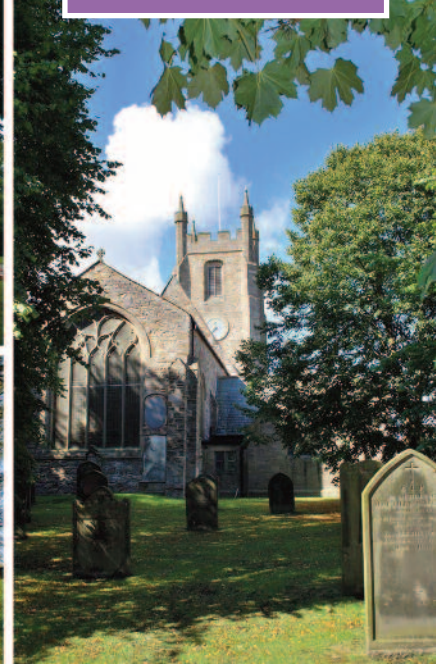




DIOCESE
OF DURHAM



PARISH PROFILE

2023

- *Bishop Middleham*
- *Fishburn*
- *Sedgefield*
- *Trimdon Grange*
- *Trimdon Village*



PARISH OF THE
UPPER SKERNE
— COUNTY DURHAM —



Bishop Middleham



Fishburn meadows



Hurworth Burn



St. Alban's Church, Trimdon Grange



St Catherine's Church, Fishburn



Hurworth Burn



The Way of Love, Trimdon Village



St Edmund's Church, Sedgefield

PARISH PROFILE - PARISH OF THE UPPER SKERNE



Named after the River Skerne which runs through the Parish and joins the River Tees South of Darlington
"Skerne" from the Norse
"BRIGHT WATER"

Welcome from Bishop Paul

At the end of 2019 we gathered representatives from each of our parishes for **The Waymark Conference**, to pray, talk, share stories and reflect on how we might best respond to God's call to us as his Church. We reflected on our learning from our previous vision and priorities and agreed to maintain our vision:

"From the Tyne to the Tees and the Dales to the Sea, Blessing our communities in Jesus' name for the transformation of us all"

Through prayer, conversation and sharing our stories we discerned God's call to maintain and sharpen our three priorities. Through the voice of our children and young people, we discerned that we should add a fourth, Caring for God's Creation. This was in response to the question, "How shall we focus our energies, prayers and resources over the next five years?"

The result of this is our missional strategy which we describe as **Renewing Pilgrimage** - an opportunity and invitation for each of our parishes to step out in faith together, responding practically to the call to **Challenge Poverty, Energise Growth, Care for God's Creation and Engage with Children, Youth and Young Adults**. We are praying that the Upper Skerne

will play an important part in developing this.

Making this a reality will look different in every community, in some places it will come about in collaboration with others. Nobody is expected to do everything immediately or alone, but we are all invited and expected to respond

relevantly.

In the Upper Skerne this feels particularly relevant. The Upper Skerne is

a significant community for which we sense the importance of **Energising Growth** in discipleship, in growing our reach and in the number local people following Jesus. We also sense the importance of **Challenging Poverty, Engaging with Children and Young People and Caring for God's Creation** in an area with a lot of incoming families, with some significant pockets of poverty and with deeply rooted communities that still look to, and are open to, the local church.

In praying for a Team Rector for the Parish of the Upper Skerne we are looking for someone committed to, and able to work collaboratively to equip our churches to be part of this vision.

The Waymark Prayer sums up this hope:

Loving God, guiding the people of Durham Diocese faithfully through the years: we thank you for your Saints who have marked our path, young and old, known and unknown, from all places and in all walks of life. help us to find your way in our generation, transformed by your truth. sharing your life, blessing our communities. through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

We look forward to meeting together and sharing in this with you.

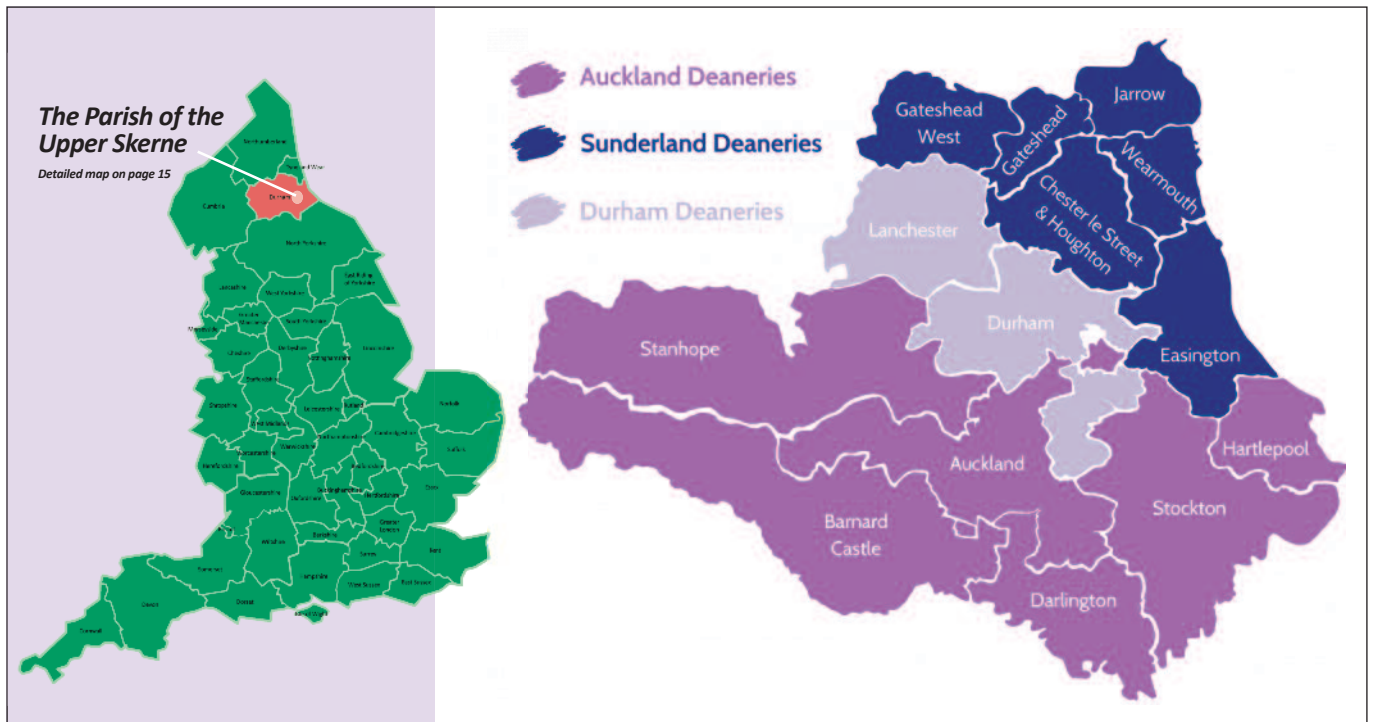
*In Christ
+Paul*

Bishop of Durham

Vision

*We are Christians in the Diocese of Durham, living and worshipping in diverse communities, seeking to follow Jesus and to bless our communities in His name.
(from Parish website)*

<http://www.upperskerne.org.uk/index.htm>



Parish Setting and Description

The Parish of the Upper Skerne was formed in April 2005, combining the parishes of Sedgfield and Fishburn, Bishop Middleham, and the Joint Benefice of the Trimdons. The settlements comprise a small market town, two rural villages, and three former mining communities.

It consists of five churches, set in the communities of Bishop Middleham, Fishburn, Sedgfield, Trimdon Grange and Trimdon Village. St Paul's in Trimdon Station was closed in the autumn of 2007 because low attendance and lack of income meant it was no longer a viable worship centre.

There is an open churchyard at Bishop Middleham. The churchyard at Trimdon Village, maintained by Trimdon Parish Council, is closed to burials but has recently been the subject of a Faculty to extend the Garden of Remembrance for the interment of ashes. The churchyard at Sedgfield is closed and maintained by Durham County Council.

