

# Welcome to the Culm Valley Mission Community

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## Overview of the CULM VALLEY MISSION COMMUNITY

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We are a lively and dynamic group of village parishes comprising Blackborough, Kentisbeare, Uffculme & Willand. Each of the parishes is distinctive in character and personality but shares many common attributes. There is a diversity of churchmanship and worship styles across the various worshipping communities rooted in an 'open' evangelical history and strong ecumenical links.

We have an active team ministry within the parishes including lay leadership, retired clergy and readers. This enables us to offer a large number of opportunities for gathered worship and a wide range of programmes to serve our local communities. We have a particularly strong weekly ministry to the elderly supported by a large number of people offering lunch clubs, coffee mornings and various small groups and events on a regular basis in all the parishes. In addition there are a number of small groups encouraging people to explore and to grow in faith.

Our mission community has an outstanding secondary school in Uffculme Academy and three village Primary Schools, one of which is a church school. There are strong links established with all the schools and this has inspired several important ongoing projects with children and young people such as a Messy Church at Willand and some pioneering work in Christian education at Kentisbeare School.

Youth and children's ministry is particularly strong within the mission community and this is supported by the Deanery Pioneer Youth Minister who also has a part time role as a priest within the Mission Community Team. Her pioneering background in training and education has enabled us to develop a training culture and support a number of people exploring vocation and engaging in ministerial training. She has set up and supervises a number of part time paid posts across the mission community and is the training incumbent for our self-supporting curate.

Our mission community is largely rural and ranges from relatively isolated hamlets and farms to very busy village centres which accommodate both local industry and a commuting population. We are within the area of Mid Devon District Council with the nearby market towns of Cullompton, Tiverton, Taunton and Honiton providing a wide range of facilities. The cities of Exeter, Plymouth and Bristol are all within easy reach and Tiverton Parkway train station provides regular mainline connections to the west coast line and London terminals. Our Mission Community sits on the edge of the Blackdown Hills and offers some wonderful walks and opportunities to explore the Christian faith in some stunning countryside. We are also within an hour's drive from some beautiful beaches.

In each of the parishes there are a number of vibrant Christian communities which are seeking to build collectively on their witnessing, worshipping and service to others whilst still maintaining their distinctive individual characteristics. Work is needed to help us to develop stronger partnerships and closer relationships to support the various ministries across the different parishes thus helping us to maintain and develop our income, buildings and networks to support ministry. For a leader passionate about rural ministry there is significant potential for the development of new models for training and equipping people for a wide range of rural ministries.

Five years ago we began to develop a Mission Action Plan and the Mission Community Advisor has helped us revise this resulting in the attached draft Mission Action Plan. We need a new leader to help all the parishes find ways to work together to reflect upon, implement and develop our draft Mission Action Plan.

We hope the attached parish profiles illustrate our diversity and the potential that could be developed in collaboration with the various leadership teams by a new Mission Community Leader. Our prayers are with you as you read this and seek to discern if God is calling you to join us as our new mission community leader.

# Mission Community Leader - Job Description

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**Rector of the Benefice comprising the parishes of Blackborough, Kentisbeare, Uffculme and Willand, known as the Culm Valley Mission Community.**

Home Location: **The Rectory, Rectory Close, Willand, Cullompton, Devon, EX15 2RH**

## **Job Purpose**

1. To lead and develop a ministry team in a spirit of distinctive cooperation across the Mission Community in accordance with the Mission Action Plan.
2. To implement our vision for mission across the community and seek to grow together as disciples of Christ's kingdom in this area.
3. To lead the people of God in worship, mission, ministry and service to the wider surrounding community.

**The Rector is responsible for** the Mission Community and Ministry Team.

The Mission Community has a number of goals and objectives and these will form the main responsibilities of the successful candidate.

