I need to point out the fact that as the majority of the people who attended the public meeting and made their voices heard were non church goers from our community this just goes to show how much our priests have affected our community! (And the meeting was standing room only at the back where so many had turned up!)  
As someone rightly pointed out at a recent meeting...How many priests can say they have this high level of support from non church members....



Mindful Christianity Today

Community

Send Message

Mindful Christianity Today

15 November at 08:51

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Francis church and  
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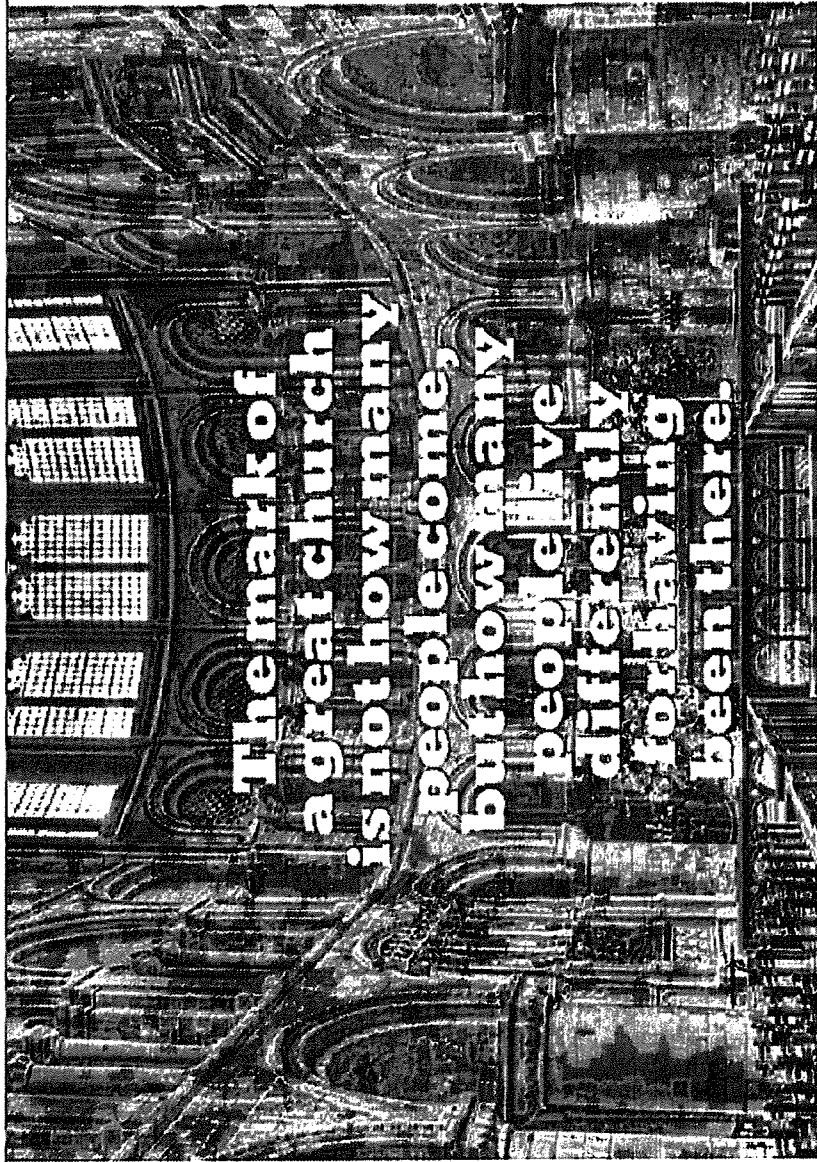
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## Mindful Christianity Today

Community

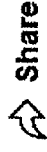
Mindful Christianity Today

15 November at 08:51

Send Message

2 Comments

1 share



George Hurry My thoughts in a nutshell. 2

Like · Reply · 1w



Jennifer Hurry This is so true.

Like · Reply · 1w



**Karen Davidson** ▶ **LEIGH PARK PICTURES & MEMORIES**

8 October · 🌐

...

Cannot believe that St Francis Leigh park , St Claire's and St Albans church's are under threat of closure. Father Johnathan and the vicar of st albans jobs too.

St Francis is a church that I attend and holds so many special memories for me as I'm sure it does for so many people of Leigh park. Family christenings, weddings and funerals too.

Father Johnathan and his wife are such a massive part of our community and offer so much of their time and support , it would be such a massive loss to our community to loose them.

With Leigh park and west leigh being such a huge estate we need to join together and stand up for our local churches and vicars.

I have lived here 50 years and things are slowing being taken away from us as a community. It is so sad to think this could become reality by next year.

I understand not everyone attends church regularly, however a lot of fellow Leigh Parker's marry there or have their children baptized there or have had a loved ones funeral there.

As a community we must stick together and get behind the church's and fight to keep them in our parish. I could not imagine Leigh park without St Francis, especially .

I understand there has been a page set up on Facebook and apparently a meeting is to be held at cowplain church on the 17th of October, with more details to follow.

Surely as true ,honest hard working Leigh park people we as a community can not let this happen.

Let's get behind St Francis, St Albans and father Johnathan and give them the help they need to win this battle to keep them doing the amazing jobs they do in our community.

Many thanks x



Marilyn Jeffrey, Michelle Pressman and 46 others 27 Comments 18 shares

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 **Janet Horn Was Arnold** Rosemary Oliver Was Farnell he was also at Botley Drive Church, we went on Church holiday with him and others from the congregation.


