

⑦



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

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Community Nativity...

The British New Test...

say it surprises me.

Like · Reply · 3w

1

Karen Davidson We're only speaking from the heart. Crack on, report back they might actually listen then x

Like · Reply · 3w

2

Chris Elmes Hope so - it will show them what people are thinking/saying!

Like · Reply · 3w

2

Paula Jeffrey-Powell GOOD! If they are then they will be showing the TRUE heart of the community of which they are trying to tear apart! by removing the two priests who are at the heart of their community - Not every community can say their priests have the same affect as ours! Just need to look at the petition and this page to see that, thanks to those people who set these up! The diocese are trying to do this 'plan' to make the Church 'better' within the community, what they can't seem to hear from our 'shouting' is that our community are very happy with the way these priests work and want them to stay as part of that plan! So don't stop writing on here in fear of what might be 'fed back' to the diocese... the more they hear and see the stronger your voices are! xx

Like · Reply · 3w

3

Chris Elmes Can we have confirmation of how many people are members of this group and how many signatures there are on the petition please? Good ammo for the letters!

Love · Reply · 3w

1

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Paul Mcleod

31 October at 17:53

Be aware when writing here or elsewhere there will be a mole or two on page reporting back to church managment. Not very Christian like perhaps.

Marilyn Jeffrey, Darren Mckenna and 2 others

8 Comments

Like

Comment

Share



Darren Mckenna It beggars belief but you are on point unfortunately. I hope that we can all speak with the honesty and courage with which we'd have when we stand before our maker.

Like · Reply · 3w

2



Diane Marie Well if they do hopefully it will show them just how disgusted the community is with them. Nothing that is being written on here is wrong !!!

Like · Reply · 3w

5

Michelle Pressman Exactly x

Like · Reply · 3w

Write a reply...



Marilyn Jeffrey I have thought that as well.

Like · Reply · 3w

1



Ken Collings Unfortunately we all know some church goers who are not always Very Christian like.

Like · Reply · 3w

3



Michelle Pressman I best be careful then, sad situation but can't say it surprises me.

4

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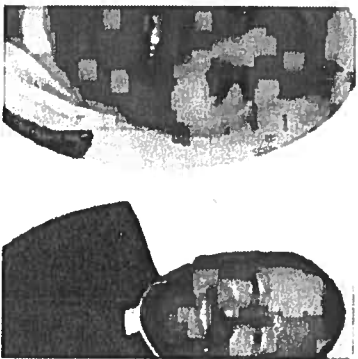


Paula Jeffrey-Powell shared a link.

2 November at 16:22

The petition is still on here, if people can encourage others to continue signing that would be fab! Thanks to the fabulous person who began this petition. It is very much appreciated by all x

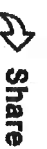
We need this cause to succeed. Will you join me?



Karen Davidson and 2 others

Petition Help save Father Johnathan  
and Vicar Karina Green the priests  
of St Francis, St Claires and St  
Albans Church  
This is petition for Join the movement! Sign now!  
IPETITIONS.COM

2 Comments 3 shares



Paula Jeffrey-Powell Charlotte Parker Thank you for all you have done with this petition x

Like · Reply · 3w · Edited



Charlotte Parker Your very welcome, just doing my part to help father Johnathan. I know he has helped me many times and my family so it's the least I could do xx

Love · Reply · 3w



Write a comment...



Paul McLeod

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we call them pioneers before we didn't know they'd gone. Anyway we think we'll have them again at the expense of the current experienced, well loved people. But don't worry we'll consult you before rest of decisions we want are made.

Marilyn Jeffrey, Bettina Brown and 8 others

1 Comment 1 share

Like

Comment

Share

Moe Horswell Not at all what you should expect from the Dioceses!! I've been a casualty in Social Care, even when Senior Management were told it wasn't a good idea, they carried on regardless. They lost their experienced and dedicated staff and eventually everything fell over!! If anyone from the Diocese is looking at our posts, please consider carefully what you are doing. You can't replace the dedication of Jonathan and Karina and the goodwill of those who care about them, and the Community!!!

Like · Reply · 2w

2

Write a comment...



Chris Elmes

4 November at 14:41

Is it just me being a blind old bat - but has anyone seen the minutes of the meeting which were going to be published last week. I am becoming increasingly suspicious of the reason for the delay!

1

3 Comments

Like

Comment

Share

View 1 more comment



Marilyn Jeffrey Nothing yet

2

Like · Reply · 2w

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Paul Mcleod

1 November at 18:09

Been thinking !some people in The church of England, Diocese have decided to use business models re changes to diocese. Shame I see churches to be like public services, should not be thought of in terms of a business. Supposedly the church centrally has millions of pounds in money. Well..... Does anyone know a business where they say OK for a few years we've under invested in our buildings. To release some money you have to give money yourself from your budget. We'll make some suggestions, we'll then consult you after we've already made some decisions.

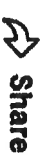
These decisions will alienate many of your customers. They've told us but we'll carry on regardless. It may mean closing branches but probably not. But we do like idea of not having a manager in each site. We prefer one covering three sites. We won't do this out in the countryside as villages in leafy areas won't tolerate it and they give us more donations. We'll follow through with our ideas because they make business sense to suit out beliefs. We'll replace managers

With lesser ranked staff as its cheaper but they don't have the experience to satisfy customers with routine needs. It will take these new people awhile to get to know area, customers.

We might be lucky in getting new customers who might like our services but we may well lose existing customers we've been told the branches had shall we call them pioneers before we didn't know they'd gone. Anyway we think we'll have them again at the expense of the current experienced, well loved people. But don't worry we'll consult you before rest of decisions we want are made.

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1 Comment 1 share



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Gary Pressman

6 November at 17:40

A long time ago in South Africa I was studying for my Diploma in Evangelical Studies with the All Africa school of Theology whilst my mother ran a deliverance ministry for alcoholics and drug addicts on our farm which she called Renewal. I duly passed and her success rate was phenomenal. Every charismatic church we went to to try and get them behind us turned their back on us and one even refused to come out to the farm because we had goats! [A symbol of Satan apparently though surely the goat is unaware of this!]. I have been to many born again clappy churches and walked out in disgust at the hypnotic mind control techniques and mass hysteria manifested that is both dangerous and disturbing..Both here and worldwide. The proposed unified church is a direct end time prophecy and will only dilute the inspired word of God, the aim being to divest the church of its real power and spiritual purpose. If you believe in God you have to believe in a opposite and very real force that is busy in these days to sow despair, destruction and remove what many of us feel is the only thing worth pursuing, which is a next level of consciousness after death as promised by Jesus Christ.. We are at spiritual war here people as we fight not against flesh and blood but against principalities and powers at a much higher electromagnetic level.. Be discerning and aware....



Darren Mckenna, Karen Davidson and 6 others

1 Comment



Beautiful made point my friend, the systems and buzz words and fads divide us, Jesus is lord and we need not be led away from the path he illuminates for us. ThanQ for reminding us of the spiritual conflict at play.

Like · Reply · 2w



5 November at 08:24

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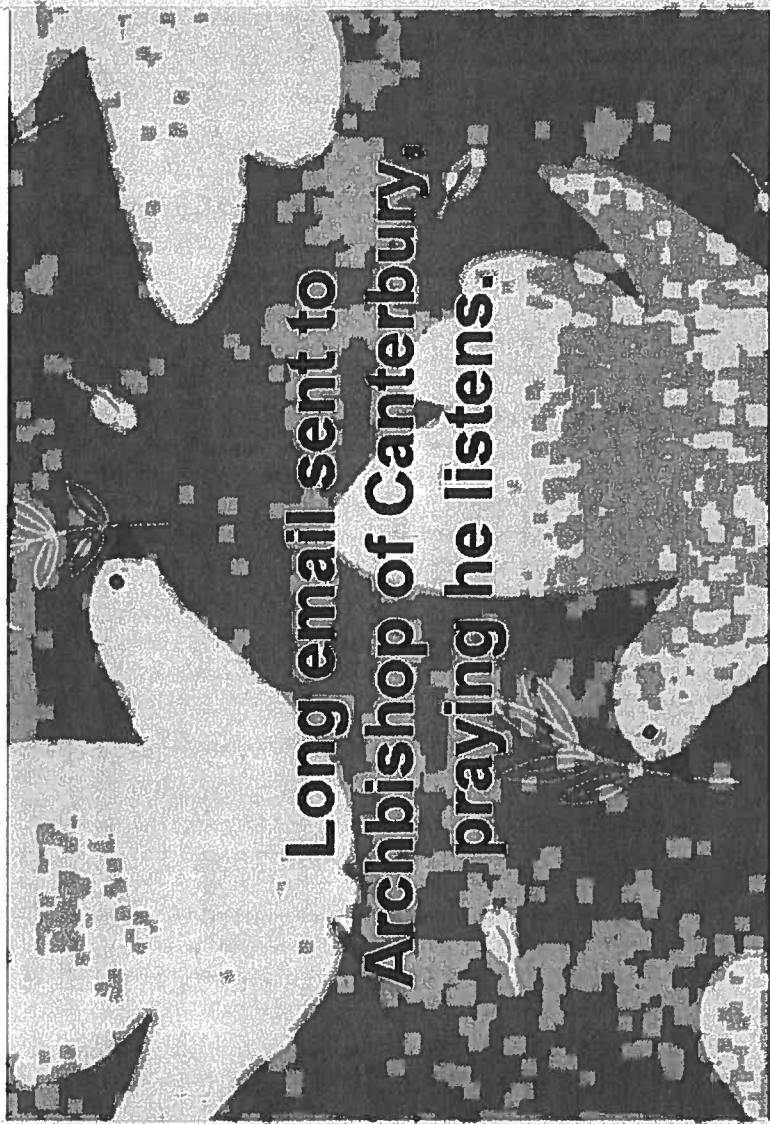
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Long email sent to  
Archbishop of Canterbury,  
praying he listens.

