

Parish Profile

This form is designed to give an overview of a parish to be used in a vacancy for the appointment of a new parish priest. 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 printed documents or written submissions.

Please write in black ink

I. Parish Information

| | | |
|------|--|--|
| 1(a) | Name of parish(es) to which this information relates: | St John the Evangelist |
| (b) | Name(s) of parish church(es): | St John the Evangelist, Birkby |
| 2. | Name(s) of other C of E church(es)/centres for public worship in the parish: | none |
| 3. | Cluster or group of parishes within which you work (formally or) informally: | Christ Church, Woodhouse as we are 'The United Benefice of St John the Evangelist, Birkby and Christ Church, Woodhouse'. |
| 4. | Deanery: | Huddersfield |
| 5. | Population: <i>The 2021 census information gives the following figures. Please indicate how this might have changed since then.</i> | 2021 census showed population of 6358. Not aware of any changes to affect this. |

| | | |
|------|--|-----------------------------|
| 6(a) | Number on Electoral Roll: | 46 |
| (b) | Date of APM when this number was declared: | 28 th April 2024 |

7. Attendance at worship in each church

Please provide details of average attendance at Sunday and weekday services

| Church/Service | Time | No. of communicants | Adult attendance | Under 16 |
|---------------------------------------|----------|---------------------|------------------|----------|
| St John / Sung Holy Eucharist, Sunday | 9.15am | 21 | 20 | 5 |
| St John / Said Holy Communion, Weds | 10.00 am | 6 | 6 | 0 |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |

8. Occasional offices

Number for last 12 months in each church

| Church | Baptisms | Confirmees | Weddings | Funerals in church | Funerals taken by clergy not in church |
|---------|----------|------------|----------|--------------------|--|
| St John | 0 | 13 | 0 | 7 | unknown |
| | | | | | Rev PT did the PF1s |
| | | | | | so we only aware |
| | | | | | when in church |

9. Communications

Names, Addresses & Telephone Numbers for each church

| Church | Clergy | Readers | Lay staff eg Youth worker, Administrator | Churchwardens |
|---------|--------|---------|--|---|
| St John | none | none | none | Grahame Berry 41 Arnold St, Birkby, Hudds 01484 516945 Peter Prasadam 9 Valley Head Birkby, Huddersfield HD2 2DH 07827878858 |

II. Parish/Community Information

1(a) Briefly describe the population mix of the (se) parish(es) in terms of its employment, cultural, ethnic, age and housing mix.

Birkby is in the Kirklees district ward of Greenhead and has a diverse population

<https://observatory.kirklees.gov.uk/overview-reports/#/view-report/839e0620cc994842b0429359599f1938/E05001402>

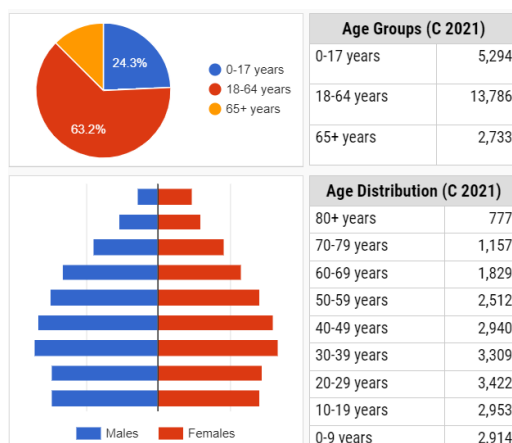
| | Greenhead | | England | |
|---|-----------|------|------------|-----|
| | Count | % | Count | % |
| Asian/Asian British, 2021 | 8,652 | 39.7 | 5,426,392 | 9.6 |
| Black/African/Caribbean/Black British, 2021 | 1,086 | 5 | 2,381,724 | 4.2 |
| Mixed/multiple ethnic groups, 2021 | 1,051 | 4.8 | 1,669,378 | 3 |
| White, 2021 | 10,116 | 46.4 | 45,783,401 | 81 |
| Other ethnic group, 2021 | 910 | 4.2 | 1,229,153 | 2.2 |

There are significant groups of people in the Greenhead ward that identify with different faiths. The largest group is Muslim at 37%. Sikhs are 2.5% and Christians 27%.

