

## I. Parish Information

1(a)	Name of parish(es) to which this information relates:	Skelton cum Newby
(b)	Name(s) of parish church(es):	St Helen's
2.	Name(s) of other C of E church(es)/centres for public worship in the parish:	None
3.	Cluster of group of parishes within which you work (formally or) informally:	Benefice area includes St Helens' Skelton cum Newby; St Mary's and All Saints Cundall with Norton-le-Clay; and All Saints Kirby on the Moor.
4.	Deanery:	Ripon
5.	Population:	211
6(a).	Number on Electoral Roll:	11
6(b).	Date of APM when this number was declared:	6th April 2020 as planned

### 7. Attendance at worship in each church.

*Please provide details of average attendance at Sunday and weekday services*

Church/Service	Time	No of communicant	Adult attendance	Under 16
Holy communion	9.30am	10	10	5
Family Service	9.30am		9	5

### 8. Occasional offices

*Number for the last 12 months in each church*

Church	Baptisms	Confirmees	Weddings	Funerals in church	Funerals taken by clergy not in church
St Helens'	2	nil	nil	nil	nil

### 9. Communications

*Names, address, Telephone Numbers and E-mail addresses for each church*

Church	Clergy	Readers	Lay staff eg Youth worker, Administrator	Churchwardens
St Helens'	Vacancy			<p>Tom Robinson Great Givendale Givendale Ripon HG4 5AD 07725733169</p> <p>Ruby Booker 17 Crowgarth Skelton cum Newby Ripon HG4 5AF 01423 323313</p>

**II. Parish / Community Information**

1(a)	Briefly describe the population mix of the(se) parish(es) in terms of its employment, cultural, ethic, age and housing mix.	<p>The village of Skelton is set between the historic city of Ripon and the market town of Boroughbridge. The village has a primary school, active village hall, WI, Parish Council, post office/shop and a pub currently closed due to legal proceedings. On the edge of the village lies Newby Hall Estate, and is the family home of Mr and Mrs Richard Compton, which is one of England's renowned Adam houses, an exceptional example of 18th century interior decoration, and recently restored to its original beauty. Standing inside the gates of the park, and surrounded by huge beech trees, with its lofty spire, pinnacles and fine rose window is the church of Christ the Consoler. Built in 1871-76, it stands as an extravagant memorial to a young man, Frederick Vyner, who was murdered by brigands while travelling in Greece. His mother used the money collected for his ransom to commission the famous Victorian architect, William Burges, to build this church in the grounds of her home at Newby Hall. The population of Skelton is described as aging and is distributed throughout modest village housing with some outlying farms. Most employment is professional and outside the parish.</p>
(b)	Are there any special social problems (eg high unemployment)?	No
2	<p>Please list for each</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Local Schools:</li> <li>• Youth centres:</li> <li>• Hospitals:</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Skelton cum Newby C of E Primary School</li> <li>• No youth centres, hospitals, nursing homes or other places of worship (save Christ the Consoler in the</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nursing/elderly persons' homes:</li> <li>• Places of worship of other faiths</li> <li>• Local Businesses:</li> <li>• Neighbourhood initiatives:</li> <li>• Associations eg tourist group:</li> <li>• Describe any civic responsibilities which the clergy have:</li> </ul>	<p>Newby Hall Park as mentioned above)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Local business is primarily the estate's let and in-hand farms. Newby Hall house and gardens are open to the public in the spring and summer and the estate stables have been converted in high spec office accommodation.</li> <li>• No neighbourhood initiatives</li> <li>• Local Cricket Club, W.I. and the Newby Hall House and Gardens is part of relevant tourism associations.</li> <li>• Civic responsibilities: none.</li> </ul>
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### III. Church Information