## **Agreed Objectives:**

1. **That our Mission Community identity will grow and compliment the Christian identity in each village.**
2. **Commitment to strengthen our ministry to families, youth and children.**
3. **To maintain an active Christian presence in every part of the Mission Community.**
4. **To commit ourselves to growth and to making the gospel accessible to a wider range of people.**
5. **To commit ourselves to the growth of lay leadership and ministry.**

## **Main Responsibilities as Mission Community Leader:**

- To lead the Mission Community in a ministry of worship, prayer, fellowship and friendship.
- To deepen understanding of the scriptures and make them come alive for all.
- To support the ministry team and congregations across the Mission Community in pastoral care, teaching and nurturing faith and the planning and leading of worship and preaching.
- To continue and further develop productive partnerships with local schools.
- To facilitate occasional offices across the Mission Community.
- To develop the distinctive ethos of the worshipping communities.
- To build on relationships within the Mission Community and so enhance cooperation whilst maintaining the distinctive ethos of the separate parishes
- To grow and oversee the ministry team of lay and ordained so that all the people of God realise their baptismal promises.

- To put vision into practice and shape the agenda of the Mission Community for the next phase of its life together.

**More generally:**

- To give attention to time for personal study and renewal in all aspects of ministry.
- To support and contribute to the life of the deanery and diocese through Chapters and Synods.
- To support the work of Churches Together and to play an active part in fostering good relationships and productive partnership with churches and Christians of other traditions.

**We hope that the Mission Community leader will:**

- **Pray and worship** - contribute to a lively and active style of worship which retains an Anglican character, working with others in creating worship that is vibrant and fresh, enabling people to encounter God;
- **Pioneer** – initiate new and develop existing forms of community outreach; training and encouraging new ways of being effective witnesses for Christ;
- **Preach** – teach God’s word dynamically and faithfully and have experience at leading others in spiritual growth and in openness to the work of the Holy Spirit; Contribute to leadership of the Mission Community with distinctive preaching and teaching;
- **Pastor** - care for and nurture the congregations and its wide contacts with the community; sharing in the oversight of a busy and active Parish family, including offices, schools and civic duties; Helping people to make connections with the Christian faith in their day to day lives.

## Person Specification

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### Qualifications

1. A priest of the Church of England
2. DBS enhanced clearance is required.

### Experience

1. A minimum of 3 years ordained ministry.
2. Experience of working in clergy and lay teams.
3. A proven ability and motivation to work both within and beyond church structures.
4. Experience in teaching, training and equipping others would be an advantage.

### Skills

1. Collaborative and a good team worker.
2. An effective communicator, teacher and preacher.
3. Enthusiasm for ecumenical working and relating Christian faith and practice to society.
4. Self-motivated and able to work in situations which cross boundaries of traditional Christian ministry.

5. An ability to establish rapport and to communicate with all ages in a range of settings.
6. An ability to reflect theologically on work undertaken and the context in which ministry occurs, and communicate insights to a wide audience.
7. The ability to drive and a willingness to travel using their own transport.

The person appointed will have the spiritual depth and calibre to offer strong leadership in these areas.

## **Culm Valley Mission Community Team**

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### **Mission Community Leader**

The Mission Community Leader would have oversight of the ministry in all the parishes and we look forward to welcoming them to join our local teams.

### **Associate Vicar (1/3) in the Mission Community: Revd Selina Garner**

Selina lives in the Vicarage in Uffculme and she was given pastoral responsibility for St Mary's Uffculme in 2009. She has a background in training and education and a passion for rural ministry. Selina is supporting the development of the church owned community café in Uffculme as a centre for mission.

([www.squarecorner.org.uk](http://www.squarecorner.org.uk)) Selina is also the deanery Pioneer Youth Minister (2/3) and established and manages the CREATE\* project as part of her pioneer role. This has trained and employed a number of people working with the churches and schools in Kentisbeare, Willand and Uffculme. She set up the Squarefish network to support youth ministry in the area and is a governor of Uffculme Academy which serves over 1200 young people and includes Uffculme village primary school. ([www.squarefish.org.uk](http://www.squarefish.org.uk))

### **Curate: Jill Purser**

Jill was a reader until she was accepted for training as a self-supporting priest. Her curacy started in September 2014 and Rev Selina is her training incumbent. She lives in Uffculme and has a focal role and valued pastoral ministry there.

