THE BENEFICE OF HEDON, PAULL, SPROATLEY, AND PRESTON IN HOLDERNESS
Welcome from us all at the four churches!

Is God calling you here? We hope so!

We really do welcome your interest and thank you for taking the time to read our profile which we have put together to help you understand our mission, our drive and our location. We hope that after reading you will want to know more, and to come and join us.

We start by telling you about the Deanery of which we are a part. As you will read below, our Deanery is a good way on the road to change under the Diocesan “Developing the Deaneries” initiative and we are excited by the progress we are making on this.

We have then included some pages which will help you to understand how our Benefice works, where it sits geographically, and something of our joint church life and our aspirations for working together in the future.

From there you will read a little about our individual parishes and we hope you will be encouraged and drawn by what you read.

We pray for God to direct you in your calling, and if that is to our Benefice we will continue to pray for you and will do all we can to give you the support you need to have a flourishing and fulfilling ministry here.
THE DEANERY OF SOUTH HOLDERNESS

Deanery Profile

This is a special place. Jostling on one side with the City of Culture, the Deanery narrows between Humber and North Sea until the remoteness of Spurn Point brings the land to an end. Here, in Larkin’s words, is “unfenced existence”, a fertile land under big and eternally changing skies. A land of vibrant and self-reliant communities, their twenty-four churches witnessing to a strong seam of faith and belief.

Those twenty-four churches are grouped into four benefices, created through a reorganisation which began in 2009 in response to the need to reduce the number of stipendiary posts from seven to the four we now have. In addition we have a House for Duty priest and a Deacon, both licensed to the Deanery, a reader and a number of active retired priests who live in the Deanery. The reorganisation was a turning point in the story of the Deanery opening the way for the laity to play a far more active part in all aspects of Deanery life.

The introduction of a Recognised Parish Assistant (RPA) course opened the door for over 20 people to be released into a variety of ministries, and recent courses on prayer have revealed a real thirst for the things of the spirit. A well-established Deanery Choir is going from strength to strength in supporting our worship and we have ambitions to use the power of music to draw people in by developing a youth choir and music group. Under the experienced hand of our House for Duty priest we staged a Passion Play at two locations on the same weekend last year, an initiative for outreach that we intend to repeat, alongside other creative projects yet to be revealed.

The most telling example of how well ordained and non-ordained ministers now work together within the Deanery has been our response to the Diocesan “Developing our Deaneries” initiative. There was such consonance between the ideas articulated in that and our own thinking, that we have moved easily into a new way of working. The Deanery Standing Committee has been replaced by a Deanery Leadership Team (DLT) under the benign joint leadership of the Area and Lay Deans. Every stipendiary incumbent is a member of the DLT, along with our House for Duty priest, and you will be a member too. There are six lay members of the team, and we are moving painlessly towards a state where the distinction between lay and ordained members of the DLT has become irrelevant in the way it conducts its business.

In the same initiative the Deanery Synod has been re-vitalised and empowered, now holding the DLT to account, in particular for the preparation and implementation of a Deanery Plan for Mission and Ministry. Our aim is to have that Plan approved at the September meeting of the Synod, and then continually refreshed in the light of our experience as we put it into practice. Despite an overall decline in church membership we are in the business of stimulating growth, not managing decline or even accepting stability.

This is a Deanery that prays together, worships together, studies together and plays together; we need someone to whom that is an attractive environment to come and join us. You, for example.
THE BENEFICE OF HEDON, PAULL, SPROATLEY AND PRESTON IN HOLDERNESS

Benefice Profile

The Geographical Area

The Benefice brings together an historic market town and three villages all within a radius of 4 miles, lying 6 miles to the East of Kingston upon Hull. Within a radius of 12 miles there are seaside towns and villages along the North Sea coast and the market town of Beverley.