| | Greenhead | | England | |
|-----------------------------|-----------|------|------------|------|
| | Count | % | Count | % |
| Christian, 2021 | 5,922 | 27.1 | 26,167,899 | 46.3 |
| Buddhist, 2021 | 114 | 0.5 | 262,433 | 0.5 |
| Hindu, 2021 | 152 | 0.7 | 1,020,533 | 1.8 |
| Jewish, 2021 | 9 | 0 | 269,283 | 0.5 |
| Muslim, 2021 | 8,078 | 37 | 3,801,186 | 6.7 |
| Sikh, 2021 | 536 | 2.5 | 520,092 | 0.9 |
| Other religion, 2021 | 122 | 0.6 | 332,410 | 0.6 |
| Religion Not answered, 2021 | 1,313 | 6 | 3,400,548 | 6 |
| No religion, 2021 | 5,567 | 25.5 | 20,715,664 | 36.7 |

2021 Census for age distribution in the Greenhead ward shows the 18-64 age group are close to the national averages. The 0-14 age group 7% higher and the 65+ age group 6% lower than national averages :

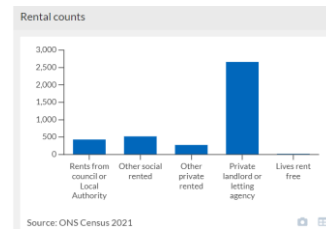
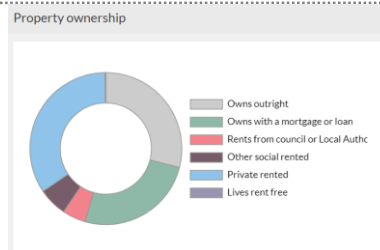
https://www.citypopulation.de/en/uk/yorkshireandthehumber/wards/kirklees/_E05001402_greenhead/



Employment status in the Greenhead Ward shows a significantly higher than national average of claimants:

| | Greenhead | | England | |
|---|-----------|-----|-----------|-----|
| | Count | % | Count | % |
| Age 16+ - Total - Claimant count,2024-03 | 1,010 | 7.3 | 1,415,340 | 3.9 |
| Age 16+ - Female - Claimant count,2024-03 | 410 | 6.3 | 611,090 | 3.4 |
| Age 16+ - Male - Claimant count,2024-03 | 600 | 8.1 | 804,250 | 4.5 |
| Aged 16-24 - Total - Claimant count,2024-03 | 140 | 5.1 | 251,540 | 4.1 |
| Aged 25-49 - Total - Claimant count,2024-03 | 640 | 8.1 | 843,190 | 4.5 |
| Aged 50+ - Total - Claimant count,2024-03 | 230 | 7 | 320,590 | 2.9 |

Housing in the Greenhead Ward 2021 census data shows a significantly high level of private renting:



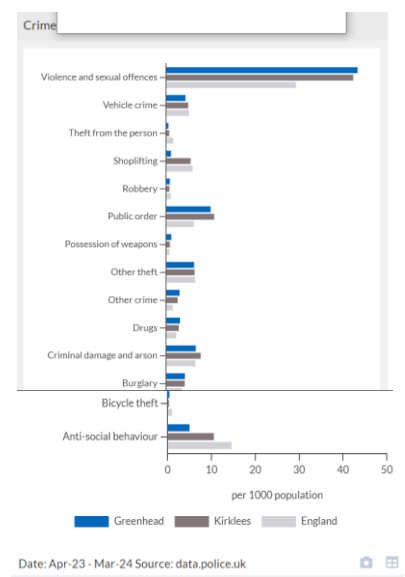
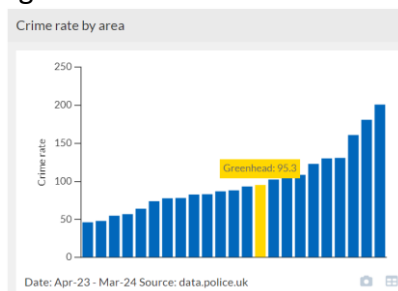
(b) Are there any special social problems (eg high unemployment)?