You, Marilyn Jeffrey, Chris Elmes and 12 others

3 Comments

Like

Comment

Share

Chris Elmes Excellent!

Like · Reply · 2w

Elizabeth Wylie I hope the Archbishop reads these postings and some serious thinking. The nature of our country is getting destroyed piece by piece. I wonder if will start to register our feelings if it goes?

Like · Reply · 2w

Moe Horswell I've sent on too x

Love · Reply · 2w



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**Marilyn Jeffrey**

30 November 2018

55 years ago today in 1963 our building of St Francis Church, Leigh Park was consecrated. So it is very poignant that as the Public Consultation closed today, a very big folder containing letters, comments, petitions, thoughts and prayers from our community to save our Vicar Jonathan Jeffery was handed in to Portsmouth Diocese. As our foundation stone says 'Build Up My Church'. And the Leigh Park Community have certainly done that with love. X ❤️



You, Darren Mckenna, Julie Adams and 4 others

9 comments



Love



Comment



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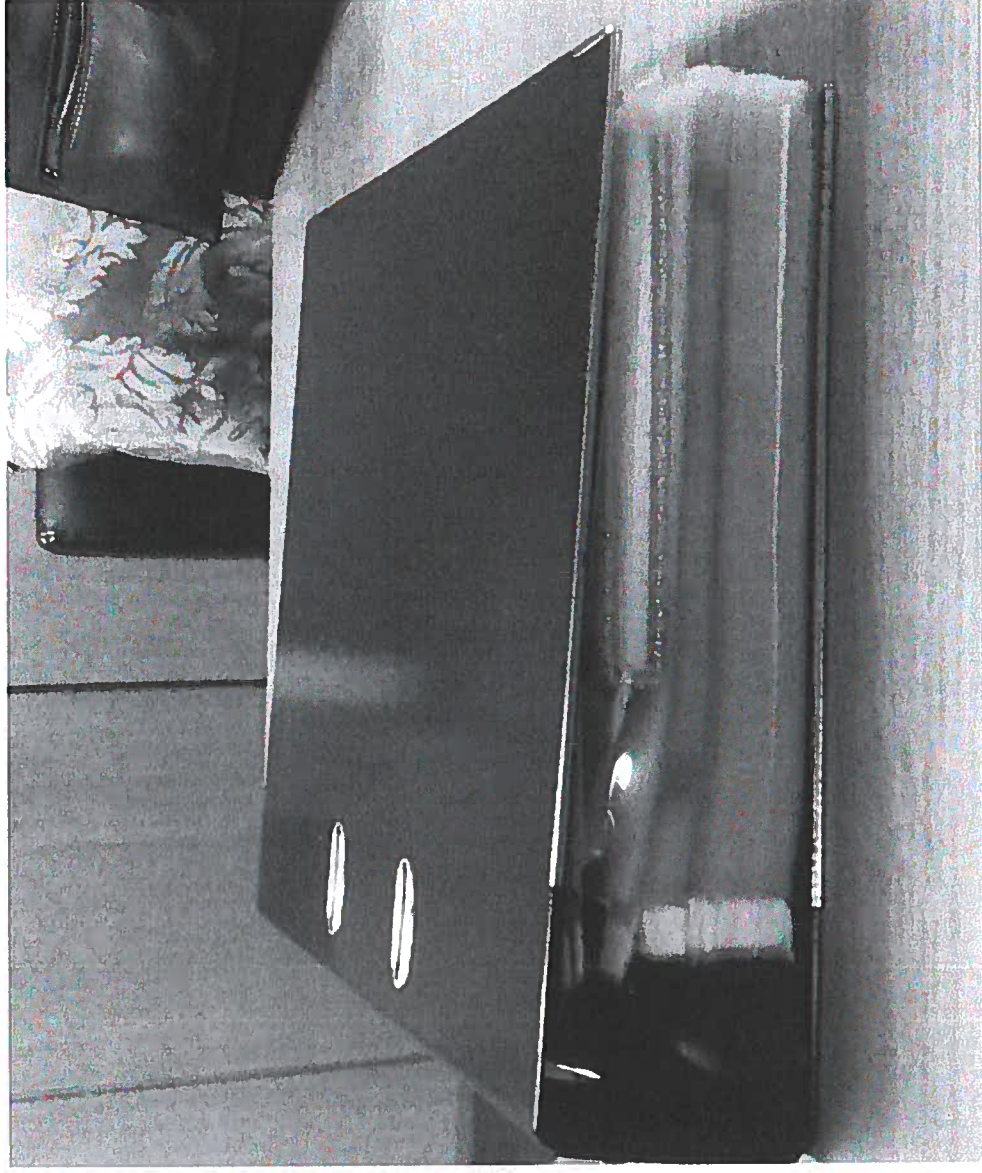
Our Parish Response to Portsmouth Diocese's plans for Parish Reorganisation in our area has been delivered to Portsmouth Diocesan Office today!... The rather large and 'full' A4 leaver file consists of petitions, letters, comments, statistics, book and more!

The lady receiving it looked shocked!

Handed in today to the Diocesan office by Alison Watson and myself!

Thank you to everyone who helped us to achieve this

... You truly are an amazing community!!



Paula Jeffrey-Powell

30 November 2018



Interacting as yourself

Paula Jeffrey-Powell  
30 November 2018

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Chris Elmes, Stuart Holmes and 12 others

9 comments



Marilyn Parker Well done. I expect they did not expect such a fight back...let's hope all the hard work by the people have an impact...

Love Reply · 24w Edited



5



Darren Mckenna Well done guys. Proud of you and very grateful xx

Love Reply · 24w



4



Carolyn Shannon Well done all, if things are not taken in to consideration then they had no intention in the first place and it would have all been a lie . Xxx

Love Reply · 24w



5



Darren Mckenna Carolyn Shannon I pray that's not the case but that has been the feeling all along xx

Like Reply · 24w



3



Paula Jeffrey-Powell If they ignore all of this and go ahead any way Carolyn , I for one will seriously consider leaving the Church - And that's not something people expect me to say! I always said I would never leave the church due to other people but on this occasion I h... See more

Like Reply · 24w



7



Bettina Brown I agree wholeheartedly - I couldn't stay. What is going to happen to the likes of Holy Spirit in Southsea and St Michaels in Paulsgrove?



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Love Reply 24w

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Like Reply 24w

Paula Jeffrey-Powell If they ignore all of this and go ahead any way Carolyn I for one will seriously consider leaving the Church - And that's not something people expect me to say! I always said I would never leave the church due to other people but on this occasion I h... See more

Like Reply 24w

Bettina Brown I agree wholeheartedly - I couldn't stay. What is going to happen to the likes of Holy Spirit in Southsea and St Michaels in Paulsgrove?

Like Reply 24w

Alison Watson Paula Jeffrey-Powell if it doesn't work I will join you xx

Like Reply 24w

Michelle Pressman Paula, thank you and well done for everything you and everyone has done behind the scenes to fight for our priests and helping our voices be heard. We have done everything we can now. I personally cannot see a congregation at St Francis without Father Jonathan or Carolyn either. Lets hope the Diocese finally do what is right xx

Love Reply 24w

Jennifer Hurry Paula, I sent a letter to Jenny Hollingsworth by recorded delivery earlier this week. Received a reply today. It reads, Dear Jennifer, thank you very much for sending through your thoughts and views on the current proposals. These are most helpful as we work to discern the way forward. They will be shared with the Bishops Council before any further decisions are taken. Thank you for taking the time to contribute. Best wishes Yours



Love Reply 24w

Interacting as yourself

Jennifer Hurry Paula, I sent a letter to Jenny Hollingsworth by recorded delivery earlier this week. Received a reply today. It reads. Dear Jennifer, thank you very much for sending through your thoughts and views on the current proposals. These are most helpful as we work to discern the way forward. They will be shared with the Bishops Council before any further decisions are taken. Thank you for taking the time to contribute. Best wishes. Yours sincerely, Jenny Hollingsworth, Deputy Diocesan Secretary. Seems to me after your delivery today, there's an awful lot of sharing to be done with the Bishops Council. Here's hoping for a good result for Father Jonathan and Karina.



Love Reply 24w



Write a comment

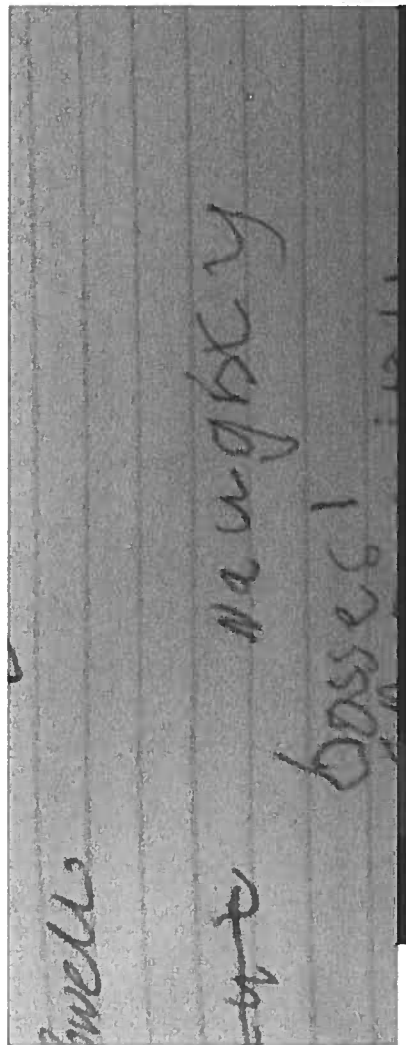
Paula Jeffrey-Powell

29 November 2018

There's a saying that when a child hands you a toy phone... YOU MUST ANSWER THAT PHONE!!!!.....

