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PARISH PROFILE for potential applicants for the post of CHILDREN'S & FAMILIES' MISSIONER



INCUMBENT: Name: Revd Peter Hubbard

Address: The Vicarage, 42 Eric Lock Road West, Bayston Hill, Shrewsbury, SY3 0QA

Date of Ordination: 2004 **Length of time in parish:** Nov 2016

Previous Ministerial Experience, Personal Interests etc.:

(2012- 2016) Associate Vicar at Trinity Churches (Meole Brace, Shrewsbury) with responsibility for Christ the King Radbrook Green, and Chaplain of Prestfelde School, Shrewsbury.

(2008-2012) Rector of the parish of Karrinyup, Diocese of Perth, Western Australia.

(2004-2007) Curate in the parish of Hinckley West, Holy Trinity with St John the Evangelist, Leicester Diocese. (2001-2004) Trained at Trinity College, Bristol. Prior to ordination training I worked as a secondary school teacher for some years, and also worked as a civil servant in the Department of Social Security. Before that I did a degree in History at York University. In terms of ministry, I have particular interests in exploring the potential of 'missional communities' in how we 'do' church, and also being involved in overseas mission through links with organizations such as CMS and TEARfund.

Interests - I enjoy walking in the Shropshire hills or further afield in Wales. I also enjoy cycling, swimming and playing badminton. I love the outdoor life. Debbie and I enjoy going to the cinema and meals out with friends and family.

THE PARISH SETTING :

Bayston Hill is a large suburban village in central Shropshire about 3 miles south of Shrewsbury. It is situated on the A49 and is separated from the town by a narrowing green belt and the new A5 linking to the M54. The village is on a slight rise overlooking Shrewsbury to the north and looking towards the Wrekin to the east. It is surrounded by mixed farmland. Lyth Hill, a local beauty spot, lies within the parish.

View of The
Wrekin from
Lyth Hill



Bayston Hill is a village of mainly modern housing dating from the 1970's, with older properties at either end of the village. Approximately 96% of village homes are owner occupied. The church and staff houses are situated in the newer development. About 5,500 people, predominately white British, live here covering a wide spectrum of ages, occupations and interests. The demography goes against the national trend in that Bayston Hill is getting younger! The crime rate is low.

The village has most facilities that are needed, and others are available close at hand. There is a library, doctors' surgery, post office and other grocery and food outlets. Two miles towards Shrewsbury is the large modern Meole Brace retail park containing Sainsbury's Superstore and almost anything else you might want!

The main hospital for the area (The Royal Shrewsbury Hospital) is on the south western edge of the town. The private Nuffield Hospital is closer to the village on the southern edge.



York House For over 40 years Christ Church has had a ministry towards people with learning and other disabilities and their families. Our church building was designed to cater for their needs. Members of the church are involved as volunteers and the clergy and fellowship at Christ Church have always included York House as an important part of their ministry. Residents are regarded with much affection and are seen as an integral part of the church and its mission, requiring us to ensure that we consider the challenges and rewards of developing effective inclusion and access.



Oakmeadow School

The village school is Oakmeadow Church of England Primary and Nursery School. It was formed when Longmeadow CE Primary and Nursery School and Oakland Primary School merged in September 2009. A new £4 million building opened in September 2011. There are 380 children currently on roll. The school's governing body includes 4 foundation governors. Our relationship with the school is

very strong, with the vicar and curate taking regular assemblies in school, monthly school services in church, input into the curriculum and pastoral care. In 2016 the school was judged by OFSTED to be 'good' with 'outstanding leadership and EYFS'. Oakmeadow was also judged as an outstanding church school in a recent SIAMS inspection. The school are very much in favour of a new Children's & Families Missioner being appointed!

THE CHURCH



Our fellowship comes from a wide range of church backgrounds. It is therefore hard to summarise an overall style of 'how we do church' but the most concise summary could be: informal, evangelical, welcoming and open to the gifts of the Spirit. Our Electoral Roll this year is 205.

Sunday services

9.00am — **The More Traditional One.** Common Worship is used for either Morning Prayer or Holy Communion. Although music is slightly more traditional at this service we do regularly use modern songs, and the piano,

keyboard or organ are played as appropriate. The average attendance in 2016 was 55. The service appeals to those who enjoy this more traditional approach.

10.30am — **The One for All Ages,** attended by a wider age range. There is a crèche available for those with very young children and we run children's and youth activities during these services. Services are more informal than the 9am. Selected parts of Common Worship are used for the monthly celebration of Family Communion. Average attendance in 2016 was 70 adults and 9 children. The emphasis

is on more modern music led by musicians using a variety of instruments. There are occasionally audio-visual presentations (sometimes used at 9.00am also), or other creative activities used to increase the impact of the message. There are also the occasional joint morning service at 10am which is much appreciated.



7.00 pm – **"One"** is our monthly service focussing on worship and intercessory prayer: **One Church - One Purpose - One Hour.** Christ Church is also a popular venue for concerts, diocesan training events and other worship events because of its size, accessibility and location.



Our main services are as follows:

Sunday	9 a.m.	· the more traditional one
	10.30 a.m. -	· the one for all ages (including creche, Rocksalt (4-11s) and Wearing God's Wellies (secondary school age group))
	7 p.m.	· the informal one
Monday	12.30 p.m.	· Senior Citizens Lunches (monthly)
Tuesday	9.15 a.m.	· weekly morning prayer
Wednesday	10.30 a.m.	· Said Holy Communion (monthly)
	2 p.m.	· Oakmeadow CE Primary church service (monthly)

Children and Young People provision on Sundays:

“**Stay together**” generally takes place on the 2nd Sunday in the month. It’s a shorter, interactive style service that seeks to enable all ages to worship God together and learn from and encourage one another.