Hostel used as 'emergency accommodation' for vulnerable people. Deprivation figures 2019: Birkby lies within the lowest worst 10% of areas nationally. These deprivation domain indicators include:

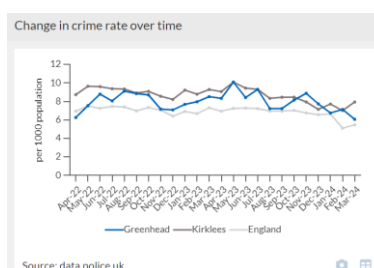
- Employment Deprivation Domain
- Health Deprivation and Disability Domain
- Education, Skills and Training Deprivation (Sub Domains: Skills; Children/Young People)
- Barriers to Housing and Services (Sub Domains: Wider Barriers; Geographical Barriers)
- Crime Domain
- The Living Environment (Sub-domains: the "indoors" living environment; The "outdoors" living environment)

https://www.kirklees.gov.uk/beta/information-and-data/pdf/KMC_ID2019.pdf

Crime Information indicators reflect national trends and in some cases eg sexual violence exceed national averages:



Overall, Crime in Greenhead has recently been on a downward trajectory:



| | | |
|----|---|--|
| | | <p>A significant recent development is that a new Government Asylum centre has opened just outside the Greenhead Ward with the aim of accommodating 870 asylum seekers.</p> <p>Also, the Church is a Grade II* listed building: https://facultyonline.churchofengland.org/church-heritage-record-birkby-st-john-the-evangelist-646076#Home</p> <p>Victorian church by William Butterfield with tower and spire. Works to stabilise and repair the east end of the church and repair the roofs were carried out with grant-aid from the National Lottery Heritage Fund and Historic England. A Heritage Stimulus Fund grant, administered by Historic England, has recently supported repairs to the tower. A further phase of work to repair the west window is required.</p> |
| 2. | <p>Please list for each</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local Schools: • Youth centres: • Hospitals: • Nursing/elderly persons' homes: • Places of worship of other faiths • Local Businesses: | <p>Brambles Primary Academy (opened in last 2 years) Birkby Infant & Nursery School Birkby Junior School St Patrick's Catholic Junior School The Mount (private school) Little Angels (nursery & pre-school) Birkbees (nursery & pre-school)</p> <p>None</p> <p>Huddersfield Hospital (private)</p> <p>Beechwood Care Home</p> <p>Vajrapani Bhuddist Centre, Methodist Church, Several Mosques Sikh Temple Elim Pentecostal Polish Church Centre Kingdom Hall of Jehovah Witness</p> <p>DJ Screen undertaker, Walkers Timber merchants, A-Z DIY shop, Huddersfield Retail Park, Ringway Industrial Park, Gym, pubs, take-aways, caravan transporter business, 'white goods' retail establishment plus MANY small family run businesses & shops, take aways, florist, café, hairdressers etc. Magic Rock Brewery (opposite church). Extensive Asian Grocery and take-away shops</p> |

| | |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Neighbourhood initiatives: • Associations eg tourist group: • Describe any civic responsibilities which the clergy have: | <p>Aspire/Whist Group/ Soup Kitchen (Bread of Life)/ Heritage Open Days/Coffee Mornings/ Open School Days</p> <p>External Community Memorial for a tragically deceased Muslim family in 2002</p> <p>Internal Community Memorial to the death of three young teachers in the August bank Holiday of 2000</p> |
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III. Church Information

Please give details for each church

| | | |
|------|---|---|
| 1(a) | What percentage of the congregation lives outside the parish? | 35% |
| (b) | Describe the mix of the congregation in terms of age, employment, cultural, ethnicity, age and gender. | Mixed ages – elderly and retired (Afro/Caribbean, English & Asian) mostly female, few men. Some working age & employed. A significantly high proportion of the Church population is made up of Pakistani Christian families with children. |
| 2(a) | How would you describe the churchmanship tradition of each church and give details of robes and vestments worn by officiants? | Middle of the road – traditional. Robes and full Vestments (appropriate to the church season) worn at all services (both Sunday & Wednesday). Sunday services are Sung Eucharist accompanied on our pipe organ, Wednesday services are said Holy Communion. |
| (b) | What is the regular average weekly giving of those 16 years & over and what proportion of the giving is gift aided? | Total £195 approx. 43% gift aided Also monthly standing orders totalling £130/ month which is all gift aided. |
| (c) | When did you last have a stewardship campaign? | September 2023 – Gift Day Appeal (takes place each September) |
| 3. | How does each Church supplement its direct giving in order to meet its financial needs? | Fundraising – at least one event every month. Hire out our ‘community’ room which is inside church on: Monday evening, Thursday morning, Friday morning during term time. Outside term time not Fridays. Used as a polling station on |