### **House for duty staff member in Kentisbeare**

Kentisbeare PCC fund a person independently to support the pastoral ministry and services in Kentisbeare and are currently seeking to recruit someone to fill this post.

### **Retired Clergy and Readers**

Retired clergy and Readers play a vital role in the ministry across the Mission Community leading services, offering pastoral care and helping with occasional offices.

**Revd. Alan Dodds:** Alan is part of the 9.30am Parish Praise congregation in Willand and serves across the Mission Community. He was Vicar of Uffculme before retiring and is a wonderful evangelist.

**Revd. David Lewis:** David is part of the 11am congregation in Willand and serves across the Mission Community and supports retired clergy in the diocese.

**Revd. Paul Hockey:** Paul joined us in 2014 and is part of the 9.30am Parish Praise congregation in Willand. He serves across the Mission Community playing the piano, preaching and teaching.

**Revd. David Dixon:** David is part of the 11am congregation in Willand and offers communion services within the Mission Community churches and the deanery.

**Chris Russell:** Chris is a reader who lives in Cullompton but is licensed to support the Culm Valley Mission Community. He regularly supports the services in both Willand and Kentisbeare.

**Revd. Michael Boyes :** Michael ministers to the 8am (BCP) Sunday congregation in Uffculme twice a month and leads a weekly midweek Common Worship Communion in Uffculme.

**Revd. Chris Hudson:** Chris comes from Hemyock to help minister to the 8am congregation in Uffculme once a month. He regularly worships in Hemyock, but is much loved by folk in Uffculme.

## **Small group leaders**

There are four weekly small groups that meet to explore the Christian faith in Willand, four in Uffculme and a monthly men's group based in Uffculme. We also have leaders in every parish who host groups that enjoy flower arranging, bellringing, offering regular hospitality and singing.

## **Children and youth ministry leaders**

We have a growing group of volunteers and part time workers who lead our growing ministry to children, young people and their families across the Mission Community.

**Steph Hicks** (CREATE) - Story club and church links Kentisbeare

**Claire Nichols** (CREATE) - Story club Kentisbeare

**Clair Tancock & Chris Sparkes** - Children and youth leader Willand: Rockers and Sunday school

**Ginny Metherell** - Children and youth leader Willand: Messy Church Willand

**Sarah Rock Evans** (CREATE) - Children and families leader in Uffculme.

**Lucy Green** (CREATE) - After School Café Uffculme and part of the children and families leadership team in Uffculme. .

**Milo Townsend, Lily Andrews and Dan Stevens** (CREATE) - Junior leaders supporting our Squarefish youth ministry.

## **Other Mission Community Roles**

Church wardens, safeguarding officers, treasurers, PCC secretaries, musicians, teachers, pastoral teams, evangelists, welcomers and cleaners all offer leadership and support for the ministry and mission of the church in every parish.

\*CREATE is the **Centre for Rural Training and Excellence for Youth and Children's Ministry** set up by Rev'd Selina Garner in our Mission Community. For more information see [www.squarefish.org.uk](http://www.squarefish.org.uk)

## Kentisbeare Parish Profile.

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Church: St Mary the Virgin

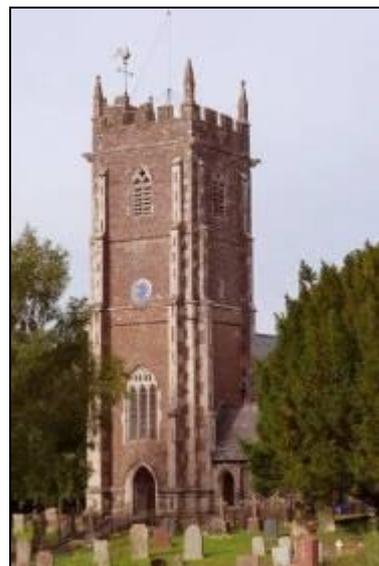
Parish population: 900

Electoral Roll: 30

ASA: 35 (Adults & Children)

Patron: Wyndham Estate

This rural parish with a population of some 900 enjoys a pleasant balance of local agricultural and other workers, a growing number of people working from home, commuters to nearby towns and retired and semi-retired people looking to live in an active village community.