Like · Reply · 4w  2

 **Beverley Underwood** Marilyn Jeffrey yes Barry snook lovely man his wife Grace is lovely too. Did you know Tony Izzard, he was our lay worker. He Barry is in Dorchester last I heard, Tony lives in Glastonbury not far from where I live. X


Like · Reply · 4w  1

 **Beverley Underwood** Rosemary Oliver Was Farnell he was both Botley drive and Petersfield road church they were united Rose. I was baptised at the original Havant methodist church near the fire station in Havant x

Like · Reply · 4w  1

 **Marilyn Jeffrey** The good thing about Leigh Park, Warren Park and West Leigh was that we at St Francis Church, St Clare's Church and St Alban's Church have had very good ecumenical ties with our fellow Christians in the Methodist Church, St Michael's Roman Catholic Church and the Baptist Church. For many years we have shared services at special times in the year. The clergy and Ministers also meet up regularly with each other. Thats how I know the names of the ministers from the Methodist Chuch. Every one is so friendly. And that is how our community is.

Like · Reply · 4w

 **Beverley Underwood** Marilyn Jeffrey I know in the past I have attended some of the joint services. That was before I lost my faith

Like · Reply · 4w  1

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**Kathryn Parker** ▶ **LEIGH PARK PICTURES & MEMORIES** ...

7 October · 🌐

Completely shocked to find out today that Father Johnathon of st Francis and st Clares leighpark, and Karina green , vicar of St Albans westleigh, are going to be made redundant next year! Both of them contribute so much to our community, and do not deserve this. Please everyone, help fight to keep them here. There is going to be a meeting next Wednesday in cowplain, I will find the details and pass on, meanwhile, local friends please share this post and help keep the beautiful people in our community.

👤👤 You, Marilyn Jeffrey, Darren Mckenna and 18 others · 8 Comments · 37 shares

Angry

Comment     Share



**John Baker** Didn't know that. That people of the church can be made redundant.....

Like · Reply · 5w

^ Hide 14 Replies



**Kathryn Parker** John no neither did I  
But two of my friends who work at st Frances just been informed x

Like · Reply · 5w



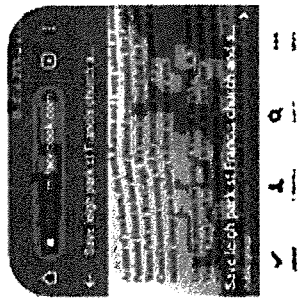
**Kathryn Parker** Mel Paula  1

Like · Reply · 5w

**Jane Hopkins** 11 days ago! How can you make vicars redundant! It's not like the Church of England is poor! Biggest landowners in the country!

Like · Reply · 5w

**Mandy Ferdinando** Please add yourselves if you want too. All info will be added here as and when we get it.



**Marc Maran** Shared the page on group

Like · Reply · 5w

**Michael Bartlett** The people of Leigh and west Leigh park don't want these people to leave they do so much and as you say it's not necessary church is not short of money biggest land owners in country please back k them in keeping their jobs

Like · Reply · 5w

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- Havant
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- 2016

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- Portsmouth
- Havant
- Choose a location...

Like Reply 3w



**Chris Elmes** Carole Miles that about sums it up - all we kept hearing about was what a runaway success the Harbour Church in Portsmouth was!



Like Reply 3w



1



**Colin Andrew Brown** What Barney and Sara Barron did as Pioneer Minister's working along side Johnathan and Karina did so much for this community in helping so many people and giving support to the people with in this community and the schools . But sometimes lack of communications and why would people think that they are still here they moved away sadly in the summer to Looe in Cornwall and yes my wife and I Would Say Grately Missed By So Many Google Pioneer Ministry and their's some youtube video's explaining about it but what we have already Johnathan And Karina We Have One Big Close Family Already Working So Hard Within This Community Why Make Changes That Some Of Us Might Not Even Understand and with 9.1 Million Pounds You Could Build A New Church With Nice Heating Under Church Car Parking And Nice Loop-Systems For The Deaf And Hard Of Hearing And Blue-Tooth Wireless System For Live Service Online Other Churches Have Started This For The Disabled Who Can't Go Everyweek

Love Reply 3w



4

# Save leigh park st Francis church and st Clare and West leigh vicars

Public group

Paul

7 Comments

You, Marilyn Jeffrey, Darren McKenna and 10 others

- Love
- Comment
- Share



**Helen Young Well** said Paul! Please forward this to the Portsmouth Diocese and the Bishop of Portsmouth. Would anyone consider asking the News Portsmouth if they could back the campaign by doing a piece in their paper?

Love · Reply · 5w



## Members



**Paula Jeffrey-Powell** Already involved... 2

Like · Reply · 5w

## Videos



**Paul Mcleod** During a reorganisation workers will sometimes keep quiet for fear of losing their job. Often they'll be put under pressure by management not to talk. Whether their taking redundancy or not. Jonathan and Karina will know things we won't because they work for the employer. It would help if someone, I'd suggest someone leading this asks them on the quiet what they think, know Under redundancy they should also be given opportunity to take the same role they do elsewhere in the organisation where there's a vacancy.

Like · Reply · 5w



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**Paul Mcleod** Paula Jeffrey-Powell Jonathan opened up and

# Save leigh park st Francis church and st Clare and West leigh vicars

Public group

Like · Reply · 5w · 3

**Charlene Maines** He's worth fighting for and he made me believe again ...

Love · Reply · 5w 2

**Charlene Maines** Paula Jeffrey-Powell I will send something over about international women's day and how he supported me in making this happen

Love · Reply · 5w 1

**Charlene Maines** Regardless of his own pain he found time to book me in again for 2019 to help local women ...

Love · Reply · 5w 2

**Paula Jeffrey-Powell** Charlene Maines That is fantastic to hear!... Thank you for your support tonight you, and the rest of our community were absolutely fantastic! 'Yes' He certainly is worth the fight every step of the way! I've never known a community to protect their vicar in the way you all did tonight... That there... are the 'Church'!