| | | election days. Other hirings as requested. | | | | | | | | |
|------------------------|--|--|------------------------|-------------------|-------|------|-------|-----------------------|---------------------|---------------|
| 4(a) | What amount of working expenses were paid to the clergy in the last financial year? | NIL – none requested | | | | | | | | |
| (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? | No – if expenses are requested (telephone, travel etc), then they are paid. | | | | | | | | |
| 5(a) | What amount of Share has (a) been requested; and (b) been paid from the parish in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • last year? (2023) • current year? (2024) • next year? | <table border="0"> <thead> <tr> <th><u>Share requested</u></th> <th><u>Share Paid</u></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>18136</td> <td>8200</td> </tr> <tr> <td>19268</td> <td>700 per month to date</td> </tr> <tr> <td>No request received</td> <td>to be decided</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> | <u>Share requested</u> | <u>Share Paid</u> | 18136 | 8200 | 19268 | 700 per month to date | No request received | to be decided |
| <u>Share requested</u> | <u>Share Paid</u> | | | | | | | | | |
| 18136 | 8200 | | | | | | | | | |
| 19268 | 700 per month to date | | | | | | | | | |
| No request received | to be decided | | | | | | | | | |
| (b) | Will this year's be met? | Not in full, but it was paid in full from 2012 to 2019 inclusive, affected then by the pandemic and lock down. | | | | | | | | |
| 6(a) | Is there any capital project in hand at the moment? | Capital building work is now overdue – see details below in 6b | | | | | | | | |
| (b) | Please give brief details with costs and state how they are to be met. | Remainder of work to the Tower, Chancel roof & West Wall. Last estimated at £750,000 in 2020, though £30,000 (aided by a grant from Heritage England) of this work done to the tower in 2021 so possibly around £720,000+ now. Again though prices will probably have increased. Further work will need to be supported by grant applications, mainly Heritage Lottery project which will need to meet the strict new criteria for acceptance. Also hopefully Yorkshire Historic Churches etc plus additional fundraising by church members. | | | | | | | | |
| 7. | Please attach a copy of the last PCC accounts. | Attached as a pdf – Annual APCM booklet which includes accounts for 2023. | | | | | | | | |
| 8(a) | What is the general state of repair of: the Church(es) - <i>please list</i> | To date St John's has undertaken 3 major phases of restoration work 1) East window and wall during 2011/2012. 2) North roof outside done in 2014/2015. 3) South roof outside & inside (completed in Dec 2018). North roof inside could not be completed due to more extensive work required than had been anticipated. Some very urgent work to the tower was done | | | | | | | | |

| | | |
|-----|---|---|
| | | <p>early 2021 to the tower to stop water ingress. Phase 4 still to be done (see below). Hopefully after this work completed then the re-ordering of church needs to be undertaken to make the church a more viable community resource.</p> |
| (b) | <p>Please give details of major maintenance needed following the last quinquennial.</p> | <p>Phase 4 needs to be undertaken urgently. This is the chancel roof (recently discovered that water is getting into the organ chamber via the chancel roof) and remaining work to the tower. Also some work to be done to West window.</p> |