### Parish Activities

A friendly, harmonious and lively community spirit prevails with a wide range of activities, including football, cricket, billiards and snooker clubs, rug-rats, Chestnut Club, dramatic society, male voice choir, Voiceworx community choir, Ladies group, Royal British Legion, Old Time & Sequence dancing and a Home Group. Most of this activity is centered on the modern, purpose built, village hall.

The village also has a Post Office & General Store, a Pub and a flourishing C of E Primary School.



### St Mary's Church

St Mary's has been the Parish church of Kentisbeare since medieval times. It stands some 3.5 miles east of Cullompton, lovingly and beautifully maintained both inside and out. The church earns many pleasing comments from visitors for its warm and welcoming atmosphere. The churchyard is still 'open' and is immaculately cared for.

### Worship

St Mary's has a long tradition of dignified worship, ranging from BCP to the more informal modern type of service. Holy Communion is celebrated on the first and third Sundays of the month at 10.30am and on the second Sunday of the month at 9.00am. On the second Sunday there is also a Family Service and on the fourth Sunday, Morning Worship, both at 10.30am.



Refreshments are served after most services; some pews were removed and new facilities installed a few years ago.

Regular worshippers are representative of a "Broad Church", the average Sunday congregation, including children, is approx 35. On festal occasions the congregation can exceed 60.

During the past year, there have been five Baptisms, three Marriages and four Funerals.

The electoral roll stands at 30.

Version 9

Having purchased a “House for Duty” nineteen years ago, the parish is fortunate to enjoy the services of a non-stipendiary assistant minister.

In recent years there has been growth in the church’s ministry to young families in the parish and we are looking to expanding this ministry.

## **Music & Bells**

Music is a strong feature with a paid organist and robed choir. A peal of six bells heralds Sunday worship and Weddings. The team of enthusiastic ringers raise their own funds and train their own recruits.

## **Fabric**

The latest quinquennial inspection, just completed, describes the church as “well maintained”. We are half-way through the five yearly inspection period and virtually all the recommended works have been completed.

## **Finance**

St Mary’s Kentisbeare as a common fund allocation in 2014 of £16,769. It is a self-supporting church and holds fund raising events during the year. The Church recognizes and supports other Christian Charities and in particular Exeter Hospice and Tear Fund. A copy of the audited accounts is available on request.

## **Parochial Church Council**

The PCC meets every quarter and the Standing Committee meets in the month prior to the PCC meeting. These meetings are lively and well attended. The council is in favour of female clergy and has not passed any of the related resolutions.

A monthly magazine is produced covering all parish activities, it is self-supporting and is widely read.

## **Kentisbeare Primary School**

Kentisbeare has a popular and flourishing Church of England Primary School with over 150 pupils. Drawing children from both within as well as beyond the parish and its catchment area. It forms part of the Culm valley Federation, along with Plymtree and Culmstock. Many of the pupils move on to Uffculme Academy for their secondary education.



We support two part time posts in the school and welcome the pupils regularly in the church building for services and educational visits. Rev Selina Garner, who is a part time Associate Vicar in our Mission Community, is supporting a team of people involved in Kentisbeare Primary School. Together they are working to enable the school to become a centre of excellence in developing Christian education and sharing this with other schools in the area. The Mission Community Leader is an ex officio member of the Board of Governors and the

Church gives modest financial support to the school through a trust fund. The clergy are always given a warm welcome in the school at any time and frequently take morning assemblies.

# Blackborough Parish Profile

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Church: All Saints

Parish population: 120

Blackborough is a very rural village situated some six miles from Cullompton and two miles east of Kentisbeare, on a spur of the Blackdown Hills. It is within the Blackdown Hills AONB, and overlooks Kentisbeare, of which civil parish it forms a part. The parish is mentioned in the Domesday Book as being centred on the manors of Allhallows and Ponchydown with a chapel at the former. It now comprises of some 40 dwellings and several surrounding farms, with a population of approximately 120, including some 20 children/teenagers.