Like · Reply · 5w 1

**Paula Jeffrey-Powell** Charlene Maines Selfless is the word I would use to sum him up...

Like · Reply · 5w

**Charlene Maines** Love him , seeing him soon, so glad tonight was an achievement. I am not Leigh park born and bred I just came here when I got divorced and ended up a single unemployed parent ... standard

Now in year 2 at uni , speaking to 130 students at local school  
And father Jonathan allowing me to hold international women's day at the church

This community is wonderful and one that you would want

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Paula Jeffrey-Powell

14 October

\*\*\*\*\* 17 seats available 5.30pm Coach + 6.30pm Coach IS NOW FULL \*\*\*\*\*

I am probably putting my neck out on the line here and I apologise to Jonathan if I am wrong to say this but... Having attended the morning service at St Francis today I could not help but feel emotional.

Joanthan tried to come across as strong as he could but you could hear in his voice he was fighting back his tears.

I've attended many a funeral with him for members of our church and those who know him well enough from these sad services will know what I talk about here.

He is clearly heartbroken at the thought of being removed from a post and community he loves and cares about so deeply.

I have personally never seen him like this on a Sunday morning service before and I've known him since he first began here over 16 years ago. It was heartbreaking to see.

Please get behind him guys and show your support. If you are able, please attend the meeting this Wednesday evening 17th October @ 7.15pm .

There are still seats available on the free transport at both 5.30pm and 6.30pm with church pick up venue of your choice...St Francis, St Clare or St Albans. (Just leave your name, time and choice of church collection below)

If you are driving....

The venue of the meeting is...

St Wilfrid's Church.

Padnell Road,

Cowplain,

PO8 8DZ



Stuart Holmes, Michelle Pressman and 16 others

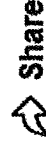
9 Comments 12 shares



Like



Comment



Share

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6.30pm with church pick up venue of your choice...St Francis, St Clare or St Albans. (Just leave your name, time and choice of church collection below)

If you are driving....

The venue of the meeting is...

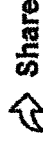
St Wilfrid's Church.

Padnell Road,

Cowplain,

PO8 8DZ

Stuart Holmes, Michelle Pressman and 16 others 9 Comments 12 shares



**Karen Davidson** So very sad, it was emotional to see . I can not begin to imagine what our church and community would be like without him and he's family. We must stay strong and stand together and attend this meeting to show our support xx

Love · Reply · 5w



**Darren Mckenna** Count me in

Love · Reply · 5w



**Julie Adams** I agree he was how would they like it we did that to them and i fill so sorry for his family special they going for exsames and everthing like that how do they fill its not bloody fair and his wife as well why should they put them threw all this we will fight for them he done a lot in our community a very lot .we will fight for johnthan and keep praying for him and his family please

Like · Reply · 5w



**Karen Davidson** Father Johnathan has helped so many people in Leigh park in there hour of need, it's our turn to help him now . Come on Leigh park come to the meeting, it's an hour or so out of our day, surely we can pull together and show everyone how Strong we are and that we are an amazing community xxx

Love · Reply · 5w · Edited





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Marilyn Jeffrey Paula Jeffrey-Powell lol

Like Reply 6w

Mandy Ferdinando Lol

Like Reply 6w

Paula Jeffrey-Powell Since when do the hierarchy ever listen to anything we say in our parish community mother...(Marilyn Jeffrey) Nothing has ever changed in that department in recent years!

Like Reply 6w

Marilyn Jeffrey Paula Jeffrey-Powell No, they don't listen to us minnows.

Like Reply 6w

Paula Jeffrey-Powell Marilyn Jeffrey They mention about low church and community interaction for one of their reasons for this change (if I've got that right)...if they bothered to actually come to our parish outside of 'special occassion services' they would see we are very much engaged with the community through our work at the church. I began to write all our parish work down last night...the list goes on and on! They clearly haven't properly investigated us as much as they say because if they did they'd realise how close our church is with the community and that the work they plan for the church and community is already taking place and has done so for ages! Jonathan has worked tremendously hard with these links and the community know him and his family and our church so well because of this!

Like Reply 6w

View more replies

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Paula Jeffrey-Powell shared a Page.

12 October

\*\*\*\*\*LATEST NEWS!\*\*\*\*\*

<https://www.facebook.com/CofEPortsmouth/>

Still throwing questions at the 'Powers that be!' Regarding Fr Jonathan and Karina and the future of the Churches...

Today they informed me....

"IF PASSED" They intend to merge all 3 parishes of Leigh Park, Warren Park and West Leigh together to form one parish... This also means the 'New' proposed 'Parish' will consist of 26,207 people...

Please click on the link and read through the various comments... You will need to scroll down the page until you see the picture of the Isle of Wight needles....the comments are there.



Liked

1 Comment

You Darren Mickenna and Marilyn Jeffrey

Share

Comment

Angry

Marilyn Jeffrey I have also put on their site on facebook that I hope the Diocese team are keeping in touch with Jonathan and Karina as this has been a big shock to them and their families.