*Please give details for each church*

1(a)	What percentage of the congregation in terms of age, employment, cultural, ethnicity, age and gender.	Ages from 6 months to 80 with an employment mix including farmers, professional and retired. Even split between male and female. All white
2(a)	How would you describe the churchmanship tradition of each church and give details of robes and vestments worn by officiants?	St Helens' is straight forward middle of the road, Anglican leaning towards the traditional. Common worship Holy Communion continues to be at the heart of our worship, but we welcome modern language and following other formats where appropriate for other services. Vestments have been typically been selected by the incumbent. The previous incumbent wore a cassock-alb, chasuble and stole at Holy Communion. Music usually from the Hymns Ancient & Modern, New Standard. We have a keyboard which is played by a competent organist at most services, other services use CD player.
2(b)	What is the regular average weekly giving of those 16 years & over and what proportion of the giving is gift aided?	St Helen's: £30, of which 50% is Gift Aided
(c)	When did you last have a stewardship Campaign?	No Campaign has been held in the last twenty years.
3.	How does each Church supplement its direct giving in order to meets its financial needs?	By special fund raising events – see mission and outreach.
4(a)	What amount of working expenses were paid to the clergy in the last financial year?	Nil (expenses are paid by the Kirby Hill Parish)
(b)	Were these met in full?	N/A
(c)	Is there an annual discussion about level of expenses as part of the PCC's budgeting process?	N/A
5(a)	What amount of Share has (a) been	<u>Share requested</u> <u>share paid.</u>

	requested; and (b) been paid from the parish in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• last year?</li> <li>• current year?</li> <li>• next year ?</li> </ul> <i>Share requested Share Paid</i>	2019 £4,086, 2020 £4,494 (both requests and paid in full).
(b)	Will this years be met?	It has been paid in full.
6(a)	Is there a capital project in hand at the moment?	last Quinquennial inspection in 2019. Pointing and tree pruning outstanding.
(b)	Please give brief details with cost and state how they will be met.	Funds are already allocated.
7.	Please attach a copy of last PCC accounts.	See appendices.
8(a)	What is the general state of repair of the Church(es) – <i>please list</i>	Good.
(b)	Please give details of major maintenance needed following the last Quinquennial.	Pointing and tree pruning outstanding.

#### IV. Outreach and Mission

1(a)	What are the regular mission and outreach activities of the parish?	There was the introduction of the family service 7 years ago, Harvest Festival, Songs of Praise, Christingle and social occasions including “Wine Man’s Bluff wine tasting evening”, quiz nights, bicycle treasure hunt.
(b)	What are you doing to help people find out about Jesus?	As a small congregation our mission is largely through personal witness in our daily lives but also by keeping the church active and visible as a mark of Christ’s presence with us and influence on our lives and that of our community.
(c)	What are you doing to help grow people in discipleship?	Encourage participation in Lenten observances, and in courses held within in the Benefice.
(d)	What are you doing to grow people in leadership?	Our previous vicar encouraged lay leadership from within the congregation and supported and nurtured the skills which members of the congregation developed. Examples of leadership included all the practical management of the church (cleaning, decorating, maintenance), organising music, initiating and leading the social events and some lay led services.
2(a)	Please give details of the support of the Church overseas:	As a Benefice area we are linked with the Church of Our Forefathers in Beit Sahour, Bethlehem mainly through our previous Incumbent.
(b)	How much is given annually?	Nil directly from this parishes, but support Kirby Hill initiatives.

3(a)	Give details of the support for home missions and charities:	In each year the following are typically supported: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Royal British Legion</li> <li>• Lenten/Christmas appeals.</li> <li>• Christian Aid</li> </ul>
(b)	How much is given annually?	See financial statement.
3(a)	Does the parish have an overseas link?	NO
(b)	If so, please state where/who?	
4(a)	Is there an organised system of outreach and welcome to new families?	NO
5.	What part does the church play in community care?	Members of the congregation volunteer and we have a representative on the Parish Council. The church as a whole however does not play a formal role in community care
6(a)	Are there any Lay Eucharistic Assistants who take communion to the sick?	NO
7.	What work does the church undertake with young people, other than in church based organisations (eg open youth work)?	Our last incumbent spent time in the school.

#### V. Ecumenical Relations

1(a)	State involvement in local Council of Churches:	None
(b)	Is there a formal covenant with any other denomination?	No
2.	What informal ecumenical contacts are there?	None

#### VI. Church Education and Social Provision

1(a)	Name of Church School(s) if applicable:	Skelton cum Newby C of E Primary School (voluntary controlled)
(b)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Aided?</li> <li>• Controlled?</li> <li>• Foundation?</li> </ul>	Voluntary controlled
(c)	Number of pupils on roll (approx)?	25
(d)	If aided, does the PCC support the school?	Voluntary assistance by Churchwarden.