- **Electoral roll:** 186

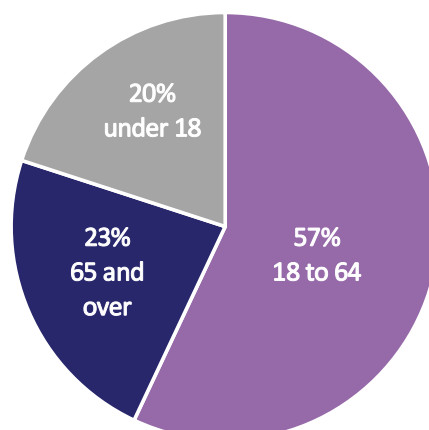
- **Usual Sunday attendance:** 126 for a fortnightly cycle of services. Many families continue to have their children

baptised, even those who rarely attend otherwise.

- **Churchmanship:** This can be described as 'middle of the road'. The eucharist is very important to all our congregations. Vestments are worn in four of the churches and cassock alb and stole in the other. Lay people read in all our churches and intercessions are led by laity in some of our churches.

- **Population size:** approx. 20,000

- **Demographics:** Some 20% of the population are under 18, with 57% in the 18 to 64 range and 23% being 65 and over.



- **Sociologically:** Across the Parish the various communities fall within a broad range of the Indices of Multiple Deprivation based on finance, education, health and employment. These range from 1/10 in central Sedgfield whilst the former Northern former mining communities suffer significant levels of deprivation in the areas of income (8/10), employment (9/10), education and training (8/10), health (9/10) and crime (9/10), where 1/10 is least deprived, and 10/10 is most deprived.

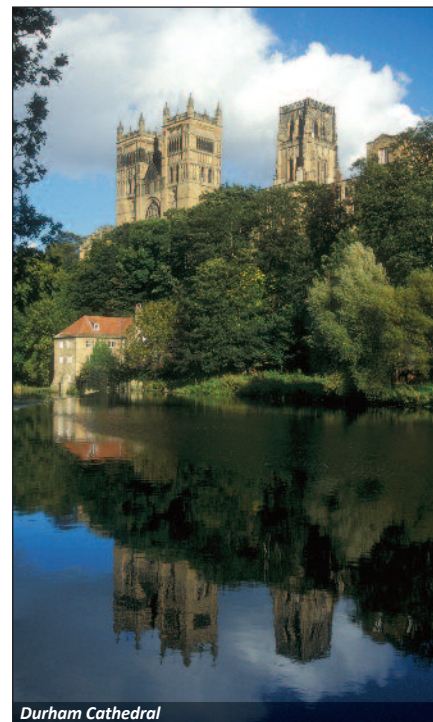
- **Schools:** we have six primary schools in the parish, one of which (St Michael's, Bishop Middleham) is a Church of England school, which was rated Outstanding in its 2017 Ofsted inspection. There is one secondary school, Sedgfield Community College (see Appendix 1.2).

- **Care homes:** Craigarran; Willowdene; Homebryth (sheltered housing)

- **Shops and other local amenities:** Sedgfield is the most significant shopping centre for the parish, with a Sainsbury's, a Co-op and a variety of independent retailers and other services. It also has a Farmers' Market



The Way of Love interpretation panel



Durham Cathedral

each month, and a good range of pubs and restaurants. There are small Co-op supermarkets in two of the villages, along with post offices and other small convenience stores in the other villages, plus a variety of other shops, restaurants, pubs and takeaways.

The former Rectory in Sedgefield, Ceddesfeld Hall, is now a community centre run by volunteers, where a wide variety of activities take place. A short walk across the fields from Sedgefield lies Hardwick Park, a council park which is a delightful place to walk at any time of year.

Walkers and cyclists enjoy access to local paths and trails, including the Hurworth Burn path, which forms part of National Cycle Network Route 1. The Northern Saints Trail from Hartlepool to Durham, *The Way of Love*, runs through the parish.

Leisure centres are a short distance away in Billingham and Ferryhill; with theatres/art centres in Billingham and Stockton.

Further afield, there is easy access, in an hour or less, to numerous recreational areas, including the North York Moors and Whitby; beaches at Crimdon, Seaton Carew and Saltburn; the Durham Dales; Durham City, Sunderland and Newcastle.

Skerne Medical Group has surgeries in Sedgefield, Fishburn and Trimdon

Colliery. There are dental practices in Sedgefield and hospitals in Stockton, Hartlepool and Middlesbrough.

The population of the parish has grown in recent years with new housing in Fishburn and Sedgefield. The sale of diocesan land in Sedgefield in 2018 continues to be a source of resentment and misunderstandings between the church and the local community, as it was considered to be in a green belt category on the outskirts of Sedgefield.

Our work towards the diocesan priorities includes:

Challenging poverty

We support the County Durham Foodbank, which is part of the Trussell Trust. The PCC has a restricted fund to

support refugees and asylum seekers.

During the winter 2022/23 the parish ran and supported the Warm Spaces project in several of our communities, in collaboration with other churches and community organisations. Harvest Service collections are made for designated charities. 50% of donations from weddings, funerals and baptisms go to charities selected by families.

The parish holds special collections for appeals such as the Turkey/Syria Earthquake appeal. There are collections during Lent and at Christmas for particular charities.

Energising growth

The parish has struggled with a shortage of stipendiary clergy



Hurworth Burn Way



Hardwick Country Park



The Way of Love way marker

leadership for all but one of the last seven years which has had an impact on our ability to stimulate growth. The PCC is presently working with the Diocesan Discipleship and Evangelism Enabler to find new ways forward. There was a plan to have a monthly programme of visiting preachers during 2020 but this was disrupted by lockdown, although several were delivered virtually. This is an initiative it would be useful to revisit.

St Mary Magdalene's church in Trimdon Village is on the Northern Pilgrim Trail *The Way of Love*. It is open every day, with "help yourself" refreshments available and is regularly visited by pilgrims. The Bishop of Durham and his wife have slept in church: this is a facility which is available for other pilgrims.

We run a very successful Friday Cafe every week in Fishburn Church Hall for drinks and conversation. This is well-attended.

The parish has two bereavement support groups which meet regularly and carry out important work to support lonely and bereaved people.

Caring for God's Creation

Every autumn we mark Creationtide with specially prepared service booklets. We have an active Environmental Group which challenged the parish with three campaigns during 2022 encouraging sustainable transport, recycling and reducing our carbon footprint. One of our churches recently achieved its Bronze Eco-church

award and we are pursuing an award for another church in the parish. One of our churchyards has been re-wilded, with meadow areas, bird boxes and woodland, and we have set aside an area in another churchyard for restoring native grasslands. There was a positive reduction in use of plastic at Christmas and Summer fetes.

We have a policy of replacing lighting with LED lights as part of our efforts to reduce our carbon footprint. This work has been completed in three of the five churches.

Engaging with children, youth and young adults

Three of our churches have toys and children's areas. Initiatives aimed at young children include Seeds of Hope and Trimdon Toddlers. An "Open the Book" initiative will be starting in Fishburn School in the near future.

Parish clergy presently lead collective worship on a fortnightly basis in St Michael's Church of England School in Bishop Middleham, and conduct worship to mark other significant events in the church and school year. Some of these take place



Seeds of Hope



St Mary Magdalene's Church, Trimdon, Children's awards



St. Michael's C of E Primary School

Mission

It has been the practice that the PCC members look to the clergy to provide leadership and vision, so any progress in this area would need to wait for the new appointment. Whilst the Parish website includes a vision statement, the PCC looks forward to developing the vision with a new Rector. In a recent workshop with Archdeacon Libby Wilkinson, it was

observed that PCC members were more comfortable talking about mission that arose out of their current activities – such as occasional offices – than anything more overt.

There is a small nurture group in the parish, which grew out of an adult confirmation class and which has just seen one of its members recommended for ordination training.

in school and some in church. Every year the parish gives bibles to the school leavers.

Other churches in the parish regularly welcome school groups for educational visits. St Edmund's in Sedgefield also hosts schools for their services at Easter and Christmas.

There are well attended Crib Services and Christingle services across the parish.

There was a very successful Messy Church in Bishop Middleham for a number of years, which was discontinued when the cohort moved on. Conversations have taken place in Sedgefield about starting a Messy Church but again this was disrupted by Covid.



Children's activities



St Mary Magdalene's Church, Trimdon

In June 2023 the parish ran the *Finding a Voice* course (lay-led), aiming to encourage and enable people to talk about their faith in the hope that those who attended might choose to continue meeting to learn and grow together in the faith.

We are presently working with the Diocesan Discipleship and Evangelism Advisor, who will be leading us in two discipleship courses in Autumn 2023, *Saints Alive* and *Baptism Matters*, the latter of which will explore how we improve our interaction and engagement with baptism families.