In the nearby city of Kingston upon Hull there are cinemas, theatres, concert venues, museums, marina, sporting facilities, shops, an ice arena, historic buildings, and The Deep; the City’s 2017 Year of Culture continues to receive emphasis until 2020. Hull is also renowned for the universities and medical school. The rolling hills of the Yorkshire Wolds or the historic City of York can be reached in just over an hour. The Humber Bridge and M62 motorway are 11 miles away.

Although agriculture remains important to the area the numbers employed in farming are now very small and the majority of the working population is employed outside the Benefice. Regular buses run from the Benefice and the train service can be accessed from Hull and Beverley.
Our Strengths

Benefice Life and working together

As a Benefice we have served together since 2011 and have built up our relationship during that time. The greatest encouragement to a new Priest-in-Charge arriving in the Benefice would be the active commitment of a number of church members in each of the churches and their determination to work together as a benefice in worship and mission. We are learning to work together well, sharing resources and insights.

Worship and Prayer

Regular Sunday and festival benefice services are held. People from the different parishes enjoy worshipping together, and although more members of the churches could be encouraged to do so, the numbers willing to travel to churches other than their own is relatively high.

A weekly benefice prayer meeting is held at Hedon (which is continuing during the interregnum), and a weekly midweek Communion service in St. Augustine’s Hedon (which is continuing on a non-eucharistic basis during the interregnum)

Mission

Growth for us is a necessity; we have no interest in managed decline. It is important for us to evolve and develop the ministries already in place here as well as embracing the future to bring more people to know the Lord Jesus Christ.

An annual outreach programme has been held including regular Christian Basics Courses and a Christmas Mission, and Christianity Explored Courses which were well attended and very encouraging, and as a result, 3 people were confirmed in 2017.

Benefice lay leaders have initiated, prayed for and organised a Christian basics “Start” course in Spring 2018 during the interregnum. This is an indication of our strong and prayerful commitment to mission and bringing more people in our area into a loving relationship with God.

Christian education

There is a weekly Bible study which is continuing on a lay led basis during the interregnum. The Benefice has been very well represented in recent Deanery courses on prayer, and (for RPAs) the Bible.

Ecumenical Links

The Hedon & District Churches Together is an important feature of benefice life, and organises a number of ecumenical events including Lent lunches with discussions, a walk of witness, joint services, and a men’s fellowship.
Our Hopes and Intentions

Prayer and spirituality

The benefice is seeking a Priest-in-Charge who will give spiritual leadership in every aspect of church life. Specifically we would welcome any opportunity for our prayer life to be developed. We were well represented in the recent Deanery prayer course and quiet morning.

A Christian presence in the community

The Benefice would like their Priest-in-Charge to be a significant presence within the community. There is scope for him or her to show interest and possibly have involvement in many local parish events, which in Hedon includes occasional, but important, civic events. Church members across the benefice believe this presence ministry is a key evangelistic initiative, in which they also have a part to play. But we fully understand the need for our priest-in-charge to be selective about where that involvement lay.

Mission

We would expect our Priest-in-Charge to share our strong and prayerful commitment, which we have already highlighted. We want to bring more people in our parishes into a loving relationship with God.

Christian Education

We would welcome our Priest-in-Charge leading us in opportunities for more Christian education, although we recognise that the Deanery is taking on a greater teaching role, so that some teaching may be more appropriately carried out in the Deanery context. Sermons are important to many church members. The Benefice is hoping for honest, undiluted preaching.

Ecumenical Links

We hope our Priest-in-Charge would support us in developing our strong ecumenical links.
Support for the Priest-in-Charge

For the Priest-in-Charge of a benefice of 15,000 people, with four separate parishes, there will be a particular and continual need to discern the direction and shape of her or his ministry, and to exercise time management of it.

To support the Priest, the benefice wardens would meet regularly with him or her, and he or she would be encouraged to take every opportunity to meet them and church members for both advice and support, thereby developing a mutually supportive relationship. He or she would be expected to take sufficient time and days off and use their full holiday entitlement.