## Community

There is a strong sense of village community, much of whose activities are now centred around the Village Hall, which is well maintained and equipped. Many clubs and organisations, e.g. Social Club and Gardening Club, along with art and sporting pastimes frequently meet at the Hall.

## Church

The church of All Saints was closed in 1993 and was subsequently demolished in October 1994, its congregation have mainly joined with Kentisbeare or Cullompton for regular worship.

## Worship

The parish hosts periodic festival services. An Open Air service in the churchyard during the summer – often with baptism, in the Village Hall (harvest), and a Carol Service in a local barn (Christmas). The attendance is excellent with a congregation of over 60 on many occasions.

## The Churchyard

The churchyard at Blackborough continues to be used and is very well cared for, providing a peaceful place for visitors.

## School

Children from the village in the main attend Kentisbeare C o E School, which is part of the Culm Valley Federation, and then move to Uffculme School for their secondary education.

## Sainthill Baptist Chapel

Sainthill Baptist Chapel provides a welcome for our congregation and friendly relationships are maintained with the Baptist community. We have an inclusive approach to The Church.

# Uffculme Parish Profile

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Uffculme Parish includes the villages of Uffculme, Ashill and Bradfield.

Within Uffculme parish there are several Anglican worshipping congregations:

- The Village of Uffculme includes St Mary's Uffculme which has a small regular 8am congregation (BCP), an 11am congregation, a small midweek Wednesday congregation and a new monthly group of families meeting to explore the faith in an event called Explorer's Cafe. (Within Uffculme there is also a URC church and Baptist church that work closely with St Mary's, Uffculme). Two weekly Christian youth groups serving young people from across the deanery are also hosted by Uffculme.
- St Stephen's Ashill currently has a regular family service and is holding 'festival' services.
- Bradfield Chapel has a monthly evening service from March to December

## Uffculme PCC



Uffculme PCC is a committed group of disciples who support the mission and ministry across the parish and seek to work in partnership with the wider Mission Community to grow the kingdom of God. We do not claim to have all the answers, but are attracted to the teaching and life of Jesus and we seek to explore what our lives might look like if we take them seriously. We believe we are called to think, act and above all love in every aspect of our lives and seek God's guidance and help in this. We aspire to be a community that encourages one another to explore the implications of a way of life following Jesus in the power of the Holy Spirit.

The leadership team is encouraging people across the parish to explore living by this way of life and seeking to make these values central to the teaching and activities across the local church:

- Our core values include: Prayer, creativity, generosity, hope, community, diversity, love and hospitality.
- The local Church has worked hard over the last four years to fundraise for new ministries and to establish a transparent financial system and good practice. It meets its Diocesan Common Fund commitment in full and is addressing the growing challenge of increasing income to sustain the growing costs of mission and ministry and the increases in their Common Fund payments. The local church has invested generously in the setting up of the 'CREATE' youth and children's ministry project and the development of Square Corner.
- The PCC gives 10% of the regular giving to support Christian charities and offer pastoral care locally (The charities we currently support include CHAT, an orphanage in Peru and The Karen Christians in Thailand and Burma). In addition to our regular giving we run a small food bank to collect food and distribute this locally when needed or through the ministry of CHAT. We also support Christian Aid week each year and seek to respond to various other needs as they arise.

