

Parish Fact Sheet

Incumbent



This form is designed to give an overview of a parish to be used in a vacancy to help it find an appropriate incumbent. It will be accepted as the "statement describing the conditions, needs and traditions of the parish" required by the Patronage (Benefices) Measure 1986. Additional information may be given by way of a Parish Profile document.

PARISH: Ashley St. Elizabeth DATE: June 2024

DEANERY: Bowdon

SUMMARY OF INFORMATION

1. Number of C of E churches/places of worship in the parish: 1
2. Population. 400
3. Number on electoral roll. 61
4. Usual Sunday attendance (*taken from last annual return*)
under 16 years of age: 2 16 and over: 28
5. PCC ordinary income (*i.e. total of voluntary income and other ordinary income taken from last annual return*): £ 36.080
6. Average weekly gift per regular giver: £ 6

PERSONNEL

1. Name of (former) incumbent: Karen Stanton
2. Name(s) of Assistant Clergy (*indicate whether stipendiary (SM) or self-supporting (SSM)*): Retired Clergy take occasional Services
3. Name(s) of Readers, Pastoral Workers and any other licensed lay workers:
John Moss, Julie Withers, Chris Graham
4. Name(s) and office of any other staff (*such as Church Army Captain, community worker, administrator*) employed. Please state number of hours worked per week:

None directly. We have access to an Administrator employed by St. Peter's Hale, for which we make an annual contribution.

THE PARISH

1. Is the parish inner urban/urban/suburban/village/scattered rural?
Village / scattered rural

2. Is the population
(a) static rising or falling? static
(b) settled or mobile? settled

3. Is the population
(a) Predominantly retired/middle-aged/young families?
a wide range
(b) Does it include: professional/executive/manual/unemployed?
yes
(c) Describe any ethnic groups resident in the parish:

none

4. Estimate the proportion of housing:
(a) owner-occupied: 65%
(b) local authority: 15%
(c) privately rented: 20%

5. Please list:
(a) number and types of schools in the parish:

none

(b) number of nursing homes/elderly persons' homes none
(c) any youth centres? noe
(d) any community centres? one, the Ashley Centre within the Church
(e) name(s) of hospitals in the parish: none

6. Name of hospital, if any, of which the incumbent is chaplain:
n/a

7. Does the incumbent have specific civic responsibilities? If so, what?
n/a
8. Are there any links with local industry?
n/a
9. Does the parish have any significant social problems, e.g. high unemployment?
no

CHURCH SERVICES

1. How do you describe the church tradition? Traditional catholic / modern catholic / central / open evangelical / conservative evangelical or some other label?
central
2. Give the pattern of Sunday services:

1st Sunday - Community Service (lay led) 2nd - either Matins or All Age Service (lay reader) 3rd - Family Communion (visiting retired priest) 4th - Holy Communion (Vicar) 5th - non Communion Service
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3. Which prayer book is used for the services of Holy Communion – if both, please State? Book of Common Prayer or Common Worship: _____
Is there a traditional use of
eucharist vestments? Yes/No no
coloured stoles? Yes/No yes
scarf and hood? Yes/No yes
4. What hymn book(s) is/are used?

Hymns Old and New. Either played on a CD player, relayed via Spotify and a Smart Loudspeaker, or played on our digital piano/organ, or the Bosendorfer grand piano.

5. (a) What percentage of the congregation lives outside the parish? 80%
(b) Does any one age group, gender or social class predominate in the congregation? no
6. Average number of communicants on a normal Sunday:
26

7. Numbers during the last year
of baptisms: 2
of confirmation candidates: 0
of weddings: 2
of funerals in church: 0
in crematoria: 0

8. Has the parish received permission from the bishop to admit baptized children to Holy Communion before confirmation? Yes/No
no
If so, how many children were admitted to Holy Communion before confirmation during the last year? n/a

BUILDINGS AND CHURCHYARD

1. Name of the parish church: St Elizabeth's
Year(s) built: 1880
Date of last quinquennial inspection: 2018
List any urgent repair work still to be done:

none

2. Other C of E churches (*mission church/daughter church/chapel of ease*) in the parish: Name and condition of repair:

none

3. In your view, is the parsonage house likely to need extensive refurbishment/ replacement? Yes/No n/a

4. What other buildings (*e.g. church hall, curate's house*) and land (not churchyard) does the parish own? (*Give addresses, use and condition*)

n/a

5. Has the church got a churchyard? Yes/No no
 Is it still in use? Yes/No n/a
 How many new graves were opened last year? n/a
 How many re-openings were there last year? n/a
 Estimate how many years are available for new graves: n/a
 Is there a special area for the interment of ashes? yes

FINANCE

1. Please e-mail (or send) a copy of last year's accounts and last year's annual report of the PCC.
2. Does the church have a stewardship, thanksgiving or planned giving scheme? Yes - Fab50
3. If special money-raising events are held during the year, please give details.