As a benefice we undertake to ensure that individual parishes do not seek to exercise undue influence on the way our priest-in-charge allocates his or her time, and we do understand the need not to constrain the Spirit’s guidance.

Clerical assistance is given through the Deanery by three retired clergy with the Bishop’s permission to officiate, and a Deanery Priest and Deanery Deacon with the Bishop’s Licence to operate as Assistant Curates in the Benefice as well as throughout the Deanery. We have a number of fully trained RPA’s and members of our congregations are always willing to support the work of the Lord in any way they can. Several services are led by them, and bible studies etc.

There is a large amount of ability and willingness in the parishes to cope with the practical issues of fabric maintenance, including faculty jurisdiction.

We have a Pastoral Care Team reaching to church members in need with support and prayer when that need arises. Wedding booking and DBS checks are carried out by lay people for the whole benefice. A Baptism preparation team ministers across the benefice to the prospective parents, in accordance with the current benefice Baptism Policy, and arranges the baptism after the parents’ initial contact with the Priest.

The Vicarage

The current Vicarage is on Staithes Road in Preston. It is a modern four bedroom house with a downstairs study, set in a spacious garden. Following the reflections of the previous Incumbent, the diocese is exploring the possibility of purchasing an alternative property elsewhere in the benefice and, given its relative size, Hedon is the most likely place that a suitable property will be found.

If a new house has not been identified prior to an appointment, the diocese will be happy to discuss the situation with the new Priest in Charge. If you wish to discuss this further, please do contact Ven Andy Broom, the Archdeacon of the East Riding (01482) 881659.
An appealing Benefice

As a relatively recently formed Benefice, we believe we are well on the way to understanding the demands it places on its incumbent, and the part we can play in mitigating them. There is a real thirst here for spiritual development and an understanding of the guiding and nurturing role of a spiritual leader. We know that spiritual growth will not be seen in the benefice unless we, the plant, are spiritually healthy.

Visiting bishops, beware!
Occasional Offices etc - 2017

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Note: By the end of May 2018, 14 baptisms had been confirmed.

Other information

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Other forms of Worship

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The Parish
The boundary includes an area to the west of Hedon, known as Preston South, in addition to the town of Hedon. The approximate population of Hedon is over 8,000 with an additional 2,000 outside the Town boundary giving a Parish Estimate approaching 10,000. This very diverse community provides a challenging opportunity for mission.

Town Facilities - Two large medical practices are located in the town plus an NHS Community Unit, two pharmacies, a library and a museum. There are pubs, restaurants, a good mix of shops, post office and a supermarket/petrol station on the edge of town. A market is held every Wednesday. These facilities serve Hedon and the surrounding South Holderness villages.

Schools - There are two large Primary Schools (though not Church Schools). The South Holderness Technical College is situated in between Hedon and Preston. The Hedon Nursery (local government) is situated opposite the church plus a private nursery (Butterflies)

Other Institutions - There are five residential care homes in Hedon. Communion Services are taken on request. There is also a Residential Home for people with learning disabilities catering for 27 people.

Church Traditions - The Anglican Church in the Town is dedicated to St. Augustine of Hippo and is also the Parish Church which dates back over 800 years. Worship is mainly traditional but also includes some more recent worship songs. There is a small choir and regular Organist. In addition to the Sunday services, there is a weekly Communion service on Wednesdays, and a weekly prayer meeting for the benefice.
Building - Restoration work to St. Augustine’s Church has been undertaken in stages as and when funds are available. English Heritage and other grant making organisations have previously provided grants. The latest development project has been to install an internal glass porch to the West entrance which allows the main doors to be open, making the church more welcoming to members of the public. Repair works to the building are ongoing and a major phase was undertaken in 2017. The churchyard and wall is the responsibility of the Hedon Town Council. The wall is currently being restored - an ongoing project.

Bells - An impressive set of eight bells are well used and the ringing team have the ambition and plans to increase these to ten in the future.