A team is currently being trained and established to take *Open the Book* into Fishburn School. We hope that this initiative might extend to other schools in the parish.

We are excited by these 'green shoots' in the parish, and full of hope for how they will deepen our spiritual life and enable us to share the good

news with the wider parish.

There is a reticence amongst congregation members to speak openly about faith. However, during Archdeacon Libby's day with them, she noted that they responded well to being asked to talk to each other about the difference knowing Jesus has made in their lives and that they said afterwards that it was not as frightening as they expected.

Growth in the sense of community engagement is reasonably well-addressed, but we recognise that more emphasis should be placed on growth in discipleship and numbers.

• Finance

There is a Parish treasurer who manages a central PCC account which deals with wedding and funeral fees and co-ordinates Parish Share and Gift Aid. At a local level, each church has its own treasurer and finances, with the

parish share being allocated by a formula that takes account of each church's income. The five sets of accounts are merged by the Parish treasurer at the end of each year to provide one set of accounts for the diocese. (See Appendix 2)

The submitted accounts show that current finances are generally healthy. The PCC is meeting with the Diocesan Parish Giving Advisor in July 2023.

St Edmund's has a 'Friends' group which effectively operates as a restricted reserve for that building. This frees up income for St Edmund's in a way that is not replicated for the other churches. The Friends group is an independent group with its own constitution, set of trustees and charity status. It is dedicated to maintaining and restoring the fabric of this Grade One listed building. The funding is generated by annual subscription and fundraising events, and is a unique

community asset, irrespective of religious commitments.

All the churches reported receiving legacies – usually around £5-10k, though St Edmund's and their associated 'Friends' group received £100k each.

There has been a resistance to talking about money in the churches, especially where levels of giving are concerned. There is also resistance among some to the Planned Giving System, because of concerns about the potential impact on giving due to allegiances to a local church, and its being a Direct Debit based system with an automatic annual increase (though there was a recognition that there is an opt out).

• **Buildings**

Maintenance is reasonably up to date and there are no significant worries about upkeep.

Substantial works are either approved and going ahead or are planned, including new kitchen, toilets and disabled access at St Catherine's Church Hall, following re-roofing. At St Edmund's the raising of the crossing floor, repairs to clock mechanism and

faces, and repairs to the bell frame are due to start and renewal of the boiler at St Michael's has recently been completed.

Because of limited public transport on Sundays, and the very different communities, the PCC feels that all the buildings are essential to maintain access to places of worship across the Parish.

• **Governance**

The PCC is a body of people who recognise their responsibilities as trustees. There is one PCC which has representatives from every church. There are three District Church Councils: Bishop Middleham, Joint DCC (for Fishburn and the Trimdons) and Sedgfield. All of these governance committees meet regularly. A PCC subcommittee recently revised the governance document (see Appendix 3 attached) which is currently with the Bishop's Council for final approval.

The recently formed Communications Group has representatives from every church, and is working towards a comprehensive communications strategy, including a

recent survey of parishioners to assess which forms of communication reach most people.

The Environmental Group is also a recent addition to our parish life and has done invaluable work (see Caring for God's Creation on page 4).

• **Challenges**

The predominant demographic of our congregations is elderly, with people in their sixties viewed as 'young'.

There is an acknowledgement that in order to move forward we need a change of culture. We will need support and guidance in managing change.

Like many Parishes, there are times when relationships do not always run smoothly but over the last three years there has been real progress in learning how to work together, including three half day sessions with an independent facilitator on managing conflict.

• **Service Pattern**

During lockdown, a weekly Sunday Zoom service was established. A couple who had moved to the Parish just before lockdown tried the Zoom



St. Catherine's Church, Fishburn

services and stayed because “it was the only local church which felt like a community.”

Current service patterns were revised after the churches resumed holding services. Four of our churches now have fortnightly Sunday morning eucharists and one has a monthly Sunday service, with all five congregations coming together to worship on fifth Sundays. There are one or two midweek eucharists per week. Once a fortnight the Sunday service is available on Zoom.

The pattern of daily Morning Prayer was broken during Covid and has not fully re-started. Presently Morning Prayer happens in Bishop Middleham on Monday and Thursday mornings.

One of the lasting effects of Covid is that increasingly people travel to churches other than their local church to worship when there is no service in their local church. People also travel to attend and support social and fundraising events in other communities in the parish.

There are Meditation services twice a week: one held on Zoom midweek and the other on a Sunday evening in one of the churches.



St Mary Magdalene's Church, Trimdon, children's Nativity

Seeds of Hope is aimed at children and young people and their carers. It meets in the church in Trimdon Village on the last Saturday of the month for songs, stories, teaching, craft activities, prayer, refreshments and fun! The children take part in leading Sunday worship on Mothering Sunday and Harvest; and prepare a Christmas presentation for the Christingle Service in Trimdon. In 2022 they also delivered

their presentation in Craigarran Nursing Home in Trimdon Colliery, to great acclaim! A strong link continues between *Seeds of Hope* and Trimdon Toddlers, which meets in the Village Hall.

We recognise that this pattern of services is provisional, and that an incoming Team Rector will probably wish to make changes.



St Michael's Church, Bishop Middleham

Occasional Offices

• **Baptisms and Weddings**

The Parish Office is the first point of contact for both wedding couples and baptism families.

On average the Parish has 4 baptisms per month. Baptisms are held once a month in each of our churches, with St Catherine's and St Michael's sharing a date (these are the least busy for baptisms). They are separate from the main service, taking place at 12.00 noon and 1.00pm (only one family at a time).

Most baptisms are arranged by e-mail, forms are sent electronically and once returned, a confirmation e-mail is sent. Follow up home visits/telephone calls are done by clergy usually a week before the baptism.

The Parish Administrator completes the baptism registers and provides prayer cards, baptism certificates and candles (Deputy Warden completes the register at St Mary Magdalene's). All Baptisms are entered in the Parish Diary so that those who need to know can access this information.

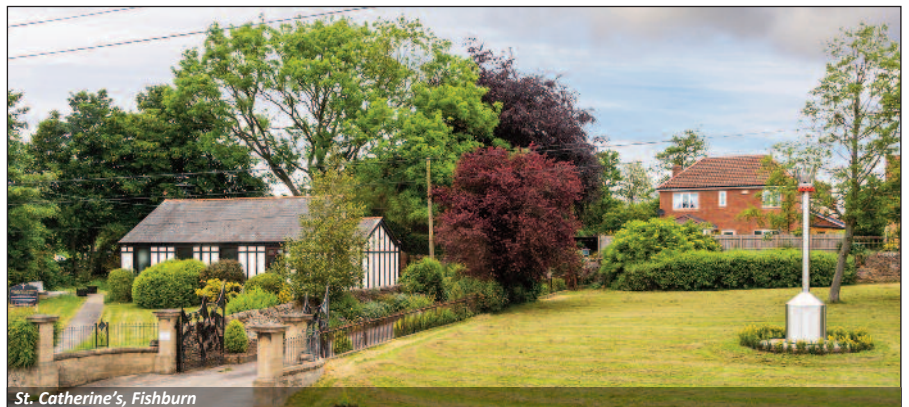
The Parish has an average of 8 weddings per year. Weddings are booked in at Vestry Hour which runs once a month (the first Tuesday) from 6pm to 7pm at the Parish Office. Once ID checks and application forms have been completed, the information is put on to the Parish Calendar which is shared by those who need to know (wardens, deputy wardens, clergy, treasurers etc.). At the start of each year the dates are put into the Parish Diary.

Clergy visit the couples to finalise details for their service.

• **Funerals**

The number of funerals has fallen in recent years. The average in the last three years is 60.

Funeral administration is carried out by our volunteer Funeral Co-ordinator who takes bookings from Funeral Directors and arranges for a minister, retired minister or one of the lay ministers, to take the service. He also arranges with the local church representatives for the church to be open. Fees are also collected and administered by him.



St. Catherine's, Fishburn



St Mary Magdalene's Church, Trimdon

Additional Roles & Support

The Team Rector is an ex officio governor at St Michael's Church of England Primary School in Bishop Middleham, which is now part of the 'One Excellence' Multi Academy Trust (other schools in the MAT: Pentland Primary School, Billingham; St Marks CoFE Primary School, Stockton on Tees; Evenwood CoE Primary School, Evenwood, Co Durham.