Love Reply 6w

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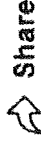
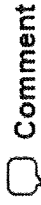
Jill Dunham

11 October

I have been praying and pondering about this situation through today. I think I understand what the diocese aims may be (not impressed with their method so far!) and there is nothing wrong with having pioneer clergy in the area, but don't understand why the current clergy have been told they're being made redundant. Could they not have some pioneer training and stay in their posts with a different job description? If the churches (or at least one of them) are staying open, there will have to be a priest available for communion in any case (I'm not an Anglican so I could be wrong!).

I won't be at the meeting as I no longer live on the Park, but I shall continue to pray and follow what's going on.

You, Marilyn Jeffrey, Chris Elmes and 7 others



View 1 comment



Paula Jeffrey-Powell

10 October

We have received communication from the Diocese of Portsmouth who is holding the meeting on 17 October at St Wilfred's Church, Padnell Road, Waterlooville at 7.15pm. They have listened to our concerns for transport and have sent the following message...

"Diocese of Portsmouth Dear all, I'm pleased to let you know that because of the transport difficulties mentioned here, we're providing a large 29-seater

See more

# Save leigh park Francis church and st Clare and West leigh vicars

Public group

2 Comments 1 share

Like Comment Share



**Marilyn Parker** What I can't understand is why would you replace the clergy who have worked hard for the community and have spent years in building up relationships within the community ....I just don't get that part.....

Like Reply 6w 2



**Paula Jeffrey-Powell** That's our thought too Marilyn Parker X

Like Reply 6w 1



**Marilyn Parker** I hope that question will be asked again and again....

Like Reply 6w 1



**Paula Jeffrey-Powell** Marilyn Parker Are you coming to the meeting?

Like Reply 6w



**Paula Jeffrey-Powell** I have said all of this on the diocesan facebook page this afternoon in reply to Helen Young's point X

Like Reply 6w 1



**Marilyn Parker** No I don't go to church. I am an atheist, however I do see the huge injustices being done by the the bishop and c/e... kinda gets my back up.

Like Reply 6w 1



**Paula Jeffrey-Powell** You don't have to be a church

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Like Reply 6w

**Marilyn Parker** No I don't go to church. I am an atheist, however I do see the huge injustices being done by the the bishop and c/e... kinda gets my back up.

Like Reply 6w

**Paula Jeffrey-Powell** You don't have to be a church member to go to the meeting in support. People from the community are very welcome to join us! In fact we encourage it!

Like Reply 6w

**Marilyn Parker** What I see here is a bishop and co..kicking "Christan principals" to the kerb when it suits them...disgraceful

Like Reply 6w

**Paula Jeffrey-Powell** Marilyn Parker.... Please come to the meeting... You'd be great! LOL x

Like Reply 6w

**Marilyn Parker** I am tempted to go just on the sheer injustice of it all...

Love Reply 6w Edited

**Paula Jeffrey-Powell** YAY!!! Please do... That is the idea of this!

Like Reply 6w

# Save leigh park Francis church and st Clare and West leigh vicars

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Paula Jeffrey-Powell

9 October

Something to make you all smile... This page you have started up here now has more members than the diocese have on their facebook page and you've only been running a couple of days!

Well done to you all! 🎉 x

You, Charlene Maines, Mandy Ferdinando and 38 others

2 Comments

Love Comment

Share

Mel Ivemy Mandy Ferdinando look! X

Like Reply 6w

Mandy Ferdinando Wow thank you so much every one of you. I never expected this to be honest. I just didn't wanna see father Jonathan go as I've known him for years as most peo0ke in leigh park have I don't know the other vicar but I'm sure they are just as awesome too. Thanks guys 🙌 x

Love Reply 6w

Mel Ivemy

10 October

Let's see if we can get this group to a thousand guys!! Power of Facebook and all that, I ain't giving in and will do all I can to save Johnathon and Karina. Keep sharing!

Mandy Ferdinando and 3 others

2 Comments 10 shares

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**Darren Mckenna** I really hope they are prepared to show us the real, tangible and testable qualitative data that supports the claim that church plants and pioneer ministers are making long-standing impact on people of urban areas!!!!

Like Reply 6w 3



**Norma Hunt** It's to do with the live/pray/serve strategy. Different ways of serving and engaging with the communities. Such as Pioneers, Harbour Church etc.

Like Reply 6w

**Norma Hunt** One hat does not fit all people.

Like Reply 6w

**Darren Mckenna** You're absolutely right and I'm keen for the church body to encompass this thinking but it seems as tho they've chosen the new style of hats and burned the old ones before measuring anybody's head!

Like Reply 6w 2



**Paula Jeffrey-Powell**

9 October

This is the email address the diocese has given to contact for our feedback of our concerns or can voice them at the meeting... (so they told me in reply to my comments on their page)

They also said this is still only the Planning stage and can still be changed or altered.... So there is a possible light at the end of the tunnel if we speak up

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**Paula Jeffrey-Powell** Engage with the community.... They're not even listening to us about Jonathan. Even I'm starting to think of giving up church after nearly 40yrs attendance due to the way they are handling the situation with our priests 😞

Like · Reply · 5w



2

**Paula Jeffrey-Powell** And I've never said that before. They have really angered me this time x

Like · Reply · 5w



2

Write a comment...



**Paula Jeffrey-Powell**

17 October

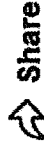
A couple of interesting comments I thought you might like to see from the Diocese of Portsmouth Facebook page from other people regarding the situation Jonathan and Karina are presently facing...