Opening Hours - Every effort is made to have the church open to the public (usually involving at least two volunteers in attendance). Keys are available for anyone needing access.
The Church is open on Monday mornings 10.00am – 12.00 for prayers

Fellowship - Refreshments are served following Sunday services and on Saturday mornings during the summer months.

Bible Study - meets fortnightly and is currently lay led.

Schools - An annual one or two day event (Re-Action Day) organised by the schools, hosted by St. Augustine’s – up to 150 children attend a series of workshops to promote the Christian faith.
School children also visit church for the Christmas and other Celebrations events.

Church Organisations

Little Saints (pre-school children) meet in the church each Tuesday afternoon - 7 families on average, attendance 4/5.

Hedon Social Group meets monthly on Thursday afternoons. 20 members – average attendance 15.

Church Choir meets monthly – 4 members – average attendance 4

Bell Ringers practise Monday evenings – 6 members working with other teams in the Deanery to use all 8 bells.

Other Organisations - Many other active organisations are based in Hedon. These provide ample opportunity for outreach and support for the Church.
**Historical Connections** exist between the Parish Church and the Hedon Town Council. Annually a Civic Service is held in the afternoon (usually June) to formally recognise before God the new Mayor as he/she comes into Office. Some years, when invited, the Incumbent serves as Mayor’s Chaplain. This involves attending some events and conducting occasional Civic Services.

**P.C.C.** - Meetings are held bi-monthly or less. Currently we have one Churchwarden, lay Chairman and PCC Secretary. The post of Treasurer is vacant.

**Assistance** - Three trained RPAs work in the Parish – one leading worship and two working with children. Six members are licenced to assist with administration of communion – usually working two each service

**Church Finance** - The Parish raises funds from church collections and fund raising activities. Freewill offerings (most of which are gift aided) and regular functions including coffee mornings also help to generate income.
St Andrew’s Church, Paull

www.standrewpaull.wordpress.com

Welcome to this profile of St Andrew’s Church, Paull, one of the four churches in our benefice.

- We hope you can inspire us to help with Gods mission and ministry, have the drive to approach, listen, communicate and support the community of Paull and visit the community groups. We hope you can encourage, nurture, equip and help grow our faith and that of the village people, building on a prayerful benefice preaching and teaching the bible to both those who know Jesus and those who are yet to start their journey of faith.

- We hope you will look with fresh eyes and be involved in what we have and be willing to highlight and develop new ideas, fulfilling the new opportunities which are all around us, whilst also developing and maintaining our existing success. We hope you will help to enhance what the church has to offer the community of Paull, encouraging fresh ways to re-energise the relationship with the younger generation and give us support to re-connect with the village people.

The Church lies a 5-minute walk from the village (about ¼ mile)

It is a grade one listed building, about 600 years old, which sits slightly inland along the banks of the river Humber looking over the estuary. At one side lies a salt marsh which attracts lots of wildlife, and on the other, farm land.

In 2009 the church underwent major roof repairs, work to windows and the interior and a toilet and servery were introduced. We host and have wifi which is used in coffee shop time.

We have introduced a coffee shop within the church on Sundays May to August, 2 till 4pm; this is well supported and helps the church become a vibrant meeting places where we offer warm hospitality. We have a Paull Heritage Trail produced by the church, and a NADFAS (National Association of Decorative and Fine Arts Societies) children’s trail within the church.

The church yard is now closed and the Parish Council run the new Cemetery.
Groups and fundraisers

We have a Monday walking group: this meets fortnightly, sets off and finishes at the church where refreshments are served - attended by an average of 12 to 15 people.

Car boot sales are held on the 1st Saturday of the month April to October, and run jointly with the village hall on the playing field at Paull.

The Coffee shop within the church is open May to August, 2 till 4 on a Sunday, and attracts about 2500 visitors a year.

To encourage awareness and form links with the community, we leaflet drop when needed giving news on fundraising events.