- The PCC has established a training fund to encourage church members to equip themselves for mission and ministry and take every opportunity to grow in faith. It is strongly committed to encouraging every member ministry and whole life discipleship.
- The majority of the worshipping communities live within the parish. The churchmanship of the largest congregation St Mary's 11am is central / Open Evangelical; however, there are a wide range of styles of worship and churchmanship across the parish.
- St Mary's Uffculme works in partnership with the local United Reformed Church and Baptist church to run a Community lunch every two weeks and we also run village coffee mornings three mornings a week.
- Members of the church produce a free monthly village magazine called Spotlight and distribute this to every home in the village.
- The St Mary's Church website is constantly updated and to find out more about the growing mission and ministry of St Mary's Church Uffculme go to: [www.stmarysuffculme.org.uk](http://www.stmarysuffculme.org.uk)

## **The Parish**

Church: St Mary the Virgin (Uffculme), St Stephens (Ashill) & All Saints (Bradfield)

Parish population: 3000

Electoral Roll: 121

ASA: 52 adults 6 children

Patron: Bishop of Exeter

## **The Village of Uffculme**

- Uffculme is a large Devon village with a population of approximately 3000. It is situated in the upper Culm Valley at the western edge of the Blackdown Hills; an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. The river Culm flows through the village with riverside walks, sunken country lanes and rural paths making it popular with walkers and cyclists.
- There is an unusually wide range of activities within the village and many are organised or supported by church members including amateur dramatics, local history society, town-twinning association, army cadets, football and bowling clubs, dancing, children's ballet, skittles, bell-ringing, and many more.
- There is both a primary school and a large secondary school in the village with the latter serving many villages from the deanery.
- The village of Uffculme is an active community that is close knit and friendly. It crosses a broad social spectrum including areas with particular social issues and challenges giving it one of the highest crime rates in Mid Devon. Nevertheless the village remains a safe and welcoming place to live.

## The Village of Ashill

- Ashill is a village of around 250 people, with a recent growth in young families. It has a Pub, the Ashill Inn and a new Village Hall, completed in 2007 indicating a lively and friendly community.



## The Village of Bradfield

- Bradfield is a sparsely populated hamlet to the south east of Uffculme. It is still mostly a farming community.

## The Church Buildings

**St Stephen's Church in Ashill** was built in 1882 in a central position to the village and is of an attractive Victorian design. It is of modest scale, seating around 100 maximum, but with a small additional side area which can be used for extra seating if required. The status of St Stephen's is that of a Chapel of Ease, though it has recently been fully licensed for weddings. It has recently had a new heating system and kitchen area installed.

**All Saints' Chapel Bradfield** is a small chapel, built in 1875 as the chapel to Bradfield House, former seat of the Walrond family. It is now owned by the Uffculme Trust, a Christian trust set up by the Anglican Church (although now non-denominational) to support a range of village projects and causes. A monthly evening (Anglican) service is held there and there is a small worshipping congregation based at Bradfield.

**St Mary's Church in Uffculme** is Grade II\* listed and dates from 13<sup>th</sup> century. It was substantially refurbished and enlarged during the mid 19<sup>th</sup> Century. The refurbishment of the church and later reordering has resulted in an almost square main worship space, which is extremely flexible with moveable pews, chairs and a new audio visual system. It offers a large and flexible space for a wide variety of styles of worship and training events. The church tower has eight bells. There is no toilet and the heating system needs improving and a team of volunteers are now exploring how to maintain and develop this ancient building for mission and ministry in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

**The Square Corner** is a former shop situated in the Square at Uffculme. The PCC does not own a church hall but uses the Square Corner for youth work (both during service times and during the week), and for general meetings. Because of its prominent location in the village square it is seen as a village asset and is used throughout the week for meetings, training events, fundraising and regular group activities. Plans to refurbish and develop this resource as a youth and community café are underway. See [www.squarecorner.org.uk](http://www.squarecorner.org.uk)



## Finances

St Mary's Uffculme has paid its 2014 common fund allocation of £32,723 and holds both restricted and unrestricted reserves. There is a current deficit between incomes including giving over expenditure however there is an active programme in place to meet this challenge which is supported by a stewardship strategy. A copy of the audited accounts is available on request.

## Willand Parish Profile

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Church: St Mary the Virgin.

Parish population: 4,000.

Electoral Roll: 129

ASA: 79 Adults 11 children

Patron: CPAS

Churchmanship: Open Evangelical.



### Willand Village

Willand is a large thriving village situated near Junction 27 of the M5 between Taunton and Exeter. It has experienced a significant population swell in the past ten years due to a large housing development and has benefited greatly from the numbers of young families moving into the village. The housing in Willand is predominately privately owned but there is a small estate of mixed council and privately owned housing in the village.