"Poor planning? Or did they not want people to attend? Unfortunately it seems more like the latter to me! This is all sounds like great "positive" news, it is not, do not be fooled, innocent and good people are about to lose their jobs and homes! The meeting on the Isle of Wight happened last night and had a big turnout, I hope that this meeting is equally well attended"

"A very sad situation which is also happening in Newport IOW, go to the meeting, organise as many as possible to go and support your clergy all the way! Because they certainly need it in the face of such unChristian-like immoral behaviour."

Chris Elmes, Carolyn Shannon and 4 others

2 shares



Share



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**Mel Ivery** They don't at the moment. And I know the meeting should be leighpark but it's been out in cowplain I guess by the bishop. Maybe he thinks he's gonna get mobbed , I don't know. I have posted that no one go to the media yet until after the meeting. Anyone that can make it to cowplain go, we will keep everyone updated x

Like Reply 6w



2

**Mandy Ferdinando** I'm just waiting for location and time and I'll go. x

Like Reply 6w



1

View more replies



**Colin Andrew Brown** Not Everyone Has Got Transport And If It's In The Evening Not Many Buses Run And The Times Change To

Like Reply 6w



3

**Michelle Pressman** I want to go but haven't got any transport, can't believe this is happening, its really disgraceful. x

Like Reply 6w



3



**Mandy Ferdinando** Please see my last status on here

Like Reply 6w

**Marilyn Parker** Can't understand why meeting not being held in Leigh park as it is about what is happening here and not waterboovile? Bishop pulling a fast one!!

Like Reply 6w



1

**Mandy Ferdinando** Yea well we won't let that stop us

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Write a comment...



Karen Davidson

15 October

To all the great people of Leigh park. I have lived in Leigh park all my life ,and the estate has changed so much. Some for the better and some not. We as a community have lost so much, our parks for our children are practically gone. Park parade is slowly disappearing , used to be heaving as a child, along with the hustling market. Not to mention banks being shut down, just to make our lives a bit more harder than they already are. Even down to losing the fireworks display, if it wasn't for the hard work of some locals this wouldn't be happening this year. These are a few to Mention and more besides. I Know things change and it's a sign of the times they say, but to lose our church's (st Francis, St Claire and St Albans too is just beyond belief.

St Francis especially is so dear to me as I've mentioned before in a previous post. Father Johnathan came and visited my mum when she was in the QA , giving up he's own time to do so. When she took a turn for the worse ,he came immediatly and sat with us as a family giving great comfort and support.

Throughout the funeral preparations he was amazing and supportive, and the service he gave for mum was so touching, everyone said how beautiful it was.

He recently christened my grandson at St Francis, which again meant so much to us as a family. (Free Service, worth a mention).

Fahter Johnathan also helps out with the local food bank and the schools, that are a huge part of our community too. How many of us had he helped without us really realizing.

How many of you have had some form of comfort, support , help or act of kindness that has touched your heart, from just one man in particular, Father Johnathan.

All this is Done whilst bringing up he's own family , with the support of his lovely wife who also does her fair share in the community too.

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All this is Done whilst bringing up he's own family, with the support of his lovely wife, who also does her fair share in the community too.

This is personal to me I know, but how many of you have your own personal tales to tell about this wonderful person, he's family, your churches and vicars and their acts of support and kindness.

As a fellow resident all I am asking is that we support our local churches and their vicars. Is it too much to ask to take a couple of hours out of our day, to support these people at their time of need. Let's give something back, all it costs is a bit of your time.

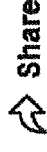
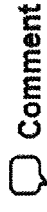
Let's not make community spirit a thing of the past.

This is not just about religion, it's about supporting those who need us in their hour of need, as we needed them.

There are still free places on the mini bus provided to all for the meeting on Wednesday 17th October at 7.15. Anyone wanting to attend and needs a lift please contact paula jeffrey Powel o have tagged her in this post. Thank you xx

You, Marilyn Jeffrey, Bettina Brown and 13 others

6 Comments 3 shares



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Beryl Jones father jonathan and carolyn have been a rock to me ive been awidow for 10 years but they have never tired of looking after me also how they looked my husband when he was ill visited him inhospital ga ve him blessings every day how many vicars would be solving andhelpful on such acontinuous length of time only someone like father jonathan a really true christian from beryl jones and family god bless

Like · Reply · 5w



Beryl Jones we must support him all the way



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You, Marilyn Jeffrey, Bettina Brown and 13 others 6 Comments 3 shares

Love Comment Share

Carolyn Shannon Weill saidx 1

Like · Reply · 5w

Paula Jeffrey-Powell Or you can write your name here and I will book you a seat (IT'S FREE too!)...There's one coach left with 17 seats which picks up at 5.30pm (6.30pm is FULL!) but I will happily discuss with the diocesan office if we need more. Thank you so much Karen t... See more

Like · Reply · 5w · Edited

Marilyn Jeffrey Karen Davidson That was so beautifully put. Thank you. X

Like · Reply · 5w

Norma Hunt Very true. In these uncertain times, we still need Parish Priests like Jonathan, who know their Community and works tirelessly for it

Like · Reply · 5w

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Like · Reply · 5w

Norma Hunt Very true. In these uncertain times, we still need Parish Priests like Jonathan, who know their Community and works tirelessly for it.

Like · Reply · 5w

Beryl Jones father jonathan and carolyn have been a rock to me ive been awidow for 10 years but they have never tired of looking after me also how they looked my husband when he was ill visited him inhospital ga ve him blessings every day how many vicars would be soloving andhelpful on such acontinuous length of time only someone like father jonathan a really true christian from beryl jones and family god bless

Like · Reply · 5w

Beryl Jones we must support him all the way

Love · Reply · 5w

Write a comment...