St Andrew’s has a PCC of 4 members, 2 of which are over 80yrs old. The committee meets on a regular basis. Within the PCC we have a secretary and treasurer, but the churchwarden posts are vacant. We rely on community volunteers for help, but the PCC members are our cleaners, fundraisers and coffee shop volunteers. We work hard and are enthusiastic, but at times do get tired. We have 11 people on the electoral roll.

Parish Finance ✓ We do not have any outstanding debts and we pay £250 per month as our Freewill Offering to the Diocese.

Our congregation

We have 3 trained helpers who are licenced to assist with communion, and an RPA who is willing to help with lay led services.

The members are mainly elderly and retired, so this is where we need your help to create new opportunities, inspire, develop and grow our church family. The congregation balance favours the female sector. Some congregation members are willing to help with services; reading and leading in prayer and would assist the new incumbent. At some services we have as few as 4 in attendance, but in general we have about 8 – 12 in the congregation. We have 3 services a month April to October and just one service a month November to March. Some of our congregation live outside the parish.

The Village of Paull

A compact small rural village which has a number of scattered outlying farms. We have no shops – there are 3 public houses, a parish council, a Primary school and Village hall. There is a redundant lighthouse and working shipyard. We have a small industrial park. Fort Paull (the only Napoleonic fortress in Yorkshire) is by the church, along with the South Pasture Riding School.
Overview of the school

Paull has a primary school –

- Volunteers from St Andrew take assembly once a month
- Paull primary school attends the church on occasions
- The primary school has between 50 and 60 pupils
- The secondary school is located at Preston a short distance from Hedon; pupils from Paull have free transport to South Holderness secondary school

Population

The bulk of the housing is owner occupied. There are about 300 or so homes with a static population of about 850. The village consists of a mix of families, couples and retired people, some of whom commute to Hull or the surrounding area for employment, Paull has a limited daily bus service.
What can the parish of Paull offer?

A friendly, tolerant, congregation, financially competent, with a fully serviced building in good repair. And the challenge of traditional and new styles of worship, a variety of service types and structures.

What do we need from you?

The ability to communicate - interested in people, able to connect, chat, listen and feel at ease with people, eager to work in the community with those who have not found Jesus.

We ask for your support in the summer months by been clearly visible at the walking group and car boot sales from time to time, and supporting the coffee shop by sharing hospitality with its visitors. It would be great if you are willing to develop the existing links with the school.
Welcome to the parish of St. Swithin, Sproatley. We hope you will want to come and be a part of our community.

Our aspirations

- We would like to see our church grow and would love to extend the ministry of Jesus Christ further into the community.
- Our present congregation is on the ‘mature’ side and we would love to welcome young people and families into our church so that they may also come to know the love of Jesus Christ.
- To develop new ideas of how to connect with the community; the coffee mornings are a first step towards this.
- To feel confident that St. Swithin’s will flourish in the future and provide a place for the people of Sproatley to worship and praise God for many years to come.

The village

Sproatley is a commuter village to the city of Kingston upon Hull, lying approximately seven miles north-east of the city on the B1238 and just a few miles from the rugged Holderness coast. Its population is approximately 1,350 (2011 census), most residing in housing developments built in the early 1970s. But the village has a mix of housing, some of which dates back to the 18th century, and it retains its village character and feel. It is an attractive village which borders on to the Burton Constable Estate, and benefits from visitors to the house and grounds, and the award winning caravan park in the grounds of the estate.

Many inhabitants moved from the city, attracted by the rural surroundings, the lively community and the excellent primary school, now an academy. The village has the added benefit of a well maintained playing field, used regularly by local football teams, and hard tennis courts. There is a Village Memorial Hall which is well used by local groups for a variety of activities. Other amenities include a thriving village shop and post office, hairdressers, two public houses and mobile library. The area lends itself to country walks and is excellent for cycling due to the number of country lanes leading from the village.