Well... today my 6 year old daughter wrote in the book of messages compiled for Jonathan & Karina.. (at her request - and I quote) "Naughty bosses!"..

Now Portsmouth Diocese are OFFICIALLY told off!!! LOL :-)



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Paula Jeffrey-Powell

5 December 2018

Well... Today, Wednesday 5th December the Bishop's Council meet to begin the 'Formal' process of consultation to discuss the Parish Re-Organisation where they will look through correspondances and make a decision over the coming weeks to either continue with their original plans or change them to accomodate the communities who they want to draw into the 'Church'!... And to whom the community are responding from their heart to be listened to... Although our priests have not become involved with our campaign and voiced their thoughts on Social Media they very much remain in our thoughts and prayers.

Now we just sit and wait for the next outcome.

Fingers crossed they will listen to us... We can but hope! x

Stuart Holmes, Michelle Pressman and 3 others 5 comments



Marilyn Parker Does any one really think that all the objections to the planned changes will be presented in a fair and balanced way..I think not

Like Reply 24w

Helen Young Are you allowed to attend this meeting, Paula Jeffrey-Powell or Jonathan or Karina?

Like Reply 24w

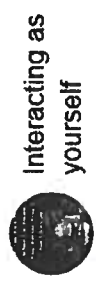
Paula Jeffrey-Powell Helen Young sadly no. We've done our part for now. They and the bishop are the decision makers x

Like Reply 24w



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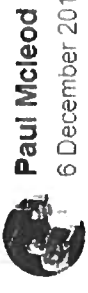
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Write a comment



Paul Mcleod

6 December 2018

"What they decide to do will depend on what the community wants.... Let's hope they are still listening at the end of this all" . It would be an awful lot easier and kinder to give people what they want above all else now. A statement stating Father Jonathon and Karina are reinstated. Regardless of further talks, consultation this has been the mass views from the congregations, what difference will delay in process make. Far kinder, especially at this time of year to act on the feedback they've been given.

You, Diane Marie, Carolyn Shannon and 2 others

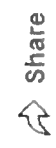
2 comments



Like



Comment



Share



Marilyn Parker Doing all of this in the run up to christmas.....

Like Reply 23w



Paula Jeffrey-Powell Paul Mcleod Couldn't agree more!

Like Reply 23w



Write a comment...



Chris Elmes

5 December 2018

Who listened to Jonathan on Radio Solent this morning - about 11.30ish? So admire him!

Stuart Holmes, Norma Hunt and 1 other

8 comments

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4 December 2018

Question for you all....  
How many have sent correspondence to the bishop please?  
Have you received replies back?  
if no would everyone be OK for me to contact him and speak on your behalf? x



James Bremridge, Michelle Pressman and 1 other

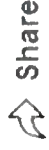
8 comments



Like



Comment



Share



Diane Marie You go girl x fine by me xc

Like Reply 24w



Lucy Maidens Fine by me x

Like Reply 24w



Chris Elmes Fine by me!

Like Reply 24w



Melissa Louise Yes love, do it xxx

Like Reply 24w



Darren Mckenna Yeah please do. Use any of the points I raised if that'd help xx



Like Reply 24w

Moe Horswell Yes please Paula. I sent an email directly to the Bishop, and copied in Jenny. The Bishop did not respond! Jenny came back and said my email 'will be included in the papers for the Bishop's Council as one of your statements of view'. I have sent other emails, and copied in the Bishop too.

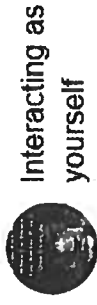
Like Reply 24w



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PORTSMOUTH.ANGLICAN.ORG

## Diocese of Portsmouth - News - New timetable for parish reorganisation plans

James Bremridge, Michelle Pressman and 10 others

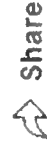
18 comments



Like



Comment



Share



Marilyn Jeffrey Great news.

Love Reply 23w



1



Paula Jeffrey-Powell Mary Close Norma Hunt Alison Watson Darren Mckenna Chris Elmes Stuart Holmes and everyone else!

Like Reply 23w Edited



1



Carolyn Shannon Well done everyone, at least we know it's being looked at

Love Reply 23w



1



Paula Jeffrey-Powell We're the pink folders (From what I can read on the front of them...) plus our blue one at the back!

Like Reply 23w Edited



1



Carolyn Shannon Who are the blue ones

Like Reply 23w



Paula Jeffrey-Powell IOW and Gosport are the smaller pile from what I can read

Like Reply 23w

Carolyn Shannon who are the blue ones

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Like Reply 23w



Paula Jeffrey-Powell IOW and Gosport are the smaller pile from what I can read

Like Reply 23w



Carolyn Shannon So were not the only ones then to be fighting this then, another lie !

Like Reply 23w

View 2 more replies



Marilyn Jeffrey Article says that hundreds of emails and many letters have also been received as well as petitions. Every single response has been sent to every member of Bishop's Council to consider. That is a lot of reading!!! 😊 😊

Like Reply 23w



Carolyn Shannon Marilyn Jeffrey good, then if they have been ignored up to now they may ask why

Like Reply 23w



Paula Jeffrey-Powell The power of voice hey! 😊 So very proud of everyone!

Like Reply 23w



Mandy Ferdinando Wow I'm almost speechless!!! I pray hard that we are listened too. Thank you all so much and let's not give up. Father Jonathan and family deserve this. 😊 😊

Love Reply 23w



Darren Mckenna I worry that they are still determined to allocate this funding to new church plants and pioneers. I don't take umbrage to that in and of itself but fearful it will be at the expense of our vicars.

Like Reply 23w

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Like Reply 23w

George Hurry Despite my letter not being recieved I have emailed the diocese as follows

Dear Jenny,

Reference my previous emails regarding my letter concerning the reorganisation plans for the parish of Havant. Thank you for confirming that my letter was never received despite it being sent in November.

I fully appreciate that due to circumstances beyond both our control that it never arrived before the cut off date for public consultation. I do however note that the timetable for the Bishops council has now been extended.

What I am graciously asking is that I be given the same courtesy and ask you to accept my letter for consideration.

Regards

George Hurry

Like Reply 23w



Marilyn Parker What did it say in your letter?

Like Reply 23w



Carolyn Shannon Diocese of Portsmouth thank you. I am not opposed to the changes as such, I have been a long standing member of the church for many years and appreciate there has to be changes. I am more opposed to the way it has been dealt with and the way we as a church have been described (meeting minutes). Our parish is different to others and it is vital that Jonathan remains or the plans will never work. Many in Leigh Park are very untrusting and he needs to be there to show others that it is okay. Thank you again for your reply, many feel they are being ignored or fobbed off, even lied to. Carolyn Shannon

Like Reply 23w



Carolyn Shannon I got this a minute ago

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Interacting as yourself



Paula Jeffrey-Powell

10 December 2018

Hi

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Just a short note from me to say I sent an email letter to the bishop at the end of last month and attached letters from those of you who had asked me to. So please be assured they were sent to him. Assuming he has had a chance to read them due to the sheer volume he seems to have received... Lets hope he has.

Note to self though... When writing to the bishop, very quickly due to approaching deadline, I must ensure I check the grammar more thoroughly before sending! I realised when I read it again last night I had written 'delegated' instead of 'designated'. There were other issues which I missed out too that I wish I had included... I just hope he realises what I was trying to say!

I don't envy the Bishop's Council one bit having to read all that correspondence at this time of the year... Especially priests as it is one of the most busiest times for them!

Lets hope they make the 'right' decision.... if they are truly making their decision based on community needs....(I truly hope so!)

All we can do is sit and wait for their next decision now. Fingers crossed...

Chris Elmes, Stuart Holmes and 8 others

1 comment



Like



Comment



Share



Paul Mcleod Contents not to important as they can't ignore overwhelming sentiment. X

Like Reply 23w

2



Write a comment





# Eugene Peterson

@PetersonDaily

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## The vocation of pastor has been replaced by the strategies of religious entrepreneurs with business plans.

6:11 PM · 29 Apr 17

### Mindful Christianity Today

Community

Mindful Christianity Today  
27 December 2018

Send Message

You, James Bremridge, Chris Elmes and 6 others

5 comments



Mary Close So now we know!

Like Reply 20w



Marilyn Parker Attachment unavailable...

Like Reply 20w



Paula Jeffrey-Powell Marilyn Parker it says "The vocation of pastor has been replaced by the strategies of religious entrepreneurs with business plans" - Eugene Peterson (@PetersonDaily)

Like Reply 20w



Marilyn Parker Oh No surprise there then.

Like Reply 20w

# THE VOCATION OF PASTOR HAS BEEN

## replaced by the strategies of religious entrepreneurs with business plans.

6:11 PM · 29 Apr 17

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### Mindful Christianity Today

Mindful Christianity Today  
27 December 2018

5 comments

You, James Bremridge, Chris Elmes and 6 others

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Mary Close So now we know!  
Like Reply 20w

Marilyn Parker Attachment unavailable...  
Like Reply 20w

Paula Jeffrey-Powell Marilyn Parker It says "The vocation of pastor has been replaced by the strategies of religious entrepreneurs with business plans" - Eugene Peterson (@PetersonDaily)

Like Reply 20w

Marilyn Parker Oh No surprise there then.  
Like Reply 20w

Marilyn Parker I would ask how many people in the community supported their business plan as clearly there must have been more than people who were against it and therefore it shows that the diocese true to their word have indeed listened to the community in

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# St Clare and Westleigh vicars

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Paula Jeffrey-Powell

14 January

Hi all just wanted to share this thought... (Apologies it's a bit long)

Today as I was looking online for Church stationary I came across a copy of the Church Canons book - Which is a book on Church Law. I'm an odd person who loves reading this sort of thing and often browse through it.