Sherryanne Thomson

16 October

## Hello was it 6.30pm pick up at St Francis church tomorrow ty

Like

Comment

Share

2 Comments

Paula Jeffrey-Powell Hi Sherryanne

Yes you are indeed booked in for the 6.30pm minibus from St

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Karen Davidson

8 October

Cannot believe that St Francis Leigh park , St Claire's and St Albans church's are under threat of closure. Father Johnathan and the vicar of st albans jobs too.

St Francis is a church that I attend and holds so many speacial memories for me as I'm sure it does for so many people of Leigh park. Family christenings, weddings and funerals too.

Father Johnathan and his wife are such a massive part of our community and offer so much of their time and support , it would be such a massive loss to our community to loose them.

With Leigh park and west leigh being such a huge estate we need to join together and stand up for our local churches and vicars.

I have lived here 50 years and things are slowing being taken away from us as a community. It is so sad to think this could become reality by next year. I understand not everyone attends church regularly, however a lot of fellow Leigh Parker's marry there or have their children baptized there or have had a loved ones funeral there.

As a community we must stick together and get behind the church's and fight to keep them in our parish. I could not imagine Leigh park without St Francis, especially .

I understand there has been a page set up on Facebook and apparently a meeting is to be held at cowplain church on the 17th of October,with more details to follow.

Surely as true ,honest hard working Leigh park people we as a community can not let this happen.

Let's get behind St Francis, St Albans and father Johnathan and give them the help they need to win this battle to keep them doing the amazing jobs they do in our community.

Many thanks x



Marilyn Jeffrey Julie Adams and 16 others

8 Comments 10 shares

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Wens Carole

18 October

I attended this meeting last night and it was great to see how many people were passionate about our churches and vicars. For me it all seems to be about bums on seats on a Sunday. But that's not what Karina and St Albans is about for me. I am a non-Christian who attends church once twice a year. On one of those occasions I take nearly 100 year 7's and put on a nativity for the community. For me the church is at the heart of our community and it's about the church in the community.

Karina also offers a listening service to our young people. That is an invaluable free service.

I accept change may be needed and I accept we have to move with the times but not at the cost of 2 people who do an outstanding job for our community.

Put these 2 in post as experienced vicars/father and support them in training new staff to love our community as much as they do. Use them as pillars of the community.

We'll done everyone who turned up last night. It was great to see and great to see a genre of ages! Young and old alike...we all had the same passion!



You, Marilyn Jeffrey, Diane Marie and 20 others

1 Comment



Love



Comment



Share



Michelle Pressman Beautifully said Wens x 2

Like · Reply · 5w



Write a comment...





# Save leigh park st Francis church and st Clare and West leigh vicars

Public group

Steve Horswell

12 October

St Francis Church, just heard the dreadful news. This was my wife's Church for many years and although we don't live locally now her dear mother, Grace Harrison, was a member of the Church for over 60 years. We can't thank the Church Family and especially Jonathan Jeffery for all the kindness and love they gave to Grace when her beloved Mac died, and all the help and support they gave to us as a family when Grace sadly passed in June. We are new to Facebook and will be grateful for some more information of the meeting and any petition to save this lovely man and his family, and keep them supporting local people. Power to the people!

You, Marilyn Jeffrey, Carolyn Shannon and 10 others 7 Comments

Love Comment Share

View 5 more comments



Beryl Jones thanks steve

Like Reply · 6w



Malc Carpenter Was Grace a member of British Red Cross for many years , had a friend Clare ? If so I was also a member

Like · Reply · 6w

Malc Carpenter replied · 2 Replies



Write a comment...

😊 📷 GIF 🗨️



Paula Jeffrey-Powell

14 October

\*\*\*\*\* 17 seats available 5.30pm Coach + 6.30pm Coach IS NOW FULL \*\*\*\*\*

I am probably putting my neck out on the line here and I appoligise to Jonathan if I am wrong to say this but... Having attended the morning service at St Francis today I could not help but feel emotional

See more



# Save leigh park st Francis church and st Clare and West leigh vicars

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Karen Davidson Father Johnathan has helped so many people in Leigh park in there hour of need, it's our turn to help him now . Come on Leigh park come to the meeting, it's an hour or so out of our day, surely we can pull together and show everyone how Strong we are and that we are an amazing community xxx

Love · Reply · 5w · Edited



7



Nicky Carol Parker Wouldn't miss that meeting xx

Like · Reply · 5w



3



Kathryn Parker Aww bless his heart x

Like · Reply · 5w



2



Kathryn Parker I'll be there if I'm back in time xx

Love · Reply · 5w



3



Charlotte Parker Please keep signing the petition guys there should be a link on the page by those who have shared it and lets keep on showing our support xx

Love · Reply · 5w



4



Write a comment...



Mandy Ferdinando

14 October

Firstly thank you to everyone who has been keeping our members updated here. I am truly grateful. I have had some personal issues to deal with and haven't been here much and for That, I apologise. I have to catch up. I am still attending the meeting on weds and am very pleased to see that a lot of people will be going. Thank you all for your continued support



You, Marilyn Jeffrey, Bettina Brown and 4 others

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# Save leigh park st Francis church and st Clare and West leigh vicars

Public group



Paula Jeffrey-Powell

17 October

WOW!!!! I have to say that was... A BLOODY BRILLIANT MEETING!!  
COMMUNITY OF LEIGH PARK.... I AM SO SO VERY PROUD OF YOU  
ALL!