Willand has a county primary school of just under 350 pupils and a pre-school serving some 60 families from the village and surrounding area. There is a good relationship between the school and the church. Children from Willand attend secondary schools in both nearby Cullompton and Uffculme. Sixth form is attended in Tiverton, Exeter and Taunton. Willand also has a residential care home; Somerville House, with some 30 residents. Local services include a Post Office, a pub, a restaurant; two garages a One Stop mini supermarket, a pharmacy and a fish and chip shop. There is also a well-supported football club, four tennis courts, allotments and a GP surgery in the village. There is a small industrial estate in Willand, housing a number of local and national companies as well as the 2 Sister Food Group (formerly Lloyd Maunder), who supply chicken products.

### St Mary's Church:

St Mary's Church is situated in the Old Village of Willand and the building is 500 - 600 years old. The red sandstone used in the building is typical of the district and has been fully reordered in the last five years. The main church building seats 100 and offers both disabled access and toilet facilities. It is open daily during term time and a key is available at the Post office for visitors who require access at other times. The current Quinquennial Inspection has revealed that roof and drainage repairs are needed and fund raising will be necessary.

### Church Hall

St Mary's boasts a fine Church Hall in Rectory Close, which is the permanent home for its 'Parish Praise' service, an informal expression of church with considerable lay involvement and children's ministry. The hall is let out for community activities which include Brownies, Bridge Club, Whist Drive and Keep Fit.

### Vision Statement

Our vision statement is '*Serving Christ, King of kings*' and although we are a broadly evangelical church, we view ourselves predominantly as the village church offering a warm welcome to all, regardless of Christian tradition or background. The ministry of St Mary's is currently served by a full time priest who resides in the Rectory in Willand and also serves as the Mission Community Leader for the wider team. There is also a Reader who serves the parish.

There are four Home Groups, with a total of thirty-five people attending. The church family enjoys a wonderful sense of unity.

## **Worship**

### **Sunday worship is expressed in the following pattern:**

- 9.30am Parish Praise (located in the church hall) – contemporary in style, with a music group and children’s ministry. (50 adults and 10 children and youth).
- 11am Morning Prayer or Holy Communion (located in the church building) – traditional in style (CW & BCP), worship is organ and piano led. Hymn book: Mission Praise (40 adults)
- 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday: United Service with Holy Communion 10.15am. (Informal CW)
- 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday: A service of prayer and praise with a Biblical reflection 6.30pm

### **Mid week activities include:**

- Rockers parent & toddler group – attracting on average 30 children and their carers.
- Pause for prayer – weekly prayer meeting in the church hall.
- Four home fellowship groups meeting for Bible study and prayer, weekly (Tues, Wed & Thurs).
- Luncheon Club – monthly, providing a two course lunch and light entertainment for c.40 elderly villagers.
- St Mary’s Guild- Ladies fellowship group meeting on a monthly basis.
- Holy Communion is taken to Somerville House residential home each month in conjunction with the local Methodist Church.
- Regular assemblies are taken at Willand Primary School & Kentisbeare CE School.
- St Mary’s offers enquirers courses in the form of Alpha or something similar.
- Lent course annually in the Mission Community
- Men’s Group – Monthly in a local pub in Uffculme
- Messy Church – once a month in the Church Hall.

### **Other church communications and activities:**

The church produces a magazine that is distributed to every home in the village on a quarterly basis.

St Mary’s has a website [www.stmaryswilland.org.uk](http://www.stmaryswilland.org.uk)

There is a weekly pew sheet.

Regular men and women’s breakfasts are held as a means of fellowship and outreach.

St Mary’s holds a number of social events throughout the church year which are always very well supported (e.g. Harvest Supper, Maundy Thursday Supper, Summer BBQ, Bonfire Night, coffee mornings etc).