IV. Outreach and Mission

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|------|---|--|
| 1(a) | What are the regular mission and outreach activities of the parish? | Children from the local infant's school come to church once a year (usually 5 classes) to look round and be shown the different areas and fixtures in church. Children from preschool group (Birkbees) come along, usually before Christmas when we show them our nativity figures and relate the Christmas story. Local children from Brambles Primary Academy came pre-Christmas 2023 (1 st visit) to hear about the Christmas story, look at our nativity figures and help put them into the crib ready for Christmas. |
| (b) | What are you doing to help people find out about Jesus? | Regular Sunday and Wednesday Worship. Weekly Sunday leaflet given out with readings and prayers. Resources are provided for a Sunday School to be run at the same time as the Sunday morning service. 13 young people were confirmed in November 2024 reflecting a thirst for spiritual development of young people that the Church is committed to. |
| (c) | What are you doing to help grow people in discipleship? | Through our worship and praying about it. A lay-reader has been appointed to develop understanding of scriptures and faith. This includes a focus on families and young people. |
| (d) | What are you doing to grow people in leadership? | The Church seeks to grow leadership at all levels. In particular it seeks to be inclusive of all ethnic backgrounds and actively seeks participation from global majority heritage people. |
| 2(a) | Please give details of the support of the Church overseas: | Christian Aid. In addition to the envelopes given to the congregation, church donates 50% from our May Coffee Morning proceeds. The Church also collects for worldwide disaster appeals as they arise. |
| (b) | How much is given annually? | Varies depending on envelopes total. £83 given in envelopes in 2023 + £55 from our coffee morning from church was given to Christian Aid. |
| 3(a) | Give details of the support for home missions and charities: | Church Homeless Trust donation from church funds. Macmillan Nurses (Coffee Morning for them held end of September) - all proceeds to them. The Childrens' Society – collecting boxes given to congregation members and collection from a Christingle service donated. Others as agreed at PCC if/when requested. |

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| | | Currently the Church also supports a local 'Soup Kitchen' by letting them use our facilities without charge. They used to get outside funding which paid for them to use our facilities which also generated a little income, but this has dried up, so during all of 2023 and so far in 2024 there has been no charge made to the group for gas, electricity or room hire. The Church collects dried & tinned food donations for the main food bank in Huddersfield (The Welcome Centre). |
| (b) | How much is given annually? | Varies year by year. In the region of £500 |
| 3(a) | Does the parish have an overseas link? | No |
| (b) | If so, please state where/who? | N/A |
| 4(a) | Is there an organised system of outreach and welcome to new families? | A warm welcome is given to any newcomers and visitors to church. |
| (b) | If so, please describe: | Coffee and tea is given after services. Churchwarden welcomes all attendants to the Sunday service. Outreach days/fundraising welcomes all. |
| 5. | What part does the church play in community care? | The church started the Aspire Project in 2015, for older folk, mostly living on their own and isolated. They come along on Thursday mornings and take part in varying activities eg board games, craft work, they have speakers come in and generally a multitude of different activities, including gentle exercise. When any of these people are not able to come to the session, there are Aspire volunteers who visit them at home or in the Care Home. The people who come to these sessions are <u>not</u> church people – they are from the community. Aspire also goes into a local sheltered housing complex to give similar sessions there. Since they started this project 8.5 years ago it has spread so there are now 7 groups throughout Huddersfield. Also during the colder months, usually from November to end of March, the Church runs a Warm Hub where anyone can come on a Thursday afternoon to keep warm, have some soup & a roll, hot drink & biscuits and chat. All free of charge. Requests are received from non-denominational churches to use the space outside the Sunday services |

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| | | Occasional other services are organised and led by the Pakistani Christian Community. The Church seeks to build on the strength of this community of believers. |
| 6(a) | Are there any Lay Eucharistic Assistants who take communion to the sick? | Not at present, but we seek to appoint PCC members to be responsible. |
| (b) | If so, who are they? | N/A |
| 7. | What work does the church undertake with young people, other than in church based organisations (eg open youth work)? | The Pakistani Christian Community reflects different denominations. In addition there are some links to the Roman Catholic Church and the Elim Pentecostal Church. |

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

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|------|--|-----|
| 1(a) | Name of Church School(s) if applicable: | N/A |
| (b) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aided? • Controlled? • Foundation? | N/A |
| (c) | Number of pupils on roll (approx)? | N/A |
| (d) | If aided, does the PCC support the school? | N/A |