Annual Rose Queen Fete (now usually in September), raises c.£2,500.

Following the housing of the Bosendorfer Grand Piano, regular concerts. No charge for admission, but retiring collection on leaving.

4. (a) What was the amount of expenses paid last year to the:
 incumbent £ none assistant clergy £ 923
 (b) Were these the full amounts claimed? If not, why not
yes
 (c) Does the PCC pay a lump sum or reimburse actual expenses claimed
actual
 Is a claim form used? yes
5. What is the current amount of Parish Share payable by the parish? £ 9,041
6. In the last financial year, did the PCC meet its financial obligations to the Diocese in full for payment of its Parish Share? Yes/No Yes
 If not, what amount was paid: £ _____
 In the current financial year, is the PCC up to date with its Parish Share?
 Yes/No Yes
7. Is there any capital project in hand at the moment? Yes/No no
 Please give brief details with costs and how they are to be met.
n/a

CHURCH EDUCATION AND SOCIAL PROVISION

1. (a) Is there a church school in the parish? Yes/No No
Is it controlled or aided? Yes/No n/a
(b) Number of children on roll: n/a
Is the number static/rising/falling? n/a

(c) What relationship/links are there between church and school?

n/a

(d) If the school is aided, what is the condition of the building?

n/a

2. What provision is made by the church for teaching:

(a) children:

No special provision

(b) young people:

No special provision

(c) adults

We are able to join with St. Peters for additional teaching sessions

3. List church organisations with approximate numbers for:
(a) children: n/a
(b) young people: n/a
(c) adults: n/a

4. Give details of house/prayer groups:

None but we have access to groups at St. Peter's

5. Are the leaders clergy or lay? n/a

DISCIPLESHIP AND LAY MINISTRY

1. How do you rate the strength of lay leadership in the parish? To what do you credit the strength or lack of it?

We have no formally appointed lay readers or similar. However we do have committed lay people who are taking an increasing role in leading our monthly Community Service. Within this group, there may well be people willing to undertake appropriate training

2. Does the parish have a discipleship course? (e.g. Alpha, Emmaus, Christianity Explored). no

3. What other opportunities does the parish provide to lay people to deepen their discipleship and vocation?

Access to courses at St. Peter's

ECUMENICAL RELATIONS

1. State involvement in local council of churches, if any.

We are members of Churches Together in Hale, and host an annual summer Service.

2. Is there a formal covenant with any other denominations?

No

3. What informal contacts are there?

Personal contacts

OUTREACH AND MISSION

1. Please give details of the support of the Church overseas. How much is given annually?

Overseas giving is based upon special collections taken at designated services. In addition, we financially support 2 children at the Don McMath School in The Gambia. Giving totalled £487.

2. Give details of the support for home missions and charities.

As above. Giving totalled £420.

3. Is there an organised system of evangelism in the parish? If so, please describe it.

No

4. Is there an organised system of follow-up to baptisms, weddings, funerals? If so, please describe.

No

5. What part does the church play in community care (e.g. the unemployed/homeless/ drug addicts/disabled)?

None at present

6. Is there an organised system of care for the sick and elderly? If so, what?

Nothing formal. Done on a personal level by laity.

7. What work does the church undertake with young people, other than in church-based organisations (e.g. open youth work)?

None

PUBLICATIONS

1. Is there is a history of the church/parish? If so, please e-mail (or send) a copy.
Yes/No In book form - not emailable

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

1. What are your current goals to achieve for the next 5 years?

1. To establish a strong working relationship with the new incumbent.
2. To maintain our relaxed and welcoming style of worship.
3. To attract more Ashley residents to our fellowship.
4. To train any of our congregation who want to take a greater part in leadership.
5. To use our regular concerts and social events for outreach.

2. List the areas of church life which you consider are in most need of development.

1. More people willing to help with the provision of music for Services.
2. Identifying younger people willing to succeed our Churchwardens, and continue our positive outreach.
3. Maintaining a group of people willing to take our Sunday Services, in the absence of the incumbent.
4. Bringing out the best in all the members of our fellowship.

Signed on behalf of the PCC: _____

Office held: Churchwarden

Copies of this form, duly completed, should be sent to the following:

1. The Bishop of Chester, Bishop's House, Abbey Square, Chester CHI 2JD. (Hard copy)
2. The Suffragan Bishop (Hard copy and electronic copy)
3. The Archdeacon (Electronic copy)
4. The Patron (if the Bishop is the patron, he need not be sent a second copy)
5. The Designated Officer (Mrs E A Geddes, Church House). (Hard copy)
6. The Rural Dean (Electronic copy)
7. The Deanery Lay Chair (Electronic copy)
8. The PCC representatives