The half-time Team Vicar is retiring in August 2023. The parish currently benefits from a House for Duty priest in the parish, who lives in Bishop Middleham.

There is a supportive and committed ministerial team, which meets regularly. We are fortunate to have a number of retired clergy in the parish who offer what they can. Two of them regularly lead worship in the parish. We have two Licensed Lay Ministers (Readers) with PTO, who are also qualified to conduct funerals. Two other lay people have completed the *Wings for Worship* Speaking in Church diocesan training course and have permission to administer Communion by Extension; another is attending that training this year. Home Communion is offered across the Parish.

The Parish employs a Parish Administrator who works from the well-equipped Parish Office in St Alban's Church, Trimdon Grange. The role includes being Parish Safeguarding Officer and PCC Secretary.

The Parish employs an Organist who normally plays at St Edmund's but

who also plays at other churches as required on a voluntary basis. We also have three volunteer organists.

We have committed and hard-working people in our churches who are loyal to their local communities and church buildings.



St. Alban's, Trimdon Grange



St Edmund's Church, Sedgefield hosting a recital by The Lyric Singers



Bishop Middleham interpretation panel

Deanery / Ecumenical links

Upper Skerne joined Stockton Deanery in 2017. There is some sense of disconnection with Stockton Deanery arising from a sense that Upper Skerne is quite different from most of the Deanery, which is generally more urban in character. However, we are in the process of establishing closer links within the Deanery with our neighbours in Stockton Country Parish, with whom we recently organised a Lent quiet day, which was held in Bishop Middleham Church. This was well-attended and there is interest in arranging a return trip to Stockton Country Parish in autumn 2023.

Sedgefield Area Churches Together is a very active group. They meet for ecumenical Taize services, and work together each year for *Carols on the Green* in Sedgefield, and a *Good Friday Walk of Witness* around the churches. In recent years they also ran a *Carols in the Car Park*, during Covid, which was held in Sainsbury's car park; and a *Café Cop*, in collaboration with local environmental organisations, to draw

attention to COP26 in Glasgow.

There are good relations in Trimdon Village between St Mary Magdalene's Church and St William's RC Church, with the two congregations coming

together every year for *Stations of the Cross* and a *Walk of Witness* on Good Friday, and for a service of *Lessons and Carols* on Christmas Eve.



St Mary Magdalene's Church, Trimdon children's Nativity

Housing

The current Rectory is in Sedgfield. It is a 1960s detached house with a large garden. It is in easy walking distance of St Edmund's Church and approximately ten minutes' drive from

the other churches in the parish. There are two other vicarages located in Trimdon Grange and Bishop Middleham (the latter currently occupied by our House for Duty Priest)

There are two primary schools in Sedgfield. Sedgfield Community College is considered one of the elite secondary schools in County Durham.



St Edmund's Church, Sedgfield

Hopes for the future

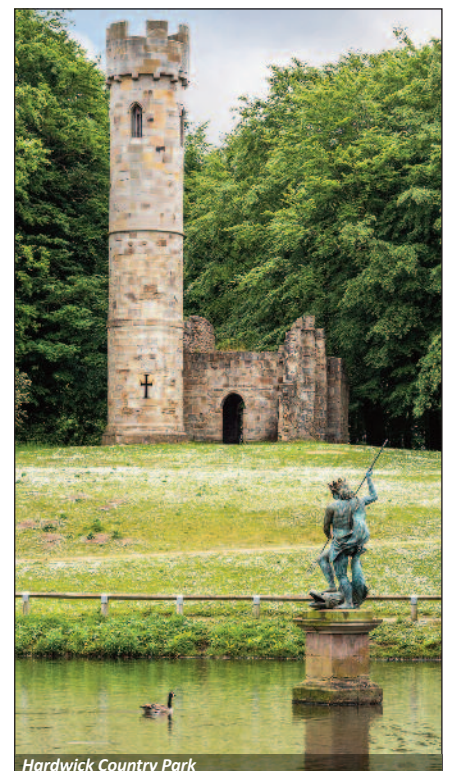
The PCC would strongly support the establishment of a more informal style of service which would be more accessible for unchurched and de-churched people and/or young families. It would be particularly desirable if this could happen at St Alban's Church in Trimdon Grange, with its excellent facilities and its position in

the most densely populated and socially disadvantaged part of the parish.

We hope and pray for a continued deepening of our spiritual life as followers of Christ, and for an increase in confidence to share our faith with others.



St Alban's Church, Trimdon Grange



Hardwick Country Park

Person Specification

We are looking forward to welcoming and supporting a new incumbent to lead us and minister with us, and support and develop the parish in reaching out to the community around us, providing a place of welcome and hospitality to people of all walks of life, and energising our mission together. We are praying for the opportunity to share the Good News of Christ, in line with our Diocesan mission - Blessing our communities in Jesus's name, for the transformation of us all.

We need a warm and friendly person, someone with a sense of humour, able to relate well and communicate with people of all ages of backgrounds; someone who is resilient and able to listen. We would benefit from someone who is skilled at leading change in a collaborative way, who will take time to understand our context and values, and can help us discern the potential for mission and growth, working with us to strengthen our congregations and to reach the younger people and families of our communities.

Having recently completed the Vacancy Audit Process in our parish the PCC has a clear sense of the opportunities and challenges we face and is keen to work with our new Team Rector to reinvigorate our mission and life together. We recognise that we need a cultural change to actively develop other forms of worship and to encourage individuals to be confident to take an active role in preparing and delivering worship. We are a diverse parish and would benefit from a mixed diet of worship in order to connect with a greater proportion of the population.



St Mary Magdalene's Church, Trimdon, Bridget Jones window detail

Appendix 1 Useful contacts



1.1 The Parish, the post and the Diocese

Enquiries about this post can be directed to the **Archdeacon of Auckland**, The Ven. Rick Simpson, by emailing Archdeacon.of.Auckland@durham.anglican.org

Information about our **Diocese** is available at <https://durhamdiocese.org>

Information about **The Parish of the Upper Skerne** is available at www.upperskerne.org.uk and on **Facebook** at **Parish of the Upper Skerne**.

1.2 Schools in the Parish

Primary Schools

- St Michael's Primary C of E School, Bishop Middleham
<https://www.stmichaelsprimary.durham.sch.uk>
- Fishburn Primary School
<https://www.fishburn.durham.sch.uk>
- Hardwick Primary School, Sedgefield
<https://sedgefieldhardwick.laidlawschoolstrust.co.uk>
- Rectory Row Primary School, Sedgefield
<https://www.sedgefield-pri.durham.sch.uk>
- Deaf Hill Primary School, Trimdon Station
<https://www.dhakpf.durham.sch.uk>
- Bluebell Meadow Primary School, Trimdon Village
<https://www.bluebellmeadowprimary.org.uk>