At the time of it appearing on my screen I was thinking about the Bishop's Council and the proposed Parish Reorganisation. I hasten to add I did not go out of my way to look anything up in relation to it all at that time! As the book description was very brief I looked up the Canons online to have another look before I considered purchasing a copy and I came across one which says this...

"A 8 Of schisms

"Forasmuch as the Church of Christ has for a long time past been distressed by separations and schisms among Christian men, so that the unity for which our Lord prayed is impaired and the witness to his gospel is grievously hindered, it is the duty of clergy and people to do their utmost not only to avoid occasions of strife but also to seek in penitence and brotherly charity to heal such divisions."

I may have got the 'wrong end of the stick' on this wording but this began me thinking....

So far the proposal for reorganisation of parishes and the removal of their priests has caused a lot of upset amongst not just the churches affected but those in the communities of which they serve too.

Instead of 'uniting' the 'Church' as a whole with communities it has divided it in many places.

Instead of bringing the relationship of our Diocese closer to our communities it has pushed the relationship apart.

People who regularly attend the parish church are angry and talking of leaving their spiritual home if the vicar is unfairly removed, even those who have been there for years...Unfairly being they are removed from post through no choice of their own. Unfairly being that their families are being

united from their homes, schools, friends and communities for which they

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through no choice of their own. Unfairly being that their families are being uprooted from their homes, schools, friends and communities for which they love and champion for... the list goes on...

The 'Church' (Diocese) who are trying to unite with the people they are trying to reach are instead pushing them away and loosing their trust because the 'Church Diocese' proposals intend to remove the vicar's they have grown to know, love and trust and the community want them to remain.

I know in my community of Leigh Park and Warren Park that it has taken absolutely years to build up the high standard of trust between the church and the community which is now in place, due to the community always being let down by others who say they will be here for them and listen to them and then do not.

I have grown up in St Francis Church and I personally feel I was brought up in a Church which 'unites' not divides....

I know the public part of the consultation has now ended and that the Bishop's Council will meet to discuss this situation of the proposals.

I know they have been asked by the Bishop to read all the correspondence received before making their decision.

I only hope that as they have read the correspondences' that they will realise those who have written have done so with compassion from the heart.

I hope that those who read it realise that those who would know what is in the best interest of these communities are those of the people who live and serve in them already... the people of these communities who walk alongside one another with their vicars who have grown to know them

because they have walked with them on their journey... Isn't that what we're all called to do? Isn't this 'Build Up My Church' to which St Francis was called to do and we do too... The people of these communities are God's people too... These are the very people our Churches, vicars and one another engage with on a daily basis. through God.

I truly hope and pray that those words in the Canon are taken to heart when the Bishop's Council make their decision for the future of the Church within our communities and that the people who have written to them are listened

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I truly hope and pray that those words in the Canon are taken to heart when the Bishop's Council make their decision for the future of the Church within our communities and that the people who have written to them are listened to and have their prayers answered for their priests and unity to remain. We're fine with change to help the 'Church' move forward and to 'build up the Church' but please allow our priests to remain in our communities and be a part of that change by leading that change, after all they have been an integral part to the building up of those communities. No one knows our communities through the Church better than them.

Just to end with this...

The Bishop's Council are due to meet on Monday 28th January. The evening before the meeting - Sunday 27th January - St Francis Church will have their normal monthly 'Silent Prayer' evening. This usually takes place the last Sunday of every month for an hour 6pm - 7pm when the Church is open for anyone who would like to spend some time in private prayer by candle light with reflective music in the background. There is no spoken word or singing, just private prayer between you and God. On this occasion the evening will be focussed on the Bishop's Council meeting and all those involved in the proposals - Especially in our community for Fr Jonathan and Reverend Karina.

Anyone is welcome to come along and spend some time in reflection and prayer and bring your concerns and hopes for the reorganisation proposals before God. You do not have to stay for the whole hour as you can arrive and leave when you wish.

This invitation is open to all regardless of whether you attend Church regularly or not at all, and other churches are welcome too. We continue to keep those involved in this situation in our thoughts and prayers. Let's hope and pray that the voices of the communities are listened to and changes that occur will be in accordance to what the 'people' ask for so as to bring the relationship between the 'Church', Diocese and communities closer together not further apart..

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 James Bremridge, Michelle Pressman and 13 others 3 comments

 Like  Comment  Share

 Michelle Pressman Shame they can't read this Paula x  2

Like Reply 18w

Moe Horswell Thank you for sharing this Paula. I too hope everyone at the Bishop's Council has thoroughly read the comments from the Community, and that Fr Jonathan and Rev Karina are allowed to continue their wonderful works. God bless you x

Like Reply 18w  1

 Beryl Jones thankyou paula for sharing allyourworking thoughts with us beryl

Like Reply 18w  1

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

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Paula Jeffrey-Powell

16 January

I have a question for you all...

If you could shout out one last final plea to the Bishop and his Council on here in the hope of being heard regarding their proposed plans for removing our priests from our communities before they make their final decision at their meeting on the 28th, what would that plea be?

This question is open to anyone in our communities as well as anyone connected to this page and beyond!

I need as many people to answer this question as possible please. It could be your last chance at this stage...  
Thanks x



Helen Young, Michelle Pressman and 5 others

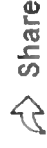
13 comments



Like



Comment



Share



Helen Young Our community will be devastated if we lose either of our trusted and cherished vicars. Please listen to us all and work with them and the parishioners to help the congregations thrive. If you ignore the will of our community you will lose the majority of the existing congregations who will feel utterly betrayed. Don't make them sacrificial lambs in this ruthless business plan. God placed them here for a purpose and they constantly fulfill His will in all their good works.

Love Reply 18w



2



Paul Mcleod Jonathon and Katrina mean an awful lot to people, most- all? Of the local congregations and too many local people whom they've also helped. From the start of this process people want to keep Jonathon and Karina above all else.

Love Reply 18w



1

Irene Freeman Please reconsider. Do not under estimate the influence the clergy have in the area

Love Reply 18w



2

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Love Reply 18w



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Love Reply 18w

Irene Freeman Please reconsider. Do not under estimate the influence the clergy have in the area



Love Reply 18w



Chris Mills What would Jesus do?



Love Reply 18w

Moe Horswell The Community love and respect Jonathon and Karina, and the Church need people like them who lead by example. Don't throw the baby out with the bath water - adjust the temperature of the water but keep these two wonderful people.



Love Reply 18w



Jennifer Hurry Please listen to the communities of West Leigh and Leigh Park. It was said that you will do what the people want. What we want and need is for Father Jonathon and Rev Karina to stay in this community. They understand the people and they carry out God's work as I believe God wants them too. Please talk to our vicars and listen to them, they know their communities and congregations. Dont cast them aside as if they don't matter I have seen a side to the Church of England that I don't like, perhaps it was naive of me. Please let's have a good outcome from this?



Love Reply 18w



Michelle Pressman For the love of God (I mean that sincerely) keep Father Jonathon doing his job where he belongs with us xx



Love Reply 18w

this community they understand the people and they carry out God's work as I believe God wants them too. Please talk to our vicars and listen to them; they know their communities and congregations. Dont cast them aside as if they don't matter I have seen a side to the Church of England that I don't like, perhaps it was naive of me. Please let's have a good outcome from this?

Love Reply 18w



**Michelle Pressman** For the love of God (I mean that sincerely) keep Father Jonathon doing his job where he belongs with us xx

Love Reply 18w Edited



**David Arkwell** Father Jonothan is not just our priest he is a member of our community that we are able to turn to as if we were talking to an older brother or uncle when we need advise

Love Reply 18w



**Alison Watson** I know that there are a lot more people involved in this reorganisation than just Fr. Jonathan and Revd. Karina, and to them and their communities I send my prayers. The church communities of Leigh Park and West Leigh need investment and support from the Diocese they do not need to lose their incumbents in order for this investment to happen. Please listen to all of the people who have spoken, written or posted during the informal consultation they are begging you to help them keep their churches so they can be an investment in our communities future.

Love Reply 17w



**Bettina Brown** Although the extra funding would be of great benefit to our communities, this would be at the loss of our clergy who have worked tirelessly in building up the trust on the estate. Please find an alternative plan which would be of benefit to all.

Love Reply 17w



**Norma Hunt** We need the funding but we need to keep 'Our Two

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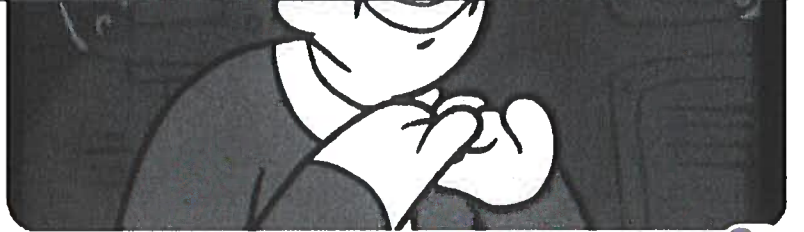
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Like Reply 17w

Stuart Holmes The current clergy know their communities well and are known and loved in those communities - build around them and not instead of them - learn from them, listen to them, resource them with teams of community workers/pioneers. If they are removed, then those who follow will have a tough job starting from scratch

Love Reply 17w

Rachel Zoe Reese So many time I have reached out to Jonathan and Carolyn. They have helped me with my mental health. I feel safe reaching out to them as I know it will go no further. I know they have helped a lot of other people in the community and it will be devastating if they go please please please don't let them go as we need them

Love Reply 17w

Write a comment

Paula Jeffrey-Powell  
14 January

Hi all just wanted to share this thought... (Apologies it's a bit long)  
Today as I was looking online for Church stationary I came across a copy of the Church Canons book - Which is a book on Church Law. I'm an odd person who loves reading this sort of thing and often browse through it.  
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Paula Jeffrey-Powell

27 January

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Hi Everyone!