The parish council meets monthly and works hard to maintain communal areas to a high standard and keep the village looking smart and attractive.

The primary school

The primary school (Sproatley Endowed Church of England Academy) is a thriving school of approx. 140 pupils, serving not only the children of Sproatley, but also those from Humbleton, Flinton and Marton. The current school was built in the 1970s and has been extended in recent years. It has an excellent reputation and has good links with the church; the children hold services in church throughout the year. The school's three core Christian values – Friendship, Compassion and Trust – run through the heart of the school. In 2017 it became part of the Ebor Academy.
Trust. Our last incumbent regularly went into school, taking assemblies and answering questions from the children about the Christian faith. We are pleased that an Open the Book team, made up of members of St Swithin’s and the local Community Church, is in the process of registering to start acting out Bible stories in the school from September 2018. Two of our PCC members also serve as governors to the school.


Our church is situated on the south-eastern edge of the village in a beautiful setting, surrounded by ancient trees, and with an avenue of yews lining the path from the lychgate to the church door. A church has existed on the present site since Norman times but it was rebuilt in the 19th century.

The current building is grade II listed and is in a reasonable state of repair, although the latest Quinquennial Report did identify repairs needed to the roof, tower and porch.

The PCC is currently investigating grant availability to carry out the essential work, and also with a view to re-ordering, so that toilet and kitchen facilities may be added, thus creating a space which can be more widely used by the community. The church yard is well maintained by volunteers but retains some ‘wild’ areas which attract abundant wildlife.

We have two serving church wardens who dedicate a lot of time to looking after the church and serving the community in relation to the church. There is an active PCC of six members which meets regularly, plus a number of others serving as sidespersons, and volunteers who lovingly provide flowers and clean the church.

Regular congregations are on the small side, with current average Sunday attendances now around 12 to 15, having reduced slightly from the 2017 average, though ‘special’ services such as Harvest Festival and Christmas Carol services are better attended. There are currently 14 on the electoral roll. An annual service for Remembrance Day is usually held at the War Memorial in the village and is well attended.

Two members of the congregation regularly lead services of Morning Prayer and we have a number of people who read lessons and lead prayers.

We have recently started to hold monthly coffee mornings in the Village Memorial Hall with the aim of improving links between the church and the community. These have been well received and are increasing in popularity.

St Swithin’s Church is fortunate to be currently financially stable. We have paid our pledged Freewill Offerings to the Diocese in full in recent years; the amount paid for 2017 was £8,715 and the amount pledged for 2018 has been increased to £9,000. Our income in recent years, whilst small, has usually enabled us to meet our expenditure, though a major item of expenditure on the removal of trees from the churchyard did cause a deficit for 2017. We do also try to support other
charitable causes and have supported the school by paying for Christmas and Easter booklets handed to the children. Clergy expenses are paid on request.

Our main source of income is from free will offerings, mostly Gift Aided, and plate collections but we also have a number of supporters who make regular bank or cash donations. We hold fund raising events during the year, including an annual Gift Day, and these are usually well supported by the community. We have also enjoyed the support of the local parish council towards some major items of expenditure in recent years. The church owns a small area of agricultural land to the south of the village which is let, and so brings in a small amount of rental income each year. Looking forward, we anticipate a fund raising campaign towards the repairs which need to be carried out.

We look forward to working with you to further the ministry of Jesus in this parish.
**PRESTON – PRIEST’S TOWN** - Potted History

Surprisingly, a thousand years ago neither Kingston upon Hull nor Hedon existed, whereas at the time of the Domesday Survey in 1086 the village of Preston was an important Anglo-Saxon settlement. It had a church and a priest, eight manors and their lords who owed allegiance to Drogo de Beauvriere, the main landowner of Holderness. Due to the low-lying nature of surrounding land, flooding caused problems at times but Preston stands on slightly higher land so had an advantage. The crossroads in the centre of Preston has roads radiating to Burstwick, Hedon, Lelley and Bilton, indicating its importance.

