



St Mary the Virgin
West Moors

www.stmaryswestmoors.org.uk

Mission Action Plan

2011

Vicar's Foreword

I am pleased to introduce this revised 2011 Mission Action Plan for the Parish of St Mary The Virgin, West Moors, building upon our original plan of 2008 & its revision in 2010. It includes an assessment of the resources required and success criteria for each of the items of the plan. The original plans have been partially completed and new plans made.

A Mission Action Plan is a living document, constantly evolving. It will be formally reviewed every year by the incoming PCC, which has the responsibility of keeping this plan up to date. Input is invited and welcomed and should be made to the PCC Secretary, Church wardens, or Clergy as felt appropriate.

This Mission Action Plan seeks to express our vision as a growing parish at this stage of our life, and for the next few years. It is visionary and realistic in equal measure.

I warmly commend it to the Parish, in the hope that it contributes to our shared journey into God's righteous future for us, his church.

'First seek his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well' (Matthew 6:33)

Rev'd Andrew Rowland

May 2011

St Mary the Virgin, West Moors Mission Action Plan

Drawing on biblical and early church material, and on earlier St Mary's statements and documents, we wish to identify ourselves as being on a journey and part of God's pilgrim people. Specifically, we identify pilgrimage with three elements:

- Companionship with God
- Companionship with each other
- Companionship with those we meet along the way

This moving and changing imagery of journeying and pilgrimage is important to us. God's people and the building of the church are not static. This is the framework in which we identify three areas of our work in *worship and prayer, the fabric of our buildings and grounds, and outreach* at St Mary's, West Moors

Regular Worship Services at St Mary's

Sunday

8.00 am Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)
10.00 am Sung Eucharist (Common Worship)
(Fourth Sunday, All Age Service)

Evening worship/study during Lent and Advent

Tuesday

10.00 am Young Family Worship & Fun

Wednesday

10.00 am Holy Communion (Order 2 Contemporary Rite)

Occasionally there is Holy Eucharist on Holy Days at 7.30 pm appropriate to the feast day – normally Common Worship rite

Monday – Thursday

9.00 am Daily Office (Morning Prayers)

Additional services according to the season.

Regular services are held in local nursing homes etc.

Companionship with God – Worship and Prayer

We value:

Worship which is daily, inclusive, varied, and well prepared, using all the resources of the Christian tradition, with a strong focus on the Eucharist

A church which is open and welcoming. In the pastoral offices (baptism, marriage, and funerals), a policy of welcome within the Church of England Guidelines is important

The full inclusion of children in the Parish Eucharist, with a monthly all age service, and admission of children to Communion before Confirmation, from the age of 7, following appropriate preparation

The engagement of the intellect in sermons, courses, house groups, biblical study and reading

The Anglican balance of Scripture, Tradition, and Reason

Involvement with the churches in our neighbourhood - Churches Together West Moors

Music which is carefully and imaginatively prepared and delivered.

Space for silence, retreats and contemplation

The parish as a place of training for ministry lay and ordained, offer made to Salisbury to train another deacon

We wish to develop:

Item	Resources	Success Criteria
Work with our young families and people. COSMIC's Sunday school, A wider range of liturgical music and a greater variety of services involving more people especially children, with new leaders.	New Hall as a venue with modern facilities and storage being child friendly Leaders & Musicians	Increased attendance More variety in worship including youth
Midweek Church	Lift share scheme to enable housebound to attend	Increased attendance
Confirmation and Alpha Courses.	Clergy and LLM	New Alpha Courses if in demand Post - Easter Confirmation Course

Use of the new hall to facilitate more varied functions, inviting suggestions from parishioners	Ideas, leaders Tea @ Three (Mary Keegan)	Increased activity
Our Lay Pastoral Visiting team (LPA's), so that the whole congregation is aware of its availability and role	Promotion of awareness in magazine, by specific literature and in church by clergy Allocation of vulnerable persons to specific LPA's	Magazine article, Leaflet to be prepared Instituted Summer 2010 Conduct Review of LPA Ministry Autumn 2011
The regular use of visiting preachers and speakers	Invite Area Bishop Graham (when available) Guest speakers	Clergy to look for opportunities as routine. Several arrangements already achieved this year including guest speakers
A raised profile for the parish church in the life of the local community	An awareness by all of the importance of public profile Concerts, events, public services, press releases	Increased awareness – difficult to measure!
An equipped and trained people of God that regards training, study, and development as the norm	Preaching, teaching, study events, retreats	Increased commitment and understanding of personal and shared vocation to be the church of God.
An efficient and comprehensive database of contacts, including e-mail addresses	New Co-ordinator who is computer savvy, collect emails from church members.	Database available & in use (Mrs Ann Mace appointed May 2011)
An awareness of the opportunity for creation and environmental concerns to be included in the liturgical calendar and prayer life of St Mary's	Consideration by PCC?	Institution
Child Protection & Vulnerable Adult	Co-ordinated by Paul Middleton	Report/procedures advice to PCC

Companionship with each other – Fabric and Grounds

We value:

A welcoming, well-maintained building for worship to form the hub of parish life

A flexible space which can be used for music and other events

A building which can be used by a wide range of groups from within the church community and the local area institute

We wish to develop:

Item	Resources	Success Criteria
Outside		
Clear external signage inviting people to worship and pray in church	Renew notice board on The Avenue, purchase or manufacture allowing prominent display – discuss at PCC	Implementation, in progress
Wildlife conservation in the church yard now the major building works are complete	PCC to consider options for the churchyard birds, bees, orchids etc	Being able to apply to church wildlife conservation org
Reordering of the front graveyard to remove fallen and unsafe headstones to the wall and provide an even grassed area	Faculty and stonemason – PCC to discuss and get costings	Implementation leading to friendlier look to front of church along The Avenue and improved Wedding Photos.
Glass doors at the entrance to reveal the inside	Blue sky thinking!	Public able to gain a view into the church
Inside		
Re-ordering of the church interior, preserving the past but, welcoming in the future	Discussion, consultation, professional advice	Improvement to interior
A space for silence and prayer, perhaps where Piano is placed	Consideration by PCC, furniture? Votive Candlestand? Icon?	Providing a focal point for same

Defined well-designed welcoming area	Display info & notice boards, literature	Improved welcome & communications
Improved lighting and sound systems with a priority on the Chancel	Consideration by PCC, professional advice, Faculty	Improved vision and sound
An improved Heating System for the church	Further research by premises Committee, plans, Faculty	Less grumbles during the winter about cold temperature. Even heat distribution. Low maintenance economic system installed.
Projection screen and facility to webcast services	Siting, design, advice, Faculty	Ability to project & relay pictures when appropriate
Solve flooded cellar below priests' vestry problem and attend to urgent Quinquennial Survey Report items	Concerted action plan from premises committee, Professional advice	Dry Cellar & vestry damp problem solve
Renew Carpeting	Quotations and choice of carpet – to match New Hall Floor perhaps	Implementation
Consider crumbling defunct floor heating grating	Professional advice, building works and Faculty	Improved safety, removal of hazzard
Further improve disabled access throughout the site, building on excellent recent progress	Survey all premises and develop action plan	Improved access

We aim to:

To measure and reduce the environmental footprint of St Mary's through an audit of the present activities including energy consumption and the development of an environmental policy and action plan. The environmental impact of all future proposals for restoration and alteration of the building and grounds will be considered. In particular the installation of a Photo Voltaic electricity generation system is in progress.

In order for all this to be achieved, the PCC should delegate and give responsibility to individuals and working groups to take projects forward

Companionship with those we meet along the way - Outreach

We value:

The role of St Mary's as the Parish Church of the neighbourhood

A physically open, welcoming, and supportive church

The ministry of prayer and personal contact

Knowledge of our faith, and promoting that knowledge and understanding with others

Working with children

The working relationship within the Wimborne Deanery

Being part of the universal church both in giving and receiving, through the Deanery, Diocese and Anglican Communion

Giving of time and resources as an expression of our Christian faith, especially through Christian stewardship.

Mission giving of 5% of unrestricted giving to local, national, and worldwide organisations

Awareness of and appropriate response to disasters

An attractive, well-produced magazine which engages with the neighbourhood, accessible on the internet

Participation in the life and activities of the schools in the parish and the combined St Mary's church and school fete.

Participation and promotion of village events. The Community Carol Service, Remembrance Day Parade, the Church/School Fete.

We wish to develop:

A more cohesive welcome to worshippers, both before and after the services including specific welcome pack for visitors	Production of Welcome Pack	Available in church
Improved ongoing support through prayer ministry, social functions, and involvement of newcomers in the life of the church	Establish Prayer Ladder, appoint Social Committee/officer, Newcomers welcome event	Ladder = Jane Hadden, Social = Chris Wilson, Welcome party Held and to be repeated annually in September
Better congregational communication through a variety of methods - informal talks, email, website, and so on	Speakers as appropriate, emails added to Parish Register, Website to included a Latest page (Webmaster by Vicar)	Improved communication

A greater understanding of the Christian faith for seekers, young people, and ourselves - through Alpha Courses and similar courses, seekers' events, house groups, and retreats	Coursers and leaders for same Identify & run a discipleship course in new hall	On going process, increased church attendance
<i>Better identification of areas and groups of need and response to those needs through:-</i>		
Greater involvement with the local community through successful events such as the Carol services, All Souls service, Remembrance Day Parade, School Fete & Village Summer Fete.	Leadership & contacts mainly by clergy	Raised profile in village
Greater opportunities for open debate and discussion on areas of topical or common concern perhaps incorporating this into Sunday evensong once a month	Precise plans, probable venue new hall	Established attendance of 12+ persons
A greater use of the church by local organisations	New Hall, Inviting its occasional use by local organisations	Making church more central to village life
Involvement in the life of the Deanery and Diocese	Clergy & Church Members to participate in their events	Vicar is Assistant Rural Dean, Vocations Rep Steam Fair & Police Chaplain, Gil Clarke is Lay Chair, LPA attendance at Deanery & Diocesan events same for MU
Greater co-operation with local churches and inter-faith dialogue through visits, exchanges and social contact	Churches Together West Moors Arrange interfaith speaker or visit elsewhere?	Broadened vision of Faith Community
Greater personal involvement and closer links with the charitable projects we support particularly through our giving	Participants, volunteers	Increased feedback and enthusiasm for same
Closer links with our partner churches and organisations overseas, in particular Yambio Diocese in The Sudan, missionary work, links to Julia's House, children's Hospice and links	Named representatives from church membership	Increased Profile in church

with missions abroad		
An annual, realistic and challenging stewardship campaign	Diocesan help by Geoff Taylor	Increased commitment financial & otherwise
Visiting of the parish at Lent and outreach in general	Clergy & LPA's	Increased activity
Maintain/develop links with local Rest and Nursing Homes (Brook View, Denewood, Summerhill etc.) and sheltered housing (Castleman Court etc.)	Clergy & LPA's – train more LPA's	Ongoing visitation leading to effective ministry to the frail & elderly
To consider the mission aspects of an environmental policy and the opportunities that it may give to establish links with other groups and individuals with environmental concerns in the local and wider community	PCC Rep & Champion of this cause Premises committee to design strategically	Increased awareness of social responsibility

Staff at June 2011

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