VII. Lay Education and Participation

| | | |
|------|---|--|
| 1. | <p>What education and training work takes place in the Church for the following (give approx numbers):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children • Young People • Adults | <p>Sunday School resources available for children during the morning Eucharist.</p> <p>Weekly Sunday Worship is the core of the outreach. Recently the Church saw 13 young people confirmed. The Church is looking into ways of continuing to develop and enrich the outreach to young families and young people</p> <p>Regular communication / advice is given through Sunday worship and publications.</p> |
| 2(a) | Give details of house/prayer groups: | None at present. |
| (b) | Are the leaders clergy or lay? | N/A |
| 3(a) | How do you rate the strength of lay leadership? | There is a core of lay people who take responsibility for the smooth running of the church in all respects. The Church recognises that leadership should be more distributed. |
| (b) | To what do you credit this strength, or lack of it? | Dedicated individuals but the number needs to be increased to share responsibilities. |

VIII. Mission

| | | |
|----|--|--|
| 1. | List areas of Church life which you consider in need of development. | <p>To encourage families into church.</p> <p>To develop and support the faith of families and young people.</p> <p>General pastoral care including care/visiting of the sick.</p> <p>Increase involvement of lay people in services (before, during and after services).</p> <p>Encourage people to help in 'out of hours jobs' both in and around the church (ie help in jobs to be done on a regular basis rather than left to 2 or 3 people to do it all).</p> <p>Develop work/visits with the local schools.</p> |
|----|--|--|

| | | |
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| | | <p>Be known in and reach out to the wider community.</p> <p>To reach out to different faiths within the community to establish trusted links.</p> <p>To serve and support those in extreme need eg asylum seekers</p> |
| 2. | What are the main areas of mission that you think the new priest should prioritise in their ministry? | All as listed above |
| 3. | In summary, what are the top three challenges with which you and the new priest need to engage? | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. General pastoral care 2. Support and develop the faith of families and young children into church 3. Strengthen links between the church and the local community |

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.

There are two housing estates, each less than ¼ mile from church but currently no-one from these estates attend services or social events.

Many attendees at our numerous Social and Fundraising events do not attend St John's church services, but they are made very welcome and invited to attend other events if they wish. It would be hoped that the new Priest in Charge would also support many of these events held throughout the year, which could possibly be the first step to encouraging some of these people to attend church.

September 2018 saw us join in the National Heritage Open Days for the first time and we have done this every year since, when able to (within Covid restrictions in 2020). We hope to be doing this again this year and hope that it encourages visitors to come and see what St John's has to offer. Several accomplished organists play on the days we are open.

We hope that we can continue to join in these Heritage Open Days far into the future but we do need others to help us do this.

X. The New Priest

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

The Church Community seeks a priest who is outgoing, warm, energetic, open-minded and tolerant, and able to relate easily to the diversity of the Church and its wider community.

We seek someone who will help us to:

- be committed to the rich Eucharistic and liturgical life of the congregation, while encouraging new worship initiatives to encourage people to connect and grow in faith
- be both a spiritual and pastoral leader to help us grow in faith
- develop our spirituality and the understanding of our faith in clear and easily accessible terms
- minister to the needs of various age groups in our congregation
- be a good communicator who can reach the wide variety of nationalities who worship with us.
- increase our outreach towards the disadvantaged and needy, in particular with regard to asylum seekers.
- relate to children and young people on their own terms, to develop their sense of belonging to a community of faith
- Be an active and visible presence in the community leading, growing and facilitating good community partnerships
- Motivate and develop a mission-shaped community of faith
- Someone with hope and optimism who is prepared to lead a community in development and growth
- A person with the organizational skills to oversee and lead funding applications related to significant building restoration and community outreach
- Grow inter-faith links especially with regard to local, Muslim, Sikh, Buddhist and Hindu communities.
- Build-up and grow links with regards to young people especially through work with schools.
- Grow a vision for the ministry of the benefice of St John the Evangelist and Christ Church, Woodhouse

Agreed by the PCC of

ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST, BIRKBY

on 2nd June 2024

Signed: *Grahame Berry*

Signed: *Peter Prasadam*

Print Name: GRAHAME BERRY
Office Held: CHURCHWARDEN

Print Name: PETER PRASADAM
Office Held: CHURCHWARDEEN

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, Bishop and Archdeacon

***Please keep copies of this form
and ensure that all PCC members have a signed copy.***