Scroll forward many years and Preston, like lots of other towns and villages, has seen lots of changes.

**Today**

Preston is mostly a dormitory village with a mixture of private and council housing, with a lot of residents working outside the village. The population is around 3,000. There are large farms nearby, mostly agricultural, but also with some pig production. There are a number of small holdings as well.

There are two schools in Preston: Preston Primary School and South Holderness Technical College, the latter taking pupils from the surrounding area, including the other three parishes in the Benefice.

The main employers are Cranswick Country Foods, which takes pigs from local farmers and processes them for supermarkets, a large independent garden centre situated on the edge of the village and a supermarket in Preston South.

Preston boasts two public houses, a butcher’s shop selling locally-sourced meat and pies baked on the premises, a post office, hairdresser, barber, a garage and two takeaways. There are also various tradesmen who live in the village.

**Socialising**

There are many clubs and societies that meet in the village, giving the opportunity for the new incumbent to get to know parishioners. Some examples are: snooker club, Young at Heart, sewing group, art group, keep fit classes, Pilates and T’ai Chi, WI, film nights, etc. There is a playing field association, a football team and other groups. Most groups meet in the Community Hall, which underwent refurbishment in 2011. It is on land leased from the Diocese of York.
Schools

Preston has a primary school, which has a good relationship with the Church, and next door to it is South Holderness Technical College. As its name indicates, pupils come from surrounding villages, being bussed in and out again, which can cause a few traffic headaches at 8.30 and 3.30.

Village Worship

Originally low church, now mid-range! Weekly attendance is between 6-12 people. However, when we have 'special' services such as Christingle, Village Carol Service, Remembrance, the Queen’s Jubilee services, etc, the congregation almost fills the Church (seating capacity 350). We have refreshments after most of the services. Members of the congregation read lessons, lead prayers and take services once a month. The Churchwardens are licensed to assist with the chalice at Communion. One of the Wardens is an RPA.

The PCC meets regularly and has a full complement of officers. We have paid our Parish Share (Freewill Offering) for the past 5 years.

There is a Methodist Chapel in the village and once a month we take turns to hold a joint service together.

Church Building

The Church is Grade I listed and, thanks to our Fabric Officer, Richard, we have done a substantial amount of restoration work. Easter 2012 saw the installation of a kitchen and toilet, together with full disabled access to the Church. The Church does not have any outstanding major renovations required.

Fundraising

Past events have included concerts, art exhibitions, quilting displays, fetes and craft fairs. There is a café each Saturday morning from April to October and a quarterly soup and sweet event.
Looking Ahead

The PCC are hoping that the provision of the recent amenities will bring more people to the Church, and in turn, the congregation. We would love to see more family/newcomer services. A START course has been ordered and we would like to see this up and running in the next few months.

We are hoping to build a more intimate and cosy chapel to seat about 30 people to make it a more comfortable experience (especially in the winter) and are progressing favourably with this.

We can offer any prospective candidate a small and happy band, who are warm, friendly and who are open to new ideas to exploit the many opportunities and challenges we have, including work with the schools and with parishioners who come into contact with us through baptisms, funerals and weddings and to meet with people in their surroundings.

After having worship in this village for over 1,000 years we are hoping that the new incumbent will be proactive in leading us into the future.
And finally……..

We hope that after reading about our Benefice you will discern a desire in us to move forward, to grow and to do God’s will in our communities. We hope that what you have read has prompted a calling for you to come here and lead us in ministry and mission. We recognise that working in a multi-parish benefice has its challenges, but it also presents opportunities for growth in different directions, by varying means, and with greater support. There is a real desire to spread the Word of God in our communities, and for us to work together in love and fellowship in that purpose. We pray that you will trust God to lead you wherever you can serve Him best; if that brings you to our Benefice, then we look forward to working with you and serving God together to the glory of His name.

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