Secondary School

- Sedgefield Community College
<https://sedgefield.laidlawschoolstrust.co.uk>

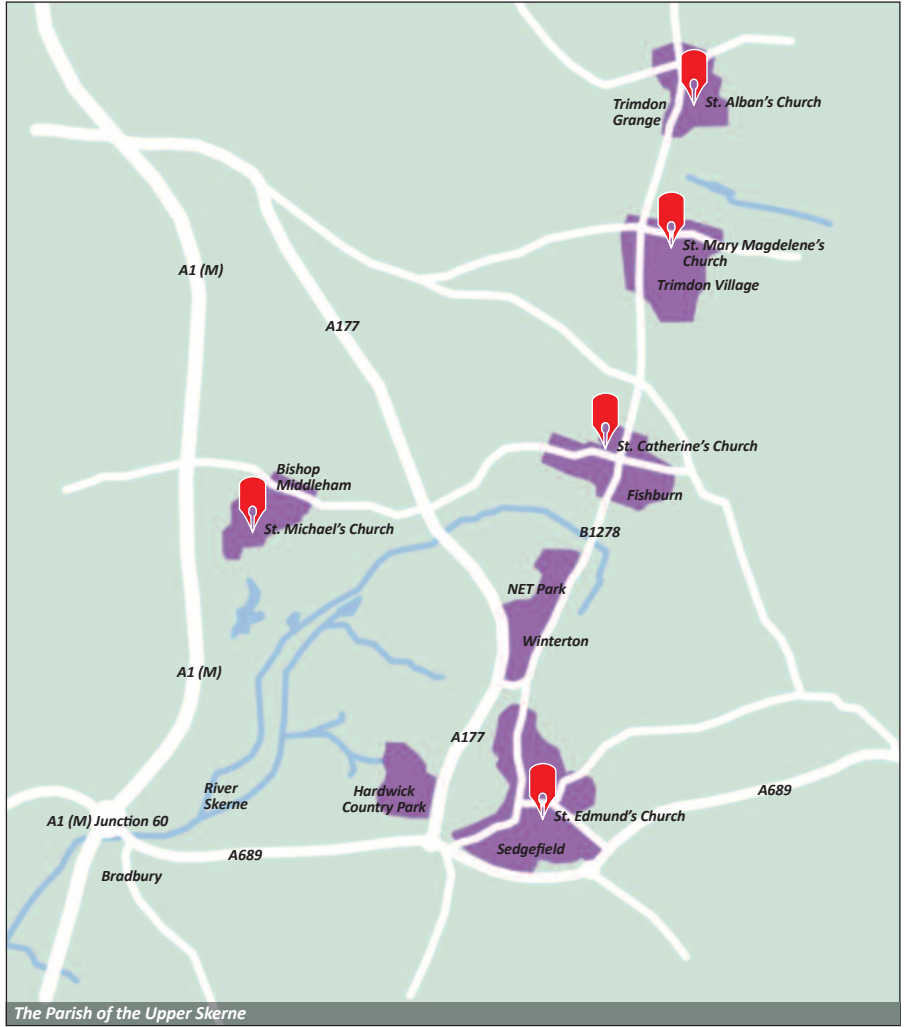


1.3 The Region

The North East is an exciting place to live, learn and be part of God's mission. There is a huge amount to see and discover from heritage centres to outstanding countryside and the action of our cities. Find out more by visiting <https://www.visitnortheastengland.com>



Trimdon Village Millennium Sculpture



The Parish of the Upper Skerne



Hurworth Burn Way

Appendix 2 Parish Accounts 2022

1. Summary of Accounts

RECEIPTS/INCOME		Parish	St A	St C	St E	St MM	St M
Voluntary giving							
1	Planned giving	£2,020.00	£0.00	£1,795.00	£24,488.04	£13,640.16	£12,890.00
3	Collections at services	£0.00	£3,802.79	£4,333.50	£5,538.27	£3,020.14	£1,634.08
4	All other giving and voluntary receipts, including special appeals (recurring and one-off)	£5,133.25	£140.00	£1,801.00	£8,431.84	£4,497.71	£2,024.07
6	Gift Aid recovered (planned giving and one-off donations)	£15,273.23	£523.10	£458.63	£7,340.74	£2,670.71	£3,719.71
7	Legacies received (capital value)	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£103,366.36	£0.00	£0.00
8	Grants (include recurring and one-off)	£4,642.00	£185.00	£449.50	£1,795.50	£1,103.50	£13,727.00
	Total voluntary giving	£27,068.48	£4,650.89	£8,837.63	£150,960.75	£24,932.22	£33,994.86
Activities for generating funds							
9	Fundraising activities (gross proceeds)	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£1,997.68	£0.00	£3,890.45
Income from investments							
10	Dividends, interest, income from property etc.	£0.00	£87.54	£949.42	£1,707.91	£132.43	£542.35
Church activities							
11	Fees retained by PCC (weddings, funerals etc.)	£28,716.00	£1,092.00	£2,205.00	£8,042.00	£2,987.00	£1,867.00
12	Trading activities (gross proceeds), NOT fundraising	£3,457.00	£150.00	£436.00	£991.61	£625.00	£705.00
Other incoming resources							
13	Other receipts/income not already listed PLEASE NOTE BRIEF DETAILS IN BOX E	£76,667.00	£0.00	£53.66	£3,478.50	£1,207.00	£484.40
Totals (from Financial Statements)							
A	RECEIPTS/INCOME	£108,840.00	£1,329.54	£3,644.08	£16,217.70	£4,951.43	£7,489.20
B	COMBINED TOTAL	£135,908.48	£5,980.43	£12,481.71	£167,178.45	£29,883.65	£41,484.06
PLANNED GIVERS AND LEGACIES							
14	Number of planned givers	3	0	9	66	29	17
16	Number of new legacies received in year				1		
PAYMENTS/EXPENDITURE							
Costs of generating funds							
	Costs of fundraising activities	£0.00	£0.00	£731.58	£125.50	£0.00	£260.00
Church activities							
	Mission giving and donations	£1,576.25	£538.41	£741.00	£8,208.37	£1,760.22	£241.76
	Diocesan parish share contribution	£54,500.00	£2,000.00	£5,000.00	£20,100.00	£12,300.00	£12,350.00
	Salaries, wages and honoraria	£6,690.10	£0.00	£684.00	£5,918.00	£559.50	£0.00
	Clergy and staff expenses	£3,401.83	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
Church expenses							
	Mission and evangelism costs						
	Church running expenses (including governance)	£19,472.32	£1,485.28	£3,194.64	£13,296.81	£6,362.07	£4,776.43
	Church utility bills	£0.00	£801.44	£656.22	£5,920.24	£1,185.46	£568.15
	Costs of trading	£47.99	£150.00	£362.00	£900.00	£750.00	£660.00
Major capital expenditure							
	Major repairs to the church building	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£17,830.31
	Major repairs to church hall/other PCC property including redecoration	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
	New building work to the church, church hall, clergy housing or other PCC property.	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
Other expenditure							
	Other payments/expenditure not already listed PLEASE NOTE BRIEF DETAILS IN BOX E	£47,237.49	£1,560.00	£1,560.00	£106,545.85	£4,571.66	£3,363.11
Totals (from Financial Statements)							
PAYMENTS/EXPENDITURE							
COMBINED TOTAL		£132,925.98	£6,535.13	£12,929.44	£161,014.77	£27,488.91	£40,049.76
		£2,982.50	-£554.70	-£447.73	£6,163.68	£2,394.74	£1,434.30

2. Consolidated Account

Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Unrestricted designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	TOTAL 2022 £	TOTAL 2021 £
RECEIPTS/INCOME						
Voluntary giving						
1 Planned giving	£54,833.20				£54,833.20	£54,023.43
3 Collections at services	£18,328.78				£18,328.78	£14,103.03
4 All other giving and voluntary receipts, including special appeals (recurring and one-off)	£13,536.04		£6,717.00		£20,253.04	£10,583.90
6 Gift Aid recovered (planned giving and one-off donations)	£15,273.23				£15,273.23	£31,400.13
7 Legacies received (capital value)			£103,366.36		£103,366.36	£4,590.99
8 Grants (include recurring and one-off)	£4,642.00		£12,619.72		£17,261.72	£1,000.00
Total voluntary giving	£106,613.25		£122,703.08		£229,316.33	£115,701.48
Activities for generating funds						
9 Fundraising activities (gross proceeds)	£5,673.71		£1,641.00		£7,314.71	£6,805.03
Income from investments						
10 Dividends, interest, income from property etc.	£552.60		£2,867.05		£3,419.65	£115.08
Church activities						
11 Fees retained by PCC (weddings, funerals etc.)	£17,383.40				£17,383.40	£15,453.20
12 Trading activities (gross proceeds), NOT fundraising	£4,327.61				£4,327.61	£3,378.00
Other incoming resources						
13 Other receipts/income not already listed PLEASE NOTE BRIEF DETAILS IN BOX E	£271.66				£271.66	£1,830.11
Totals (from Financial Statements)						
A RECEIPTS/INCOME	£28,208.98	£0.00	£4,508.05	£0.00	£32,717.03	£27,581.42
B COMBINED TOTAL	£134,822.23	£0.00	£127,211.13	£0.00	£262,033.36	£143,282.90
PLANNED GIVERS AND LEGACIES						
14 Number of planned givers					124	
16 Number of new legacies received in year					1	
PAYMENTS/EXPENDITURE						
Costs of generating funds						
Costs of fundraising activities	£1,117.08				£1,117.08	£1,362.38
Church activities						
Mission giving and donations	£3,272.04	£9,793.97	£1,400.00		£14,466.01	£3,338.35
Diocesan parish share contribution	£54,500.00				£54,500.00	£52,850.00
Salaries, wages and honoraria	£13,851.60				£13,851.60	£10,542.60
Clergy and staff expenses	£3,401.83				£3,401.83	£4,486.98
Church expenses						
Mission and evangelism costs						
Church running expenses (including governance)	£33,114.97		£3,220.58		£36,335.55	£42,562.25
Church utility bills	£9,131.55				£9,131.55	£10,481.25
Costs of trading	£2,244.99				£2,244.99	£2,950.99
Major capital expenditure						
Major repairs to the church building	£2,690.00		£15,140.31		£17,830.31	£1,200.00
Major repairs to church hall/other PCC property including redecoration						
New building work to the church, church hall, clergy housing or other PCC property.						
Other expenditure						
Other payments/expenditure not already listed PLEASE NOTE BRIEF DETAILS IN BOX E	£554.33				£554.33	£2,909.38
Totals (from Financial Statements)						
PAYMENTS/EXPENDITURE						
COMBINED TOTAL	£123,878.39	£9,793.97	£19,760.89	£0.00	£153,433.25	£132,684.18