Thought it would be a good idea to bring everyone up-to-date with what is happening regarding the proposals for reorganising the Parish Churches in the communities of Leigh Park, Warren Park and West Leigh.

The Bishop's Council should have by now read all the correspondence they received from the public. Their rescheduled meeting is due to take place THIS Monday 28th January 2019. We should then know shortly after what their decisions would be for the next stage.

For those who have seen this page and do not understand what is going on, please let me explain... Although it is quite long...sorry.

To my understanding...

Back in October 2018 it was announced that Fr Jonathan Jeffery and Reverend Karina Green were called to a meeting to discuss the future of work within the parishes of the churches St Francis Leigh Park, St Clare Warren Park, and St Alban West Leigh and how they serve the communities in which they are placed.

Fr Jonathan and Reverend Karina were told of the plans the diocese (their boss) would like to join all three churches into 'one' parish and that staffing would change. This will mean three churches under one vicar - THERE IS NO SUGGESTION OF CHURCHES CLOSING!

Both Fr Jonathan and Reverend Karina were given the option to either reapply for one of the new posts which will be created or to accept a redundancy offer as their present posts will cease to exist.

The diocese have proposed there to be 'one' vacancy for Vicar to serve all three parish Churches and with other people to form the new team including administration.

The diocese then organised a public meeting to explain to people their decision.

Since this was announced there has been a very loud public outcry for our priests to remain within our community.

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priests to remain within our community.

The meeting was not organised at a venue in a community relating to these three churches - in fact it was in Waterlooville. So many who wanted to attend could not due to lack of travel and disabilities issues... although due to managing to request transport from the diocese some others were able to go. The public meeting was packed with many people who both attend church and those who do not, but who do have a very strong relationship with the church through their priests. Many people turned up to support Fr Jonathan and spoke of how he had affected their lives and they did not want him to leave. People very upset and spoke with immense passion from their hearts to try and have their voices heard. At the end of this meeting Fr Jonathan opposed the proposed resolution and received a standing ovation from those who had attended the meeting to show their support for him. Fr Jonathan did not know so many would attend the meeting but appreciated their overwhelming love and support.

From my understanding there are ten priests in total in this position of losing their posts if this present proposal is accepted. Some are said to have accepted the proposals others have not. Following this meeting, many people wrote to the diocese with their concerns and complaints.

Letters were written to the diocesan office, to the Bishop of Portsmouth and some to the Archbishop himself. Others replied to newspaper articles responding to the Bishop's articles but said their replies were not acknowledged and printed.

Meetings also took place between the PCC and the Bishop's Council to discuss the various issues.

On the last day of public consultation members from St Francis and St Clare handed in a file with various information which was researched and collated including petitions with signatures from the community and beyond - in fact there were signatures from various other countries too as well as our ecumenical partners from our friends at out local Roman Catholic Church. Members of the local community also set up this page on which I write and we thank them so much for this. This was all presented in the hope the information and correspondence would be read and taken into consideration and taken seriously by the Bishop's Council as people feared they would not

Information and correspondence would be read and taken into consideration and taken seriously by the Bishop's Council as people feared they would not be listened to.

With such a huge response from the public from us, the Isle of Wight and Gosport the Bishop of Portsmouth (Jonathan & Karina's bosses) requested the bishop council extended their allotted time so as to read the correspondence received. This was unanimously agreed by the council. So now the Bishop's council (who are making the decisions) will meet on Monday 28th January to discuss the outcome of what they have read and make a decision as to whether to continue with their original plan - which will involve removing Fr Jonathan and Reverend Karina from their posts to make way for their new plans - or to rethink and decide on a new proposal. We will find out by the end of the week the outcome of that meeting.

Fr Jonathan and Reverend Karina have not been involved with this public campaign to keep them within our community neither were they responsible for inviting people to the public meeting. It was the community's decision to attend the meeting. Neither of them have had any input in what we within the community have undertaken or said but they have been very much in our thoughts and prayers through out- as have all the other priests who are affected.

. It is the communities who are speaking out both those who use Social Media and those who do not.  
We hope and pray the Bishop's Council will listen to the people of the communities in which these priest's serve and allow them to stay serving in our communities and be a part of the new plans whatever they may be.  
I hope this goes some way to explain to people how this all began through to where we are at present.  
We will keep you all posted when we know more.

.... I think that about covers it... If I've missed anything out please do add it below...

Heleen Young, Michelle Pressman and 11 others 4 comments

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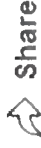
... I think that about covers it... If I've missed anything out please do add it below...

Heleen Young, Michelle Pressman and 11 others

4 comments



Comment



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Diane Marie Thank you Paula that was very cleary put . Now all we can do is wait and pray we were listened too x

Like Reply 16w



1



David Arkwell Many thanks for bringing us up to date Paula Jeffrey-Powell

Like Reply 16w



Michelle Pressman WOW Paula, this must have taken you ages! Bless you my lovely, lets hope n pray they do the right thing, Thanks for everything Paula you've been a star. Hope to see you soon, life been difficult n hectic at the mo! P.S. Can you give Jonathan and Carolyn our love please xx

Like Reply 16w



Donna Armstrong Very well explained paula x

Like Reply 16w



Write a comment



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Chris Elmes shared a post.

1 February



Chris Elmes

1 February

**They that sow the wind shall  
reap the whirlwind. (Hosea 8/7)**

**Let's hope the Archdeacon and  
Bishop's Council realise what  
they have done and we now see  
there was no truth in the  
Bishop's promise that 'what we  
offer would be what the  
community wants'. This just  
shows how determined certain  
people were to push this  
through.**

Paula Jeffrey-Powell



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Not happy with that at all! You clearly have not listened to the public AT ALL as you still intend to remove their much loved Vicar's from their posts in our community! What planet are you on!!!! A lot of angry people seeing this right now! And these are the communities you are trying to reach out to?????

instantly send this as a message to **Diocese of Portsmouth** and tag to them directly!

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CoEPofPortsmouth

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**Diocese of Portsmouth** Dear Paula and Chris, we completely understand your anger that this decision hasn't gone the way that you hoped. The Bishop's Council were certainly very aware of the strength of feeling on this issue especially coming from your area. Your emails, letters and petitions were genuinely all read, and the Bishop's Council members didn't take this decision lightly. This isn't the end of the process - there are two more periods of consultation to come and the clergy and PCCs involved will be able to make their formal responses to this proposal over the next eight weeks. Chris, I'm not sure why the Bishop didn't respond to you, but I'll try to find out. Was it a letter in the post or an email?

**Paula Jeffrey-Powell** NO! You do not understand our anger! You clearly have no idea about the community you are trying to change. This decision has torn at the heart of our community... The very people you are supposedly trying to reach! Very poor decision. Good luck trying to regain their trust! It's non-existent right now.

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4

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Marilyn Parker Well said...

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# Diocese of Portsmouth - News - Bishop's Council's reorganisation plans announced

Marilyn Jeffrey, Darren Mckenna and 6 others 14 comments 1 share

Like Comment Share

Marilyn Jeffrey Its the same as before

Like Reply 15w

Paula Jeffrey-Powell So no different from before then Diocese of Portsmouth for our area! Not happy with that at all! You clearly have not listened to the public AT ALL as you still intend to remove the Vicar's from their posts! What planet are you on!

Like Reply 15w Edited 3

Julie Adams Paula Jeffrey-Powell i think it should go on tv median all the news papper i would because people are not a were whats happenig in leigh park only people who goes to church nos if u do in public more people might do some thing only got to try xxxcccc only a thought lol

Like Reply 15w

Write a reply

Jill Dunham So, for many non-Christians, it will confirm their belief that Christians are not to be trusted! I really don't envy the poor sods who get appointed in these posts if they come from outside the area - they will get a rough ride for a while.

Like Reply 15w 2

Diane Marie Jill Dunham I think it will be the same for whoever gets the job - it will not be Father Johnathon and

yourself

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Diane Marie Jill Dunham I think it will be the same for whoever gets the job . It will not be Father Johnathon and thats who is wanted !!

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Jill Dunham It's such a shame and so short sighted.

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Marilyn Parker Makes me proud to be an atheist...

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Mandy Ferdinando Angry and defeated

Like Reply 15w

The British New Test... 6



Sue Gover Guess they have already decided

Like Reply 15w

mythology of ancient... 4



Darren Mckenna Absolutely disgusting behaviour from an elitist few wielding power of the masses- this is what makes people turn away from the church- the decision makers pockets are lined, they don't have to walk in our estates amongst us uneducated and uncultured fools and they can pat each other's egos in their ivory towers when they continue to fudge the numbers to paint fictional successes! Disgusting and completely predictable!

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Marilyn Parker It was a done deal from the beginning...

Like Reply 15w





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Like Reply 15w



4



Marilyn Parker It was a done deal from the beginning...

Like Reply 15w



1



Andrew Stevens What the people of God need are priests, not managers- they need the Sacraments of the Church!

Like Reply 15w



4



Karen Davidson Discussing , they knew what the outcome was going to be. They we're just going through the motions. Our community will suffer due to these selfish idiots not listening to the people of the community. We must stick together xx

Like Reply 15w



4



Paula Jeffrey-Powell Barry Dominic Fenton - It would seem we made no difference to their decision as it remains the same. This is so unfair to our community and especially our vicar. I absolutely hate the C of E and diocese right now...I've never felt this negative about the Church since I first began. Heartless... Completely heartless!