This service provides a great opportunity to invite family and friends along, who would like to explore faith but don't usually come to church.

“**See and Know**” happens in the Rocksalt room on the 4th Sunday in the month and is a song based, very interactive session that helps our youngest children to engage with God's word and his love for each one of us. It is followed up by a craft activity related to the theme of the week for preschool and primary aged children and a separate prayer or Bible based activity for the teenagers who help with See and Know on this Sunday.

“**Rock Salt**” is for primary aged children and takes place on the first and third Sunday of the month. During our time together we like to share Bible Stories, helping children to make a connection with the characters through singing, craft and movement. Our aim is to encourage a heart for prayer and show that God loves us all.

“**Pray bake and read**” is for young people and takes place on the first Sunday each month. We pray for issues arising during the week at school and in the wider world. As we bake we continue to talk and share steps forward with each other, finishing the session by reading from God's word to take us into the coming week. The congregation then get to share in sampling our baking!

On the third Sunday of each month, young people take a deeper exploration into scripture. This aims to help us understand our faith and the importance of reading God's word. We learn about events in the Bible and aim to build our faith through what God is teaching us. From there we aim to put our faith into action.

Staff or Team Members:

Parish Administrator (works p/t Monday-Friday); Treasurer; Caretaker; f/t stipendiary curate (ordained 2018); p/t SSM Curate (ordained 2015); Vicar. We also have a number of retired clergy who minister at our Sunday services.

Lay involvement:

Perhaps the best way to describe 'lay involvement' at Christ Church is to tell you about one thriving expression of community here called...

**Coffee in the Living Room**

Coffee in the Living Room is run by members of the fellowship and meets on Tuesday mornings as a community coffee morning. Coffee in the Living Room came from our own desire to reach out to the community and from discussions with the local medical practice. Nearly every visitor comments on the welcome and warmth of Coffee in the Living Room and the care and love shown by all who are there. It has provided an excellent opportunity to share God's love through

conversations, relationships, humour, practical help, prayer and care for one another. Numbers fluctuate but

the average was 77 in 2016. We have a committed prayer team that meets at the same time, providing personal prayer support if needed.

There are many other ways that Christ Church folk are involved in care, outreach and acts of loving service in Bayston Hill, but Coffee in the Living Room typifies that!

House Groups:

There are currently 9 'adult' Home Groups, and a 'youth' bible study group; each of them has a distinct style and 'flavour'! Home Groups generally follow the Sunday sermon series. In terms of prayer groups, as already described, we have a Monthly prayer event called 'ONE'; on Tuesday mornings we have Weekly Morning Prayer - praying for the life and mission of the church, those from church community in need, and the life, work and witness of church community beyond the walls of the church building. The Mission Action Group (MAG) meets each month to pray for the missions/missionaries we support. The Pastoral team has quarterly prayer. Coffee in the Living Room has prayer going on 'in the background'. We also have occasional larger prayer meetings or gatherings depending on what is happening in the life of the church.

Links in the town:

York House (home for adults with learning difficulties)
Soul Purpose (a town-wide and 'youth led' ministry of care and practical outreach)
Street Pastors
Shrewsbury Youth for Christ
Churches Together in Shrewsbury

Opportunities for the development of fresh expressions of church:

Christ Church has a strong calling to develop fresh expressions. Our monthly Messy Church is having a break at the moment, but we believe that with many families in the village would be in support of it being re-established! There is ample scope for the right person to develop fresh expressions amongst a wide range of people in the village. The church is very open to being involved in such areas of new ministry.

Any future plans:



As well as the above, there is a very current development called **The Glebeland development**, an informal open space used by the public, at the rear of the church which is currently let at a peppercorn rent to the Parish Council. Pedestrian access to the field is through the large church car park. Other interested parties are Prospects, who own York House, and the Scouts and Guides, who own a small area of land adjacent to the Glebe Field.

The proposal has been jointly drawn up by Shropshire Council, the Diocese of Lichfield and Christ Church. An illustrative housing layout (shown here) has been prepared, which includes a significant area of public open space, a new Community Hub building housing the relocated Library and Bayston Hill Parish Council offices, a children's play area, and parking for about 45 cars. Existing trees would be retained where possible and footpath links provided throughout the site. It is planned to submit an outline planning application for the

development in the autumn of 2018. This development is very exciting for Christ Church as it would help to put us 'in the centre' of community life in Bayston Hill!

THE CHURCH'S VISION AND PRIORITIES FOR THE FUTURE OF THE PARISH:

Our mission statement as a church is...

'Loving God, living His adventure'.

Our values are: **Worshipping God ... Following Jesus Living God's Adventure...**

We are currently going through a process of renewing our Mission Action Plan, but the following captures much of what is important to us as a church:

- Committed to the UP/IN/OUT model of ministry...UP to God, IN looking to the needs of our fellowship, and OUT to the world.
- building commitment and community amongst our diverse congregations, and in our various outreach activities, especially with Oakmeadow School.
- encouraging and enabling effective witnesses for Jesus (on the 'Frontline'!) in the many places where we engage with those who do not yet know Him.