3. Statement of Parish and Church Balances at 31st December 2021

	Parish	St A	St C	St E	St MM	St M	
CCLA		£13,488.12		£105,362.71	£8,359.69	£12,272.05	£139,482.57
DBF			£68,454.11	£5.00	£5,216.07	£8,172.42	£81,847.60
Business			£3,455.67		£4,114.01		£34,460.58
			£17,867.83			£9,023.07	
Current	£11,300.30	£4,077.86	£2,326.13	£18,906.47	£25,639.85	£1,323.43	£63,574.04
TOTALS	£11,300.30	£17,565.98	£92,103.74	£124,274.18	£43,329.62	£30,790.97	£319,364.79
Restricted Funds	£3,473.02		£68,454.11	£99,514.06		£579.41	£172,020.60
Designated Funds	£954.73			£2,681.73	£2,866.83		£6,503.29
Endowments			£3,094.35	£105.00	£1,209.29	£10,074.32	£14,482.96

4. Restricted and Designated Funds

St Catherine's Building Fund (restricted)

Interest	£928.83
End of year balance	£68,454.11

St Edmund's – Canon Eden Account (restricted)

Interest	£1.43
End of year balance	£5.19

St Edmund's – Gordon Morris bequest (restricted)

Income	£99,509.06
End of year balance	£99,509.06

St Michael's – various Trust Funds (restricted)

Interest	£6.12
End of year balance	£208.62

St Michael's – Boiler Fund (restricted)

Income	£16,010.72
Expenditure	£15,640.31
End of year balance	£370.41

PCC Account – AV equipment (restricted)

Expenditure	£78.98
End of year balance	£221.02

PCC Account – Refugee Support (restricted)

Income	£4,652.00
Expenditure	£1,400.00
End of year balance	£3,252.00

St Edmund's – various designated funds

Income	£1,411.70
Expenditure	£1,347.51
End of year balance	£2,681.73

PCC Account – youth work (designated)

Opening Balance	£954.73
No activity	



St Mary Magdalene's Church, Trimdon Village



St Mary Magdalene's Church, Trimdon Village, Diana memorial

5. PCC Treasurer's Report

Income was considerably increased in 2022 by two significant factors: a bequest to St Edmund's Church of £103,366.36, and fund-raising to replace the boiler at St Michael's which raised £16,010.72. If these two amounts were removed from the parish income it would leave a sum of £142,656, which would be very close to the parish income in 2021. The bequest to St Edmund's was 'to maintain the fabric of the building' and so has been placed in a restricted fund for that purpose.

Planned giving across the parish remained stable although collections at services increased by 30% - another sign of recovery from the pandemic as this figure includes collections at baptisms, weddings and funerals. This is also reflected by the increase of 12.5% in fees from weddings and funerals.

Expenditure increased from £132,684 in 2021 to £153,433 – an increase of 16%. This was almost entirely due to the spending of £15,640 on the replacement of St Michael's boiler and a further £2,190 on the installation of LED lighting. In addition, £3,141 was spent on building work at St Edmund's.

Other increases in expenditure were in parish share (3%), and in the Administrator's salary (32%). These were offset by falls in general running expenses (-15%) and in clergy expenses (-24%).

Most of the **church accounts** were in surplus – ranging from St Edmund's (£6,164) to St Michael's (£1,434). St Alban's and St Catherine's were in deficit by £555 and £448 respectively.

Looking forward, there are factors which need to be considered. Our parish share pledge has increased this year by 33% to £72,500. This was a correction in our pledge level following the years of the pandemic and it is unlikely that we will face such an increase again. It is, however, likely that the diocese will ask us to consider an increase in line with inflation, currently 10.4% but predicted to fall later in the year. At a time when the level of giving in the parish is static, this will inevitable necessitate some serious thought. We have been asked, as part of the Parish Prioritisation Process, to work with the Revd Paul Child on parish giving. It will be interesting to hear his thoughts. As part of the same process, the Archdeacon of Durham has asked us to review our current formula for allocating parish share among our churches. That might lead to some adjustments in the amounts contributed by each of our churches.

Rising energy costs and general inflation are also likely to have an impact on our churches, especially as energy contracts come up for renewal

Bill Armstrong
Acting Treasurer



Brian Mutch
PCC Lay Chair

Appendix 3

PARISH OF THE UPPER SKERNE

Instrument of Governance

(from Church Representation Rules)

I. Annual Meeting

1. Timing and attendance

- The Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) will take place in the period from 1st January to 31st May.
- The following persons are entitled to attend the APCM and take part in its proceedings:
 - Every lay person whose name is on the parish electoral roll.
 - Every ordained minister who is beneficed in, or licensed to, the parish; or who is resident in the parish and is not beneficed in, or licensed to, any other parish; or who is declared by the PCC to be a habitual worshipper in the parish.

2. Convening the meeting

- The minister (the incumbent or priest in charge, or the vicar in a team ministry) must convene the APCM by displaying a notice in Form M1 on or near the principal door of each of the churches in the parish.
- The period for which the notice is on display must include the last two Sundays before the day of the meeting.
- The APCM must be held at a place in the parish unless the PCC decides otherwise.
- In a case where the minister is absent, or where there is no minister in post, the minister's function is to be carried out by the vice-chair of the PCC or, if that is not possible, by the secretary of the PCC or some other person appointed by the PCC.

3. Chair

- The chair of the APCM is the minister or, in a case where the minister is absent, or where there is no minister in post, by the vice-chair of the PCC or, if that is not possible, by a person chosen by the APCM.
- If there is an equality of votes, the chair of the meeting has a second, casting, vote, except in the case of an election taking place at the APCM.

4. Business – reports etc.

- The PCC must provide the APCM with the following:
 - A report on the changes to the electoral roll since the last annual meeting or, in a year in which a new roll is prepared, a report on the numbers entered on the new roll. A copy of the electoral roll must be available for inspection at the meeting.
 - An annual report on the proceedings of the PCC and the activities of the parish generally. The report must include a statement as to whether the PCC has complied with its duty to have regard to the House of Bishops' guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults.
 - The financial statements of the PCC for the year ending on 31st December preceding the meeting. The statements must be independently examined or audited. If the PCC approves the financial statements that have been examined or audited, the chair of the meeting at which they are approved must sign them.

The PCC must either publish or make the signed statements available for inspection for at least seven days before the APCM.

- The annual fabric report.
- A report on the proceedings of the Deanery Synod.
- The PCC must ensure that a copy of the annual report and the financial statements are given to the Diocesan Board of Finance for it to retain.

5. Business – elections and appointments

- The APCM must do the following things in the following order:
 - Elect, in every third year, parochial representatives of the laity to the deanery synod.
 - Elect representatives of the laity to the PCC.
- The APCM must appoint a person who is not a member of the PCC to be the independent examiner of the PCC. The PCC will pay the remuneration of the independent examiner. Any person appointed as independent examiner must have the ability and experience required by the Charities Act 2011.

6. Business – miscellaneous

- Any person who is entitled to attend the APCM may ask a question about parochial church matters or bring about a discussion of any matter of parochial or general church matters by moving a general resolution or by moving to make a particular recommendation to the PCC.
- The secretary of the PCC, or the person acting as secretary, acts as the clerk of the APCM and must record the minutes.