The turnout was incredible... Fr Jonathan and I estimated around 150 people  
there...IT WAS PACKED!

The way you all defended Jonathan was overwhelming to say the least! I  
know he fully appreciated each and every one of you! Those presenting the  
evening could hardly finish their sentences throughout the evening!  
I am still speechless and grinning like the Cheshire Cat.....It truly was a  
night of an incredible community coming together to support 'ONE OF  
THEIR OWN!'...

Thank once again to everyone who came and those who sent their best  
wishes!

LOVE MY COMMUNITY! ♥♥♥

Charlene Maines, Mandy Ferdinando and 47 others 5 Comments 4 shares

Like Comment Share

Charlene Maines Bloody fantastic 2

Love · Reply · 5w

Paula Jeffrey-Powell Certainly was that!!!! 1

Like · Reply · 5w

Paula Jeffrey-Powell In nearly 40yrs of being in the life of  
the Church I have NEVER seen the reaction of main  
speakers as I did tonight! They totally lost all controll! Well  
done to all! x

Like · Reply · 5w · Edited

3

See more

**SAVE THE VICARS**

Included in the meeting to do with the churches of Leigh park and to SUPPORT the vicars (something that they don't get a lot from you) your supposed to work with them team but all it seems is like your throwing them away like out of date meat, and I must say from the bottom of my heart im disgusted with everything and especially everything I heard at that meeting! there is a page with over a THOUSAND people and that was in 1 week of setting it up... this is because we LOVE OUR COMMUNITIE AND EVERYONE IN IT INCLUDING FATHER JONATHAN AND KARINA and in this page somebody put Leigh park is kicking off. And so we should be kicking off the vicars homes, jobs and faith that you are robbing these vicars off and the way that these well loved, well respected, loyal, faithful vicars are being treated is disrespectful, devalued and truly disgusting. Those who stood up their this evening should be ashamed that they believe in this monstrous plan that will bring no good to our community about there saying about faith and bringing god into it but you and whoever reads this ask yourself this. Would god treat somebody like this? (especially vicars who believe) Would god throw someone away like trash? Would god RUIN these lives for a bit of money or a plan that is thought up but not practical for the community? The only suggested about this. THINK! if you do this it will wreck our WHOLE community these vicars have put so much into Leigh park and westleigh and you have the audacity to come up with some ridiculous plan when you know nothing about our community. the kids love the vicars they are all they know if you say the vicars they automatically know that Jonathan and Karina. As for this re applying jobs why should they have to reapply for a job that they are doing now and a residential care home for all or anyone else for that matter! they have done so much like food banks, school trips there for kids to sing Christmas carols. Father Jonathan burned my granddad's house down and dad, christened me and my siblings and gave us the faith that we have for today (the love we have the church is because of this vicar) also christened my granddad's other things. im sorry but if you choose to do this you will RUIN AND BREAK LEIGH PARKS FAITH AND COMMUNITY. It is not about how many people choose on a Sunday to about the faith that's in the community not all people can make church as people have work to support families its not about who christen is but about how long we have been in the church as well as in the church so stop thinking about jobs and salaries that will let if our community pulls away!! WE ARE LEIGH PARK AND WE WILL FIGHT YOU EVERY STEP OF THE WAY TO SAVE THE JOB WE HAVE. WE WILL LOVE, TRUST AND BELIEVE IN!! WE WILL NOT GO UNHEARD AND WE WILL NOT GO DOWN WITHOUT A FIGHT!! WE ARE THE FIGHTING

三三三三三三三三

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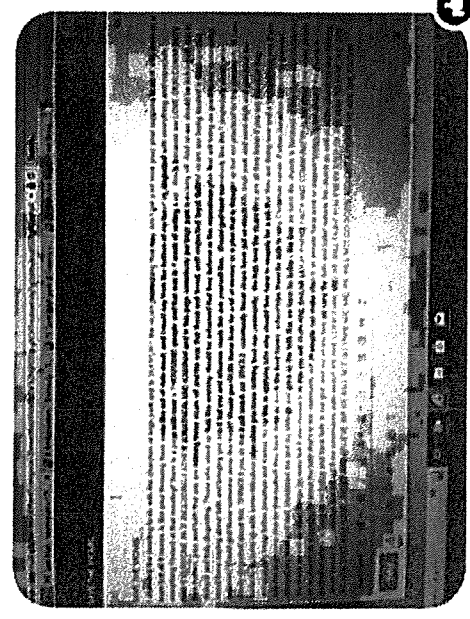
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Lauren Parker I have wrote this and will be sending it off to them first thing in the morning



Love Reply · 5w



4



Julie Adams Well done to all who came keep fighting cant wait for round 2 lol xxx

Like Reply · 5w



1



Marilyn Parker Yep get the "diocese " on the ropes and keep them there

Like Reply · 5w



2



Michelle Pressman replied · 16 Replies



Donna Armstrong Was brilliant if u can't defend ur own then there's something very wrong!Father Jonathan does so much for our community even off his own back he deserves the best and we as a community will back himself and karina 1 million percentii hope they take thi... See more

Like Reply · 5w



5



Write a comment...



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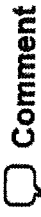
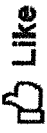
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Write a comment...



**Mandy Ferdinando**

17 October

Fantastic turn out for the meeting tonight. I know this was very hard and emotions were running high, but I just want to say I'm proud of every single one of you. You all done leigh park proud and thank you all so much for being there. For those who couldn't make it, we will get as much information as we can and put it here for you all to see. The 'minutes' of this meeting will take a while to note down but once we have the emails, someone will post here for everyone to see.