Like Reply 15w



Write a comment...



Paul Mcleod

1 February

Very disappointed but I'm not surprised . These decisions have not been made by people thinking. acting as Christians. If they believe themselves to



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Paula Jeffrey-Powell Barry Dominic Fenton - It would seem we made no difference to their decision as it remains the same. This is so unfair to our community and especially our vicar. I absolutely hate the C of E and diocese right now...I've never felt this negative about the Church since I first began. Heartless... Completely heartless!

Like Reply 15w



Write a comment



Paul Mcleod

1 February

Very disappointed but I'm not surprised . These decisions have not been made by people thinking, acting as Christians. If they believe themselves to be Christians they need to rethink. This is people thinking in a business manner. Why ? Because it means their jobs being safe, their area getting more money. Ideas collect signatures to church centrally saying local parisheners have no faith in local diocese, lost confidence in them. Ask Jonathon and Karina to conduct services outside churches until local people are listened to. State - collect signatures saying parishioners will conduct their own services outside the church buildings if this is followed through and Jonathon and Karina are removed. Although a danger then could be church using it as an excuse to sell off byildings. Ask questions are the clergy at all levels answerable in part to there congregations.

You, Diane Marie, Michelle Pressman and 2 others



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George Hurry

1 February

I think at this point we all need to gather around Jonathan and his family and give them the support they need. We then need to formulate a plan to name and shame the diocese for all what they have done. I feel the media needs to be involved but not the local, national coverage is needed. Lets not go down without a fight. Please all be mindfull this is about Jonathan so lets see what he wants to do first. We must be level headed and in control of what we do. God bless you all.



You Marilyn Jeffrey, Bettina Brown and 14 others

14 comments



Love



Comment



Share



Julie Adams Yea i agree how many more agree

Like Reply 15w



Karen Davidson Agree xx

Like Reply 15w



Paula Jeffrey-Powell I am speaking with him later. I'll put the suggestion to him. Thanks as always George Hurry

Like Reply 15w



George Hurry Paula Jeffrey-Powell my support to Jonathan and his family as always Paula. Could you please let Jonathan and Carolyn know the whole Hurry family are thinking and praying for them all and we will do everything we can to support them. Thank you do much for everything you have done Paula you deserve so much praise.

Like Reply 15w



Paula Jeffrey-Powell I will certainly pass on your love and support to them. I know they will very much appreciate it. As

1

can to support them. Thank you do much for everything you have done Paula you deserve so much praise.

Like Reply 15w  1

### Discussion

**Paula Jeffrey-Powell** I will certainly pass on your love and support to them. I know they will very much appreciate it. As for me... I've just kept everyone in the picture... Clearly I haven't done enough to change their decision and this really saddens me. We're not giving up though 😊 The community are doing this TOGETHER! Also the whole community connected to this page of people from beyond our estate. Amazing people every single one of you who are supporting us. Thank you! xx

Like Reply 15w Edited  2

**George Hurry** Paula Jeffrey-Powell Amen  1

Like Reply 15w

**Julie Adams** Paula Jeffrey-Powell paula dont bet yourself up over this u done a fantastic job that what u done never never say that u can only do what u can and u just did it so im by your side every step of the way give my love to Johnthan and Caroline and his family im sorry i have not been there i have loads of problems my self i have not been very well for a long time im finally done it had blood tes do e so wating came now ok ccxccc

Like Reply 15w  1

**Paula Jeffrey-Powell** Julie Adams Oh bless you Julie. I hope you start to feel better soon x

Like Reply 15w

**Julie Adams** Paula Jeffrey-Powell i think a lot of its stress over my mum and my brouther dont help xxxxx my brouther list his father in law ladt year in end of may xxx yea hope u ok lol part from all this lol xxxxx

Like Reply 15w 

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Julie Adams Paula Jeffrey-Powell i think a lot of its stress over my mum and my brouther dont help xxx my brouther list his father in law ladt year in end of may xxx yea hope u ok lol part from all this lol xxx

Like Reply 15w



Write a reply



Chris Elmes Paula - let me know as I've had the reporter from Radio Solent on the phone again. I said I didn't know the situation yet.

Like Reply 15w



Michelle Pressman Agree x

Like Reply 15w



Jennifer Hurry I agree with you George.x

Like Reply 15w



Charlene Maines He has my support

Like Reply 15w



Alison Watson With you all the way George. Let the communities of Leigh Park and West Leigh show the world what love and support looks like. X

Like Reply 15w



Write a comment



Mandy Ferdinando

1 February

I'm not gonna lie. I feel completely defeated and it's clear they decided long ago what they were doing desnite what we said. No one cares do they. They

of Leigh Park and West Leigh show the world what love and support looks like. X



Like Reply 15w



Write a comment

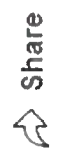
**Mandy Ferdinando**

1 February

I'm not gonna lie. I feel completely defeated and it's clear they decided long ago that they were doing despite what we said. No one cares do they. They just wanna make money and profit. Greedy world we live in.

2 comments

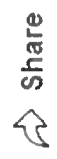
You, Chris Elmes, Darren Mckenna and 8 others



Like



Comment



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**Michelle Pressman** It's awful x

Like Reply 15w

Marilyn Parker Yes it is refreshing to know the so called higher up Christians are just as greedy as us non believers...



Like Reply 15w



Write a comment

**Paula Jeffrey-Powell**

1 February

Screen shot... (Click on to read larger print)



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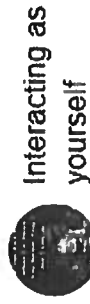
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# Save leigh park st Francis church and st Clare and West leigh vicars

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Chris Elmes and Bettina Brown



Write a comment



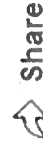
Paula Jeffrey-Powell

2 February

Just had this thought....

Nigel Farage had a proposal for how to make the country better.... got approval of some people.... and look what's happened since... the country and it's government is in a mess and everyone is arguing with each other... The Bishop's Council come up with proposals of how to make our communities better without knowing what it's like on the ground.... they get approvals from 'their' council people regardless what those who live here want and cause uproar ... it is turning into a mess It's like the Church version of Brexit!!...

Diane Marie and 2 others



1 comment



Darren Mckenna I've made this analogy before it is exactly like the broader political landscape- a few at the top without any respect or understanding of how we the people work making sweeping statements which radically affect our lives for the worse and serve to make their lives much more comfortable. The diocese really do bring the bigots of right wing politics to mind. Well made point Paula xx

Like Reply 15w



2



Write a comment



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# Request for you all!.... Please do write a message below here for the diocese on your response to their decision!....



1

4 comments



Like



Comment



Share

Irene Freeman Please listen to the people and reverse your decision

Love Reply 15w



3



Diane Marie Whats the old saying "if it aint broke dont fix it" please listen to what the community want . Our vicars already do most of what your proposing just give them a bit of help for the other things . If you did this you would actually gain the respect of the local community. Go ahead with your plan and that respect will gone forever!!!

Love Reply 15w



2



Michelle Bryce Please reverse it! It's the people who make the church

Love Reply 15w



3





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Love Reply 15w



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Love Reply 15w



Michelle Bryce Please reverse it! It's the people who make the church

Love Reply 15w



Paul Mcleod Diocese powers that be. Please stop thinking, behaving like business people. Use, trust your Christian ethos. Give the masses, your constituents what they want, their current vicars. Then invest money to strengthen the local team so each church has an appointed person running it and money is spent on long over due maintenance, ie the heating.

Love Reply 15w



Write a comment



Paula Jeffrey-Powell

2 February

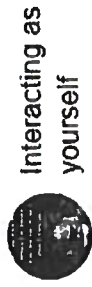
Along with our own situation...

We also send our love and support to all other churches affected by the Diocese' decision... Churches on the Isle of Wight and in Gosport.