7. Qualifications of persons to be elected

- A person is qualified for election as a parochial representative of the laity to the deanery synod or PCC if:
 - He/she is aged 16 or over;
 - He/she is an actual communicant;
 - His/her name is on the electoral roll of the parish and has been on the roll for at least the preceding six months.
- A person may not be nominated for election unless he/she has indicated his/her consent to serve.
- A person may not be nominated for election if he/she is disqualified from serving or if he/she is disqualified from being the trustee of a charity..
- A person who serves as a parochial representative of the laity on the deanery synod for two consecutive terms of office may continue to be nominated for election for subsequent terms.
- The APCM may, by resolution, decide to revoke the above paragraph.

8. Conduct of an election

- A candidate must be nominated either, before the meeting in writing, or at the meeting, by two persons who are entitled to attend the meeting. The candidate must have his/her name on the electoral roll of the parish.
- If the number of candidates does not exceed the number of seats to be filled, each candidate is declared elected.
- If the number of candidates exceeds the number of seats to be filled, an election must take place, as follows:
 - Every lay person, whose name is on the parish electoral roll, is entitled to vote;

- Each person entitled to vote has as many votes as there are seats to be filled, but may not give more than one vote to the same candidate;
- Votes may be given by a show of hands, but if one or more persons object to that, each vote is to be given on a voting paper signed on the back by the voter;
- If there is an equality of votes, the election is decided by the drawing of a lot by the chair of the meeting.

9. Result of an election

- The result of an election must be announced as soon as practicable by the chair of the meeting.
- A notice of the result must be displayed on or near the principal door of each church.
 - The notice must remain on display for at least 14 days.
 - It must specify the date on which the result was declared.
 - The secretary of the PCC must keep a list of every member's name and address and, if provided, email address. The list must be made available for inspection by a person who is resident in the parish or whose name is on the electoral roll but this list must only include the names of members.
 - The secretary of the PCC must give the name and address of every person elected to the deanery synod as a representative of the laity to the diocesan electoral registration officer and the secretary of the deanery synod.

10. Special and Extraordinary meetings

- The minister may convene a special parochial church meeting in addition to the APCM.
- A special meeting must be convened if at least one-third of the lay members of the PCC make a written representation to the minister for there to be such a meeting.
- The provisions of these Rules relating to the convening or conduct of the APCM apply to a special parochial church meeting.
- The following persons are entitled to attend a special meeting:
 - Every lay person whose name is on the parish electoral roll 21 clear days before the date of the meeting.
 - Every ordained minister who would be entitled to attend the APCM.
- In a case where, for whatever reason, the minister is unable to act as chair, the meeting should be chaired by the vice-chair of the PCC. If that is not possible, the secretary of the PCC, or some other person appointed by the PCC, should chair the meeting.
- *For provisions regarding extraordinary parochial church meetings see Church Representation Rules.*

II. Parochial Church Council

1. Members

- The members of the PCC are:
 - Every ordained minister who is beneficed in, or licensed to, the parish.
 - Every member of the team ministry.
 - Any deaconess or lay worker licensed to the parish.

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- The churchwardens of the parish. A churchwarden is eligible for membership only if he/she is an actual communicant whose name is on the parish electoral roll.
 - The reader or readers licensed to the parish, if the APCM decides that they should be members. This decision must be renewed annually.
 - Lay members of the deanery synod whose name is on the parish electoral roll. They remain as members of the PCC until their term of office on the deanery synod comes to an end.
 - The elected members of the laity (see below). Up to two members should be elected from each church in the parish.
- The number of ordained ministers must not exceed the number of lay members.
 - The APCM may, by resolution, vary the number of representatives for the parish but such a resolution does not take effect until the next APCM.
 - A person whose name is removed from the electoral roll ceases to be a member of the PCC on the date when the new or revised roll is completed.
- 2. Term of office – representatives of the laity**
- The APCM has decided that members of the PCC are to retire at the conclusion of the annual meeting following their election. This decision will be reviewed by the APCM in 2025, and then every 5 years.
 - Members are eligible for re-election.
 - If a member resigns or otherwise fails to serve the full term of office, the casual vacancy is to be filled for the remainder of the term.
- 3. Chair and vice-chair**
- The minister is the chair of the PCC.
 - The PCC must elect a lay member as vice-chair. The vice-chair acts as chair when there is no minister; when the minister is absent; or when the minister invites the vice-chair to act as chair.
- 4. Secretary and treasurer**
- The PCC must appoint one of its members, or another fit person, as secretary.
 - The secretary has the following responsibilities:
 - To have charge of all documents relating to the current business of the PCC.
 - To keep the minutes.
 - To record all resolutions passed.
 - To notify his/her name and address to the secretary of the deanery synod and the secretary of the diocesan synod.
 - The PCC may appoint one of its members as treasurer, or two or more of its members as joint treasurers. If it does not do so it must:
 - Arrange for the office of treasurer to be discharged by one or both of the churchwardens.
 - Appoint some other fit person
 - Where the persons appointed as secretary or treasurer are not members of the PCC, they do not become members merely as a result of holding the office in question. They may, however, be co-opted.
- 5. Electoral roll officer**
- The PCC must appoint a person as electoral roll officer to have charge of the parish electoral roll and must keep it up to date.

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- The electoral roll officer need not be a member of the PCC and may also be the secretary.

6. Safeguarding officer

- The PCC must appoint a suitable person as safeguarding officer.
- The safeguarding officer need not be a member of the PCC and may also be the secretary.
- The safeguarding officer will have an overview of all church activities involving children, young people and vulnerable adults and will seek to ensure the implementation of safeguarding policy. The role may be shared.

7. Independent examiner

- The APCM must appoint an independent examiner or auditor to the PCC. If it is unable to do so the PCC must appoint some other fit person. The person appointed must not be a member of the PCC.
- It is for the PCC to pay the remuneration of the person appointed.

8. Meetings – time and place

- Each year, the PCC must hold a sufficient number of meetings to enable the efficient transaction of its business.
- The chair must convene each of these meetings.
- The chair may convene a meeting of the PCC at any other time. If at least one-third of members demand a meeting, the chair must convene it within seven days. If the chair does not do so the members may themselves immediately convene a meeting.
- A PCC meeting should be held in such a place as either the PCC or the chair directs.

9. Meetings – attendance

- A person is entitled to attend a meeting of the PCC only if the person is a member of the PCC.
- The PCC may invite other persons to attend its meetings.

10. Meetings – notice

- At least ten clear days before a meeting of the PCC notice of the meeting must be displayed on or near the principal door of each church in the parish. The notice must specify the time and place of the meeting and be signed by or on behalf of the chair.
- At least seven clear days before a meeting of the PCC notice must be given to each member of the PCC and to each person whom the PCC has invited to the meeting. This notice must:
 - Specify the time and place of the meeting.
 - Be signed by or on behalf of the secretary.
 - Contain the agenda of the meeting, including any motions or other business proposed by members of which the secretary has received notice.
- If the chair, vice-chair and secretary, or any two of them, consider for some good and sufficient reason that a meeting of the PCC should be postponed, each member of the PCC and each person who has been invited must be given notice that the meeting has been postponed, and notice of the time and place of the reconvened meeting. Such notice must be given at least 14 days before the original date of the meeting.
- In the event of a sudden emergency or other special circumstances requiring immediate action by the PCC, the chair may convene a meeting by giving every member whatever written notice is practicable.

11. Meetings – chair

- The chair at a meeting of the PCC is:
 - The chair of the PCC.
 - If the chair is not present, the vice-chair of the PCC.
 - If neither the chair nor the vice-chair is present, a person chosen by and from the members of the PCC.
- The chair of the PCC may invite the vice-chair to chair meetings of the PCC.
- The chair at a meeting of the PCC must vacate the chair for the purposes of any business in which he/she has a personal interest.

12. Meetings – procedure

- The quorum for a meeting of the PCC is one-third of its members.
- A PCC meeting is quorate only if the majority of members present are lay persons.
- Business which is not specified in the agenda for a meeting of the PCC may not be transacted at the meeting except with the consent of at least three-quarters of the members present.
- Business is decided by a majority of the members present and voting.
- In the case of an equality of votes, the chair has a second, casting, vote.

13. Meetings – minutes

- The minutes of each PCC meeting must record the name of each member present at the meeting, and any other person attending.
- If one-fifth of the members of the PCC present and voting on a resolution so require, the minutes must record the name of each member voting for and against the resolution.
- A member of the PCC may require the minutes to record how he/she voted on a particular resolution.
- Each member of the PCC, and any person entitled to attend meetings of the PCC, is entitled to have access to the minutes of PCC meetings.
- Each of the following is entitled to have access to the approved minutes of PCC meetings:
 - The bishop.
 - The archdeacon.
 - The independent examiner or auditor of the PCC accounts.
 - Any person authorised in writing by one of the above.
- Any other person whose name is on the parish electoral roll is entitled to have access to approved minutes of PCC meetings, except any minutes which the PCC regards as confidential.