## Wider commitment to mission:

St Mary's supports a number of mission partners and projects. 10% of the church's income is donated annually to them, as well as the income from a number of fund raising events. Those supported include: SAMS - Esperanza Foster Home in Paraguay, Iberian Christian Ministries, our diocesan link parish Gakui in Thikka, Kenya and a local charity CHAT (Churches Action Housing Trust).

We hold a special meeting each year as part of the Women's World Day of Prayer.

## Ecumenical involvement:

Willand has a small Methodist Church with whom we have a good relationship. We share the annual Village Christmas Carol Service with them, in the Village Hall. We also have a church representative on the 'Christians Together' in Cullompton and district group.

## Finances

St Mary's Willand has paid the Common Fund allocation of £42,723 in full for the year 2014. We have a relatively small bank balance to start the New Year. A copy of the audited accounts is available on request.

## The Rectory:

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The Rectory is situated in Rectory Close, a quiet spot in the Old Village, beside the church hall and 200 yards from St Mary's Church. It is a spacious brick built property with four bedrooms, generous living and utility space, a large private garden, a garage and parking for three cars. There is a separate study allowing privacy for the 'family' part of the home.



There is an excellent primary school in the village and secondary schools in nearby Cullompton and Uffculme. Willand is on an efficient bus route to Exeter, Taunton and Tiverton.

The Rectory, Rectory Close, Willand, Cullompton, Devon, EX15 2RH



## Appendix 1: *Draft* MISSION ACTION PLAN

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AGREED GOAL	PLAN	TIME SCALE	RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS	TRAINING	REVIEW
<b>Grow the identity of the Mission Community and compliment Christian identity in each village</b>	Establish new structures and ways of working	1-2 years	Meetings across the MC for Churchwardens, group leaders	Help with building a ministry team	
	Develop relationships across the MC	1-5 years	Meetings of leaders, congregations, social events, worship opportunities	Help with building a ministry team	
	Develop administration across the MC	1-2 years	Finance, office space	Help with delegation	
	Continue and further ecumenical relationships	2-4 years	Appoint a representative across the MC	Engage with county Ecumenical officer	
	Review the Mission Action Plan	1-4 years	Joint PCC Meeting / MC Away Day Event	External convener to facilitate event	

<b>AGREED GOAL</b>	<b>PLAN</b>	<b>TIME SCALE</b>	<b>RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS</b>	<b>TRAINING</b>	<b>REVIEW</b>
<b>Develop ministry to families, youth and children</b>	Establish further special groups and services for children and young people in each village.	1-3 years	Leaders in each Parish Spaces to meet in each parish	Pioneer Deanery Youth Minister Diocesan Children work adviser. Deanery youth officer	
	Integration work with children and young people in to the more traditional life of the congregations	2-4 years	Meetings with Mission Community leader and childrens and youth workers	Help with building a ministry team	
<b>Maintain an active Christian presence in each distinct part of the MC</b>	Create networks of belonging within and across the parishes	1-3 years	Able and committed leaders	Worship leaders, Pastoral care team, evangelistic and outreach work	
	Develop our Sunday services	2-4 years	Worship leaders	Worship audit	
	Develop response to occasional offices	2-4 years	Pastoral care team, baptism visitors, marriage prep, bereavement visiting	Training in pastoral care	

<b>AGREED GOAL</b>	<b>PLAN</b>	<b>TIME SCALE</b>	<b>RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS</b>	<b>TRAINING</b>	<b>REVIEW</b>
<b>Commit ourselves to growth, making the gospel accessible to a wider range of people</b>	Establish greater capacity for mission through community audit.	1-5 years	Develop capacity within the leadership team	Evangelism	
	Discipleship course	1-2 years	Identify & Equip Leaders	Training in running small groups	
<b>Growth of lay leadership and ministry</b>	Identify suitable leaders and lay ministers	1-3 years	Training of lay people	Vocations team	
	Develop Training Programmes for distinctive ministries	1-5 years	Training in different aspects of ministry; pastoral, bereavement, children's work, youth work, schools, front lines, worship, music, prayer ministries etc.	External opportunities identified within the Diocese and externally.	