James Bremridge, Chris Elmes and 6 others

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

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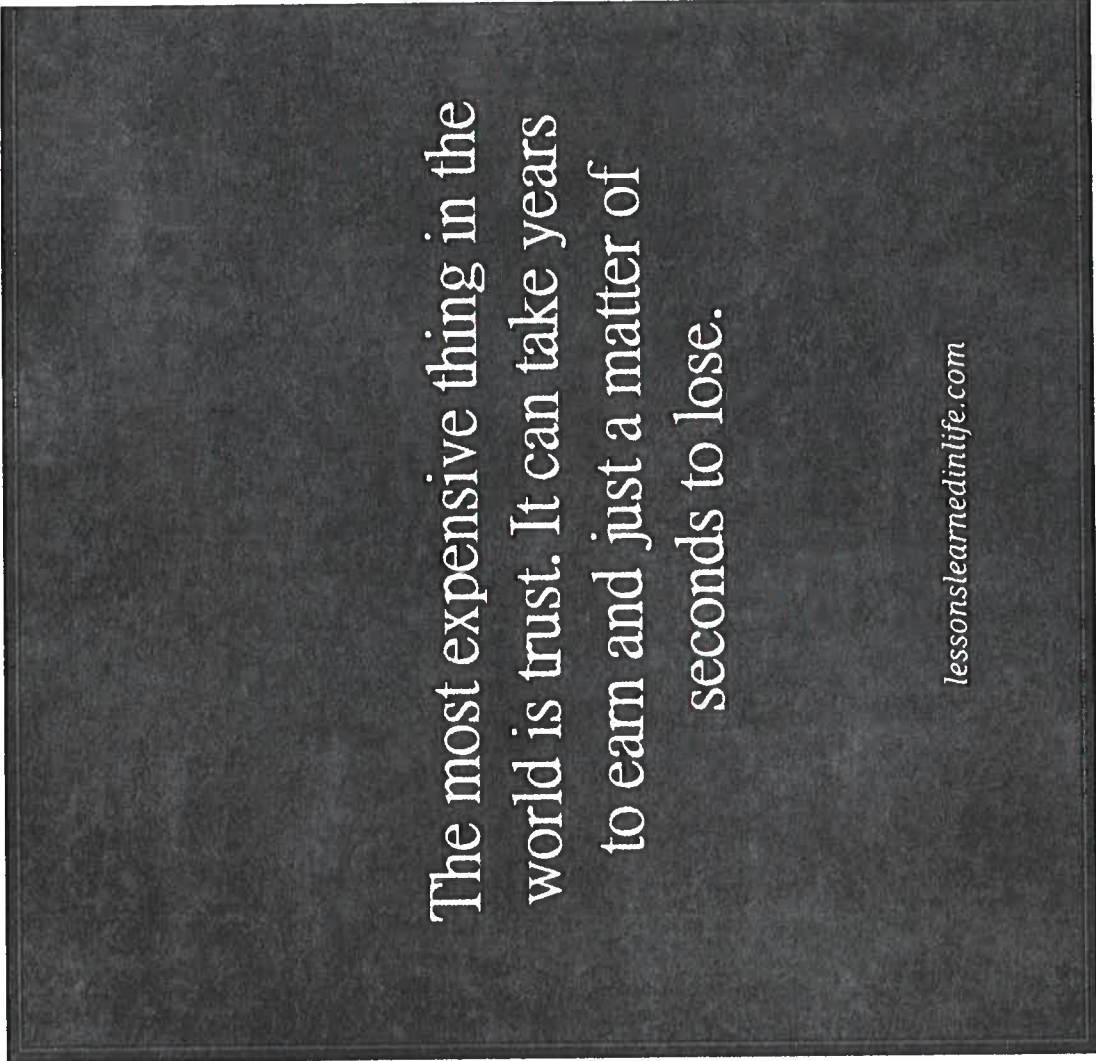
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No words needed on this occasion... would you not agree?



Mandy Ferdinando Chris Elmes and 11 others 2 comments

Like Comment Share

Helen Young Can this be shared to Portsmouth Diocese's page please Paula Jeffrey-Powell?x

# Francis church and West leigh vicars

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Write a comment.

Paula Jeffrey-Powell

1 February

My heart is breaking reading everyone's comments from people on here... I hope you are proud of yourselves Portsmouth Diocese! You've just torn the Heart out of our community that you are trying to reach out to!

Chris Elmes, Stuart Holmes and 7 others

12 comments

Like Comment Share

Marilyn Parker They don't care...

Like Reply 15w 1

Paula Jeffrey-Powell Clearly

Like Reply 15w 1

Kris Mayer I am not an Anglican but as a fellow Christian, this is so upsetting. They have not treated you with respect or love. Shame on them, being motivated by finance and not faith...

Like Reply 15w Edited 3

Marilyn Parker I thankfully am not a Christian and pleased I am not after watching this for 3 months... I though it was strange that "Christians" would hang out their priests to dry for over 3 months while they discussed if they were worthy to keep their jobs..it was a done deal from the beginning..disgraceful

Like Reply 15w Edited 3

Chris Mills Marilyn Parker dont follow people, follow Jesus

## About

**Chris Mills** Marilyn Parker dont follow people , follow Jesus

## Discussion

Like Reply 15w

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**Marilyn Parker** No thanks...like to keep things real...

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**Chris Mills** We are here supporting Jonathan and you have just disrespected his whole life and calling :s: wow

## Videos

Love Reply 15w

## Photos

Write a reply

## Files



**Michelle Pressman** Can't believe it, this is so sad and so very wrong.

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Like Reply 15w

## Shortcuts



**Donna Armstrong** Unfortunately they don't rightly care

Community Nativity Play

Like Reply 15w

The British New Test... 4



**Marilyn Parker** Well I do hope you Christians fight back...I hear that a long time ago you would take on loins...

mythology of ancient... 3

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Like Reply 15w



**Marilyn Parker** Portsmouth Diocese.. Who know the cost of everything and the value of nothing...

St Francis, Leigh Park

See more

Like Reply 15w



**Chris Elmes** The Diocese can wrap it up how they like but people are of no importance to them except as a source of more money.

Like Reply 15w

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

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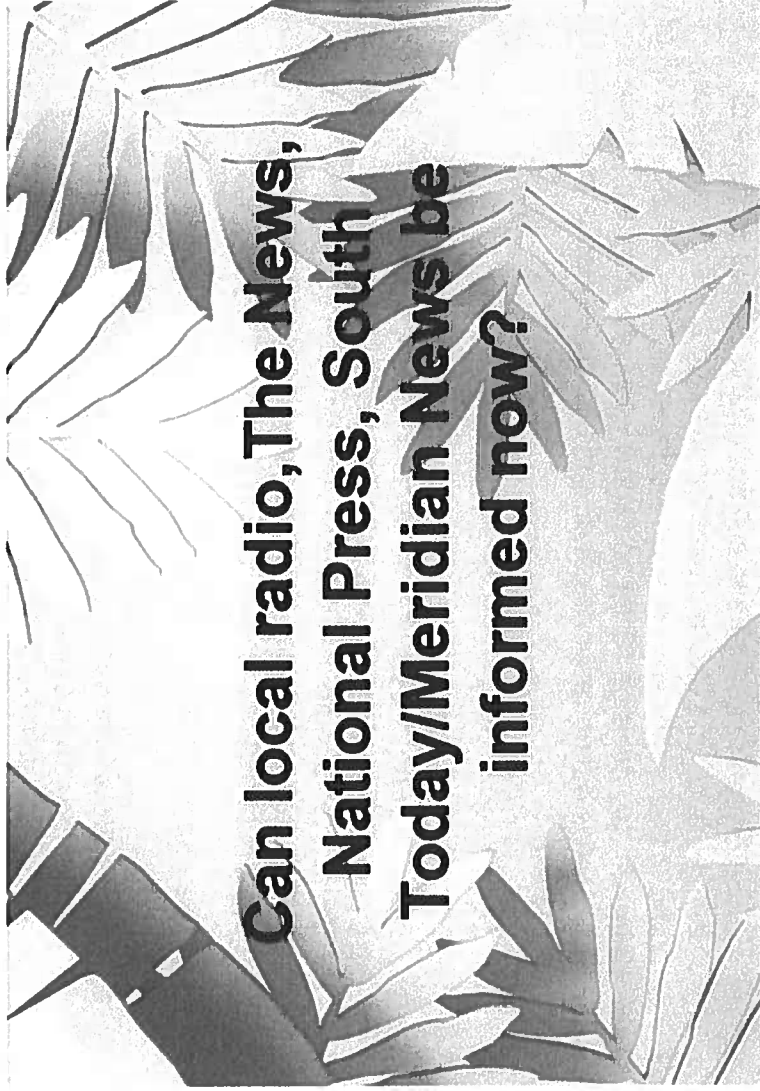
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Helen Young  
2 February



Can local radio, The News,  
National Press, South  
Today/Meridian News be  
informed now?

Julie Adams and 3 others

5 comments

Like

Comment

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Mandy Ferdinando I believe Chris Elmes is in touch with a local radio station.

Like Reply 15w

2



Helen Young That's a great start but it needs local and national coverage too. We can't let them win.

Like Reply 15w

1

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**Mandy Ferdinando** I believe Chris Elmes is in touch with a local radio station.

Like Reply 15w  2



**Helen Young** That's a great start but it needs local and national coverage too. We can't let them win.

Like Reply 15w  1



**Chris Elmes** I had a phone call from Radio Solent a couple of months back and this has been followed up a couple of times by one of their reporters. He is on the case and was waiting - like all of us - for the decision. I'll let you know when I hear again. I wrote to the News but no response at all and also no response from the Bishop.

Like Reply 15w  1




**Heleen Young** It feels like the decision has now been made. Chris. Can you do an interview describing what's happened and how devastated people are, please? Also perhaps some of the young people from the church could take part if they agree as their voices need to be heard too.

Like Reply 15w



**Chris Elmes** I'm happy to speak to the reporter if he rings but, if any of the young people would like to contact him, his e mail address is: dominic.blake@bbc.co.uk  
Pretty sure he would be happy to hear from anyone!

Like Reply 15w  1



Write a comment





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Michelle Pressman, Julie Adams and 11 others 13 comments

Like Comment Share

Julie Adams Well said paula xcc

Like Reply 15w

Helen Young Can you put this on their page, Paula Jeffrey-Powell?x

Like Reply 15w

Paula Jeffrey-Powell I've tried but am having trouble adding the photo onto there. Will try again later

Like Reply 15w

George Hurry My three children are also in this picture, they have told me they will no longer go if we loose Jonathan.

Like Reply 15w

Nicky Carol Parker It's appalling that Jonathan even has to leave why should he and his family be uprooted from the place they have called home for over 20yrs and leave the life they have been living just so that the bishop can look great for an unnecessary reorganisation that clearly isn't needed at St Francis.

Like Reply 15w

Moe Horswell I can't thank Jonathan, his lovely family and the Church family enough for the unconditional love, care and support they gave to my dear late mother. For me it has been a privilege to

Reply 15w



Nicky Carol Parker It's appalling that Jonathan even has to leave why should he and his family be uprooted from the place they have called home for over 20yrs and leave the life they have been living just so that the bishop can look great for an unnecessary reorganisation that clearly isn't needed at St Francis.



Like Reply 15w



Moe Horswell I can't thank Jonathan, his lovely family and the Church family enough for the unconditional love, care and support they gave to my dear late mother. For me it has been a privilege to meet such a dedicated, compassionate and welcoming vicar at St Francis Church. I attended this Church from the day it was built, and still have photos of my Confirmation. If Jonathan goes I will not return to the Church - Jonathan is the heart of the Community. Shame on you Portsmouth Diocese, the trust this man has earned during his many years of hard work and support should be recognised. You said you were going to listen!!! Clearly you are NOT listening!!!



