

PARISH COFTON HACKETT AND BARNT GREEN

DRUG AND ALCOHOL POLICY

We, the PCC of the Parish of Cofton Hackett and Barnt Green, agreed at the meeting on February 16th 2021 that:

- The use or consumption of illegal or non-prescribed drugs is not permitted indoors or outdoors on any church premises including the Parish Centre.
- People deemed to be under the influence of drink or drugs will be asked to leave the premises.
- We support the concept of responsible drinking and therefore permit the consumption of alcohol in moderation at suitable events, provided that licensing regulations are complied with.
- We recognise our responsibilities in relation to the use of alcohol and drugs especially among young people. These are detailed in section 11 of our Child Protection Policy and Procedures.
- No young person under the age of 16 will be permitted to consume alcohol on church premises, apart from those authorised to take Holy Communion who will be allowed to receive Communion wine only.
- Those aged 16 or 17 will not be permitted to consume alcohol at any church event unless they are in the charge of parents/guardians who have given their consent and remain responsible for them.
- Although we have no desire to impinge upon an employee's freedom to consume alcohol out of normal working hours and away from church premises, an employee must never consume alcohol or use illegal drugs immediately prior to coming to work. Appropriate help will be offered to any employee who displays a drug or alcohol related problem. If such help is declined, the matter will be referred to the disciplinary procedure in the contract of employment.
- We accept that as a Christian community we should actively support individuals who are aiming to remain or become free of alcohol- or drug-dependence, and will provide resources and assistance where possible.

Signed:.....*R S Fieldson*.....PCC Chairman