14. Business by correspondence

- The chair of the PCC may, if he/she considers that any business can properly be conducted by correspondence, instruct the secretary to send proposals requiring the approval of members to each member of the PCC and to any persons entitled to attend PCC meetings.
- Unless sufficient numbers of members register an objection to the proposals within the period specified by the chair of the PCC, the proposals are to be treated at the end of that period as approved by the PCC.

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- Where proposals are circulated under this rule the secretary must report to the next meeting of the PCC whether they were approved. He/she must also report the number of members from whom objections were received.

15. Audit of financial statements

- The independent examiner or auditor of the PCC's financial statements is entitled to have access to books, documents or other records which relate to the financial statements. He/she may require information and explanations from past or present treasurers or members of the PCC.

16. Standing Committee

- The PCC has a standing committee consisting of the minister, each churchwarden who is a member of the PCC, at least two other members of the PCC appointed by the PCC.
- A member appointed by the PCC holds office until the conclusion of the next APCM. Members are eligible for re-election.
- The standing committee may transact PCC business between meetings of the PCC but may not discharge a duty of the PCC nor exercise a power of the PCC which is subject to the passing of a resolution by the PCC.
- The PCC may give directions to the standing committee as to the exercise of its power.

17. Other committees

- The PCC may appoint committees for the various branches of church work in the parish, and the members of such committees may include persons who are not members of the PCC.
- The minister is entitled to be an ex officio member of each committee.

18. Extraordinary meetings

- An extraordinary meeting may be convened by the archdeacon or bishop. He/she must take the chair of such a meeting or appoint a person to do so.

III. District Church Councils

- Each church in the parish will have a 'district church council', the purpose of which is to carry out in relation to a specified district in the parish.
- Each church will hold an annual general meeting at which representatives of the laity will be elected to the DCC.
- The annual meeting may also elect one or two deputy churchwardens.
- The clergy, churchwardens and deputy wardens will be ex officio members of the DCC.
- The chair of a meeting of the DCC will be the minister, or another person chosen by the DCC.
- Two or more DCCs may choose to meet jointly.
- DCCs will be responsible for the following functions of the PCC as apply to their specified district:
 - Co-operating with the Team Rector and Team Vicar in promoting the whole mission of the church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical.
 - Church building and fabric.
 - Safeguarding, including the appointment of a deputy safeguarding officer.
- - Administration of restricted funds which have been specifically given for purposes within the local church and district.

- Other aspects of the work of the church in the local community.
- All delegated functions are subject to the overall control and supervision of the PCC.
- If a DCC proposes any plan relating to the church fabric which requires either List B consent from the Archdeacon, or a faculty from the Chancellor of the diocese, such proposals must be referred to the PCC. Applications for List B consent or for faculties must be made by the PCC. All such proposals are subject to the financial limits referred to below.
- The PCC may not delegate any of its statutory responsibilities.
- The PCC may, at any time, exercise a function delegated to the DCC despite the delegation.

2. Deputy Churchwardens

- The District Annual Meeting may elect one or two deputy churchwardens.
- The churchwardens may delegate to the deputy or deputies certain functions relating to the local church. These may include:
 - General supervision of the church fabric.
 - Ensuring that the church logbook and terrier are kept up to date.
 - Ensuring that collections are counted and given to the local church treasurer.
 - Other responsibilities by agreement between the churchwardens and the deputy or deputies.
- The deputy churchwarden(s) will be ex officio member(s) of the DCC.

3. Financial Management

- The PCC retains statutory responsibility for all parish finances. This responsibility cannot be delegated to the DCCs.
- Each DCC may elect or appoint a treasurer to administer the accounts of the local church. If a DCC is unable to appoint a treasurer, the PCC treasurer will assume control of the finances of that DCC.
- DCCs may spend up to a maximum of £500 in order to carry out their functions. Any proposal to spend more than £500 must be referred to the PCC for its approval.
- DCC treasurers must submit the accounts of the local church to the PCC treasurer each year. The PCC retains sole responsibility for producing the financial statements of the parish.

IV. Affiliated Groups

- The PCC may appoint, or agree to the appointment of, groups for various branches of church work in the parish, and the members of such groups may include persons who are not members of the PCC.
- The minister is entitled to be an ex officio member of each group.
- Members of such groups are subject to the safeguarding provisions of the PCC rules. DBS checks, etc., will be managed by the Parish Safeguarding Officer.
- Financial management should be part of the local DCC accounts to which the group is attached. If its activities cover the whole parish, its financial management should be part of the PCC account.
- Groups may apply to the PCC for funding for particular activities.
- Groups should report, at agreed intervals, to their local DCC. Such reports should then form part of the reports submitted to the APCM.

This Instrument, including the provisions for local church governance at section III, will come into effect on a date to be agreed following the approval of the Instrument by the bishop's council.

Acknowledgements

Photography by kind permission of
Robert Cooper
John Burrows
Kev Stevens

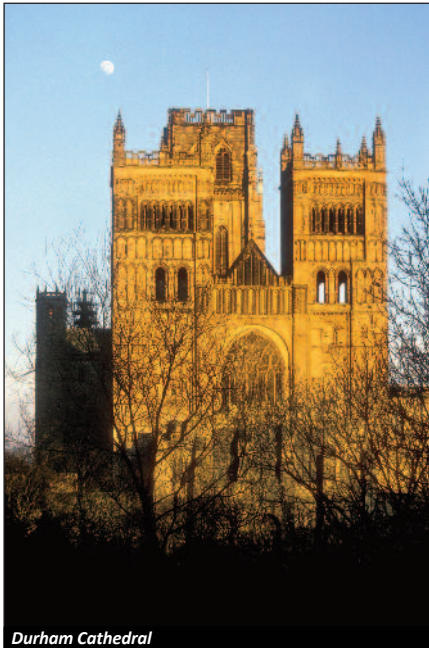
Design and artwork
Kev Stevens
The Art Room North East



St Mary Magdalene's Church, Trimdon



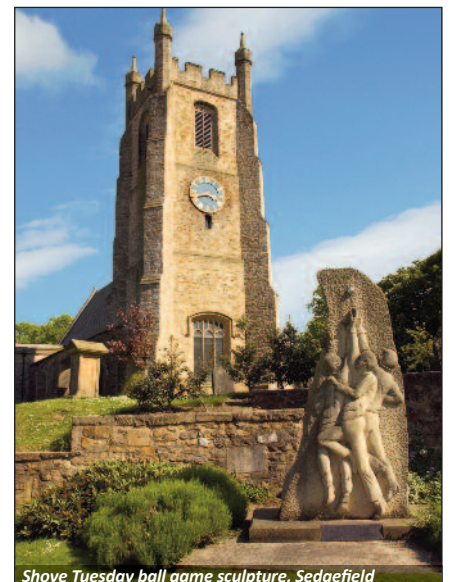
Miners' Banner, St. Alban's Church, Trimdon Grange



Durham Cathedral



The ancient tradition of Sedgfield's Shrove Tuesday ball game



Shrove Tuesday ball game sculpture, Sedgfield



St Mary Magdalene's Church, Trimdon Village



St Mary Magdalene's Church, Trimdon Village



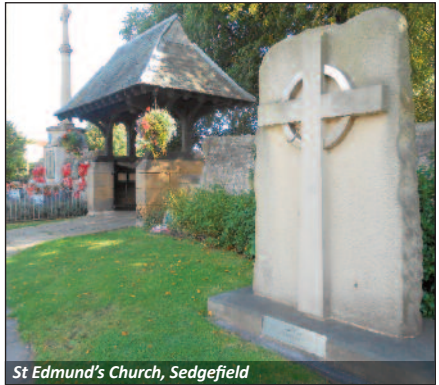
St Catherine's Church, Fishburn



Fishburn Band on Durham Miners' Gala Day



St Catherine's Church, Fishburn



St Edmund's Church, Sedgfield



Kingfisher sculpture, Hardwick Country Park



St Edmund's Church, Sedgfield



St Mary Magdalene's Church Trimdon, Bridget Jones window