#### VII. Lay Education and Participation

1.	What education and training work takes place in the Church for the following (give approx numbers):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Monthly family service.</li> </ul>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Children</li> <li>• Young People</li> <li>• Adults</li> </ul>	
2(a)	Give details of house/prayer groups:	Lent groups have regularly taken place in different people's homes around the Benefice.
(b)	Are the leaders clergy or lay?	Leadership has been both lay and ordained in the past.
3(a)	How do you rate the strength of lay leadership?	Strong, but ready for growth with our new Vicar
(b)	To what do you credit this strength, or lack of it?	Strength: encouragement of those with ideas, encouraging us to take responsibility for our own church. Weakness: extra volunteers and new ideas need to be added

### VIII. Mission

1.	List areas of Church life which you consider in need of development.	<p>1. The Family service is beautifully crafted by Jeni Widdows and needs to be better supported to encourage children to begin their Christian journey.</p> <p>2. St Helen's is full on Easter Sunday, Harvest Festival and Christmas Day and a collective effort to try and fill the church for the regular Sunday services needs to be coordinated.</p> <p>3. Ensuring the attendance of non-church going members of the parish support the church's fund raising and social events as a gateway to further involvement in the church.</p>
2.	What are the main areas of mission that you think the new priest should prioritise in their ministry?	<p>1. Good pastoral care in the context of a small rural and farming community.</p> <p>2. Strong leadership and direction.</p> <p>3. Growth in numbers not only to services but also to social events.</p> <p>4 Events which attract members of the parish and other parishes who would not usually attend.</p>
3,	In summary, what are the top three challenges with which you and the new priest need to engage?	<p>1. Community engagement and Christian outreach.</p> <p>2. Working with a small congregation.</p> <p>3. Spiritual life: developing our closeness to God and sharing of Christ's message.</p>

### IX. Additional information

*Please add here, or on another sheet, anything else which you would like the Patron and the Bishop to know about the conditions, needs and traditions of the parish.*

We are small but very loyal congregation but are looking for someone to lead us spiritually and help us address the challenges we recognise but feel ill equipped to take on alone.

General:

We are blessed by having +Clive Handford living and worshipping in the benefice and taking occasional services. He is currently providing "cover" for our services during the vacancy.

We have an extremely talented organist who leads our worship joyfully bringing our services to life.

Other members of the Benefice will also play at services.

Members of our congregation have enjoyed and benefited from the recorded services that have been provided and something which should be developed on in the future.

The three parishes have operated largely independently historically, with only a handful of parishioners attending services in another parish week by week. There are however some important "cross overs":

Some which have been initiated since the Pandemic and hopefully will in some way continue.

- A united benefice service whenever there is a fifth Sunday in the month, which rotates around the parishes;
- The benefice choir, with members drawn from across the benefice and beyond.
- Morning prayer by conference call (a lockdown initiative) each Wednesday morning, led by +Clive;
- A monthly recorded meditation, which was started by our vicar and is now continued with contributions provided by +Clive and various members of the congregations;
- Recordings of the regular and occasional services are circulated;
- The parish Safeguarding Officer and Administrator for Kirby Hill, performs the same role for Skelton and Cundall;
- (Currently suspended during Covid) a benefice magazine, compiled by editorial team from across the churches and are delivered free to parishioners in the parish.
- The service pattern has changed during the pandemic, such that at Skelton we only have one service each month. This has led to quite a stable group of regular communicants and attendees from across the parishes, as well as those who come when it is "their" church. It should be recognised however that though in some ways the parishes have benefitted from this pattern of worship, there are also those who, though in some cases for other reasons, have ceased to worship in church.

## **X. The new priest**

*List the qualities and skills you would like to see in the new priest.*

1. A strong leader, working through collaboration with and empowerment of the laity, whilst providing spiritual and practical support and guidance.
2. A people person: compassionate, tolerant, a good communicator and listener, and a good role model with a sense of humour.
3. With an understanding of, or prepared to develop a deep understanding of the dynamics and pressure on a small rural and farming community.
4. Someone who takes their own wellbeing seriously, continues their own development and training and support from their wider colleagues.

**Agreed by the PCC of Skelton cum Newby**

**on 9<sup>th</sup> February 2021**



**Signed:**

**Print Name: THOMAS MARK ROBINSON**

**Office Held: Church warden**

**This form, duly completed, should be sent to:**

***The Administrator for the Designated Officer***

***Deborah Thorley***

***Diocese of Leeds, Church House***

***17-19 York Place, Leeds, LS1 2EX***

***deborah.thorley@leeds.anglican.org***

She will circulate copies to the Patron and Bishop

**Please also send a copy directly to the Archdeacon's office**

***Please keep copies of this form***

***and ensure that all PCC members have a signed copy.***