Love Reply 15w



Michelle Pressman Very poignantly put Paula, if the Diocese cannot see sense, perhaps they should try listening to these children and listen to that quiet voice called a conscience, search their collective souls, have a heart and stop this now before this institution they call the Church of England is publicly humiliated in the press. The church after all is made out of people. No congregation and they have no church.

Like Reply 15w



Jennifer Hurry Perhaps the children of St Francis would like to have a discussion on this. They are the future

Like Reply 15w



Jennifer Hurry Sorry pressed wrong button. Meant to also say many of the children have their own opinions on all of this and the Diocese might learn from these children if they listened to them.

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Helen Young Could some of them be involved in the Radio Solent interview, that Chris Elmes is due to arrange please?

Like Reply 15w



Chris Elmes Helen Young I'm not arranging anything! I just answered a phone call from a reporter! Just need to make that clear lol

Like Reply 15w



1



Helen Young Oh I see, perhaps Paula Jeffrey-Powell be willing to do an interview about it all, please? A wider public audience needs to know what's going on here and in other areas. I think they feel we will all shut up and let them get on with it now and admit defeat. However the money hasn't been approved yet, so there may still be a chance to reverse this awful plan.

Like Reply 15w



Chris Elmes Helen Young I do hope so but I have serious doubts. I think we have seen evidence that the Bishop handled the truth carelessly!

Like Reply 15w



1



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Paula Jeffrey-Powell

1 February

Question for you all...

Please do write a message for the diocese here on your response to their decision!...

Mary Close

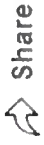
4 comments



Like



Comment



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Mandy Ferdinando They decided long ago what they were doing. Several people knew this at the meeting and stated so. I've lost hope and faith in them listening to us. They don't care. It's all about profit now and lining their pockets and congratulating each other on how rich they will be

Like Reply 15w



1



Chris Elmes See above. So angry and upset! How can anyone in this community ever trust the Diocese, even though we knew after the meeting that they would not listen to us.

Like Reply 15w



2



Diane Marie It was decided in the beginning clearly. They just wanted to keep us clueless for that bit longer. They had no intention of listening. The article in the news a few days after the meeting proved that !!!

Like Reply 15w



2



Bettina Brown Please rethink and pay attention to the wants of the community.

Like Reply 15w



1

Write a comment



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

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Interacting as yourself

Paula Jeffrey-Powell

7 February

Well, lovely people!! This will make you smile! 😊

Tonight at Deanery Synod (Church council for all churches through out Havant Deanery) (complicated to explain)

Tonight we had Jenny - whom you have all written to since this proposals for Parish Reorganisation involving removing Fr Jonathan and Reverend Karina began.

Victoria who is the Diocesan Secretary... And Gavin who is Archdeacon of The Meon area... Still no sign of our own Archdeacon! She hasn't been to a meeting with us since the public meeting!

Anyway to get to my point!... Each of them took part in a Question / Answer session with the members of this council, for which Fr Jonathan, Reverend Karina and I were present as we are members..and this happened...

Victoria - Secretary - Commented on the sheer volume of correspondence that was received from all area's affected...

And guess what!....

She said our area sent in the most!! (only just)

...And yet they still chose to ignore it and go further with their own plans rather than what the community have so clearly shouted out to them for!

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Marilyn Jeffrey

14 comments

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Paul Mcleod How can your arch deacon avoid such meetings? Surely important part of the post? They're rail roading things through. Clearly set in their ways. Madness as they run the risk of losing congregations. Surely if a diocese loses a lot of their parisheners there'd be the possibility the church could say they need less arch deacons, need to merge diocese?

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Like Reply 14w Edited



Paula Jeffrey-Powell Every time we have a meeting involving an Archdeacon we are always told our one is conveniently "at another meeting"... However, in all fairness the one who IS attending our meetings seemed lovely tonight. Couldn't fault him. Wish he was 'our' Archdeacon!

Like Reply 14w



Paul Mcleod Strange why yours is at another meeting, can that really be as important, why are these meetings taking place at sometime if often this is the case.

Like Reply 14w



Helen Young She's obviously avoiding the meetings on purpose. So disgusted with her for doing this and then keeping a low profile afterwards!

Like Reply 14w



Paul Mcleod Helen Young indeed surely with on going diocese plans surely these meetings would be essential. All a bit odd a key person, regularly missing them . Strange too as church have decided to think and behave in a business like way surely someone in her page would be crucial at the meetings.

Like Reply 14w



Stephanie Boxall This is one of the biggest reason's that I struggle with religious organisations such as the CofE. It's run like a



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Like Reply 14w

Stephanie Boxall This is one of the biggest reasons that I struggle with religious organisations such as the CofE. It's run like a dictatorship, not a democracy. 'Membership' of other organisations means more than just being a statistic, and paying your tithes, not with the CofE! The sad fact is that Leigh Park by it's nature is not an affluent area, so the church won't be bringing in cash to the coffers. It is of no consequence to the Diocese that community spirit is strong, and that as members of this community we see small acts of love and kindness many times a day. I have to keep my faith and remember that come the day we will ALL have to answer for our actions, to One who needs no rank or title. The CofE seem to have lost their way in terms of who they are ultimately accountable to.

Like Reply 14w 1

Search this group



Chris Elmes The behaviour of the Archdeacon is unacceptable at such a time - I hope she is ashamed of her behaviour and that is why she feels unable to face people.

Like Reply 14w 1

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Paula Jeffrey-Powell She may genuinely be at meetings but it just seems weird she hasn't been to us since.

Like Reply 14w



Helen Young I don't believe that for a second, Paula. Chris has it summed up perfectly, but if she is remorseful, she should reverse this now. I actually have my doubts that she regrets anything, though. She's avoiding being confronted with what they have forced through and letting everyone else take over now.

Like Reply 14w 1



Write a reply



Chris Elmes If she was doing her job, she would be aware and make sure she was there offering pastoral oversight and care - this

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Like Reply 14w 1

Write a reply



Chris Elmes If she was doing her job, she would be aware and make sure she was there offering pastoral oversight and care - this just reflects her behaviour at the meeting. As you can tell, I have nothing but contempt for her.

Like Reply 14w 1



Paula Jeffrey-Powell The point of this post was to point out we were informed by the Diocesan Secretary that we sent in more correspondence than anywhere else... Just!! But it clearly didn't count... We are still working on it behind the scenes - This isn't going to go away until they reverse their decision. I do hope the diocese have shares out in headache medication!

Like Reply 14w Edited 2



Paul Mcleod Are bosses telling her to stay away, might she be disagreeing with them. Easier for a 'business' to do such things to rail road their ideas through. Sending a replacement who has no say, no power as their not in your diocese means you don't get answers, have less of a say?

Like Reply 14w



Paula Jeffrey-Powell Paul Mcleod I don't think this is the case. The Archdeacon who has been coming in her place is much more approachable. He is from our diocese as we have three Archdeacons but he is not the one for Havant. His area is West Meon... Which is the Gosport Churches who are affected

Like Reply 14w Edited 1



leigh park st

Public group



Interacting as yourself

**Paula Jeffrey-Powell** The point of this post was to point out we were informed by the Diocesan Secretary that we sent in more correspondence than anywhere else... Just!! But it clearly didn't count... We are still working on it behind the scenes - This isn't going to go away until they reverse their decision. I do hope the diocese have shares out in headache medication!



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Community Nativity Play



**Paul Mcleod** Are bosses telling her to stay away, might she be disagreeing with them. Easier for a 'business' to do such things to rail road their ideas through. Sending a replacement who has no say, no power as their not in your diocese means you don't get answers, have less of a say?

Like Reply 14w



**Paula Jeffrey-Powell** Paul Mcleod

I don't think this is the case. The Archdeacon who has been coming in her place is much more approachable. He is from our diocese as we have three Archdeacons but he is not the one for Havant. His area is West Meon... Which is the Gosport Churches who are affected

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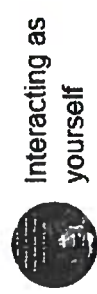
**Paul Mcleod** Paula Jeffrey-Powell easy for her to be, not connected, people won't maybe see her as part of problem.?

Like Reply 14w



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

Public group



Interacting as yourself

Paula Jeffrey-Powell

11 February

Hi Everyone  
Question....

The diocese have commented during the process we only want Fr Jonathan and Reverend Karina to stay because of 'WHO' they are and that they could leave any time so why can't they be moved now...BUT as it was pointed out by the church council of St Francis and St Clare's to the Bishop's Council making decisions of these two priest's future, when and if they do leave in the future it would be through their own choice and not because they are being forced to and that would be acceptable...what the Bishop's Council and diocese is intending to do with them at present is NOT. The diocese seem to think we are focussing too much on Janthan and Karina as people and not focussing on their work of the church in the community which they do in abundance!

My question is....

What is YOUR reply to this and how has Fr Jonathan and Reverend Karina affected your lives through their priestly ministry....or in church language - church mission within the community.

What evidence can we show the bishop's council of Karina and Jonathan's work?

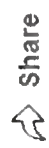
What message do you want to send back to those making these decisions? The Church Council (PCC) are still able to fight the diocese's decision but we need your feedback to share please...we have another 7 weeks in which we can do this.

Chris Elmes and Marilyn Jeffrey

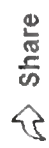
9 comments



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Chris Elmes It needs people from St. Alban's to take notice and start protesting! There are one or two on here but no great numbers - and as their PCC has agreed to not fight the changes, this could be a problem!

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