Once again, thank you all we will save our vicars and we won't give up

You, Marilyn Jeffrey, Kathryn Parker and 25 others

3 Comments



View 1 more comment



**Charlene Maines** I saw father Jonathan yesterday in Asda and can I just say he mentioned the fact he is more optimistic knowing he has so many people from the community behind him ... I hope all goes well and the right decision is made

Love · Reply · 5w



Mel Ivery replied · 1 Reply



**Paula Jeffrey-Powell** Thank you for your support in all of this... It certainly hasn't gone unnoticed xx

Like · Reply · 5w



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14 October

Hi all

This was copied and pasted to here from the diocese (Jonathan & Karina's bosses!) page... This is why they are being made redundant from our community...

HAVANT... See more



PORTSMOUTH.ANGLICAN.ORG

## Diocese of Portsmouth - News - Multi-million pound investment to help our mission and ministry

Michelle Pressman, Darren McKenna and 4 others

7 Comments 11 shares

Like

Comment

Share



**Paula Jeffrey-Powell** They're basically saying that the Church engaging with the community 'Where they are' is not good enough. They want people to come into and engage with the Church. They want to 'Grow' the church. Personally I was always brought up to think the PEOPLE are the Church! But hey what would I know... I've only been at St Francis nearly 40 years!

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Like · Reply · 5w



**Mandy Ferdinando** Thank you for your support and for keeping people updated.

Love · Reply · 5w



**Paula Jeffrey-Powell** Mandy Ferdinando You're welcome. Wouldn't change it all for the world. You're a fab community Leigh Park! I'm proud to be part of it at times like this...and others of course! 😊 Thank you Mandy Ferdinando and everyone else for your ongoing support. It... See more

Like · Reply · 5w · Edited



Write a reply...



**Sarah Stouse** They may want people to come into the church but they aren't going about it very well, how will getting rid of two hard working great people help 'grow' the church!!

Love · Reply · 5w



**Michelle Pressman** Exactly Sarah, it's ridiculous!

Love · Reply · 5w



Write a reply...



**Paul Mcleod** Possibly the powers that be wanting some money and decided some of the land current churches are on will bring in a nice profit.

Like · Reply · 5w



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Write a reply...

**Sarah Stouse** They may want people to come into the church but they aren't going about it very well, how will getting rid of two hard working great people help 'grow' the church!!

Love · Reply · 5w



4

**Michelle Pressman** Exactly Sarah, it's ridiculous!

Love · Reply · 5w



1

Write a reply...



**Paul Mcleod** Possibly the powers that be wanting some money and decided some of the land current churches are on will bring in a nice profit.

Like · Reply · 5w



1

**Nicky Carol Parker** It's always about money!!!!

Like · Reply · 5w



1

**Paul Mcleod** They say they want to engage with the community, well hopefully they'll prove that and not give people the chance to think it's politics, - already been decided.

Like · Reply · 5w



2

**Paula Jeffrey-Powell** Paul Mcleod Thank you for your support with this. I know it is very much appreciated

Like · Reply · 5w



2

**Paul Mcleod** Paula Jeffrey-Powell least I could do, fond. Memories of working with some great vicars from St Frances and St Clare's.

Like · Reply · 5w



1

View more replies



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Helen Young

20 October

Could a community meeting be set up at Saint Francis or Saint Alban's about this so everyone in the area knows about it. The more people that are aware the better and I'm sure many more will sign the petition.

Darren Mckenna, Carolyn Shannon and 9 others

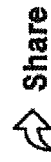
6 Comments



Like



Comment



Share



Michelle Pressman Good idea x

Like · Reply · 5w



George Hurry Helen that is a fantastic idea. Perhaps this is something paula Jeffery-Powell can help us with

Like · Reply · 5w · Edited



1



Chris Elmes Don't forget there was a public meeting last week!

Like · Reply · 5w



Helen Young Yes, Chris, but so many more people in our area may not know about this yet and need to be informed.

Like · Reply · 5w



Sarah Stouse Chris Elmes not everyone could make that one.

Like · Reply · 5w



Chris Elmes Sarah Stouse I understand, but it would need to have representatives from the Diocese again and I suspect that won't happen!

Like · Reply · 4w



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**Paul Mcleod** It's a bit much that they said at meeting this is the start of process. For them to have issued redundancy notices quite a bit will already have been discussed.

Like · Reply · 5w



**Paul Mcleod** Also to say to congregations we're consulting you but by the way we've issued your much loved vicars with redundancy notices is appalling.

Like · Reply · 5w



2



**Paula Jeffrey-Powell** I agree... It's absolutely disgusting

Like · Reply · 5w



**Paul Mcleod** Paula Jeffrey-Powell not caring Christians at all. For paid employees, supposedly experienced people to do this to two such loved vicars makes no sense. A big failure is there talking about things so much like a business, they talk about reorganisation. They use business or legal jargon that perhaps they think only they understand. Well the truth in laymen's terms will always come out. Lastly they've made mistakes here a business would not have followed a process in such a way. 100% consultations with staff, service users etc takes place before job roles are changed and redundancies issued. A business will primarily want to grow the amount of customers. They wouldn't say to existing customers with strong feelings, "we're going to make changes, we haven't realised we could lose existing loyal customers and we don't know if a new 'planted' building like on a new housing estate will gain us new customers. We haven't thought that we can have a nice new building. New staff- new roles, without any customers.

Love · Reply · 5w



1