THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND
Diocese of Leeds

Parish Profile

This form is designed to give an overview of a parish to be used in a vacancy for the appointment of a new parish priest. It will be accepted as the "statement describing the conditions, needs and traditions of the parish" required by the Patronage (Benefices) Measure 1986. Please check all pre-populated data carefully and provide any corrections if needed. Additional information may also be appended.

1. Parish Information

1.a	**Name(s) of parish(es):**	Stalling Busk
1.b	**Name(s) of parish church(es):**	Stalling Busk: St Matthew
2.	**Name(s) of other C of E church(es)/centres for public worship in the parish(es):**	
3.a	**Are you linked formally or informally with any other parishes in the benefice (Y/N):**	Yes with the other churches in our Benefice
3.b	**If Y, please give the name(s) of linked parish(es):**	
4.	**Deanery:**	Wensley
5.	**Population:** *[Information as of 2021 census. Please indicate if and how this might have changed]*	Parish Population Under 20 15 20 to 64 48 Over 65 34 Total 97 Occupied Households 44
6.a	**Electoral Roll Number:** *2026 data*	33

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6.b	**Date of Declaration:**	27 September 2026

7. Worship Attendance

Please provide details of average attendance at Sunday and weekday services. Add any additional rows as required or if hand-written continue on a separate sheet if necessary.
October count 2025

Church	Service	Time	Number of communicants	Adult attendance	Under 16 attendance
St Matthew	Sunday			7	1

8. Occasional Offices

Please provide figures for the last 12 months. Add any additional rows as required or if hand-written continue on a separate sheet if necessary.

Church	Baptisms	Confirmees	Weddings	Funerals in church	Funerals taken by clergy
St Matthew		1	1	1	

9. Communications

Please only include names and contact details that can be shared when this document becomes public. Add any additional rows as required or if hand-written continue on a separate sheet if necessary.

Church	Clergy	Licenced Lay Ministers	Lay staff *eg Youth worker, Administrator etc*	Churchwardens
Busk				Miriam Cloughton Churchwarden.busk@upperwenben.org

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2. Parish/Community Information

1.a	**Briefly describe the demographic composition of the parish(es) (eg employment status, population ages, ethnic groups, home ownership, cultural diversity).**	Parish Ethnic Heritage Profile Asian 0 Black 0 Mixed 0 White 97 Other 0 Parish Religious Profile Christian 65 Buddhist 0 Hindu 0 Jewish 0 Muslim 0 Sikh 0 Other 0 None 27
1. b	**Are there any specific issues you wish to highlight in relation to the above description (eg high unemployment)?**	Farming community have irregular and unpredictable working hours and income. High stress, solitary working and vulnerable to loneliness. High number of retired people. Those who are working are mainly self-employed,

2. Other local institutions

Please provide information and details (if known) of other important local institutions. Add any additional rows as required or if hand-written continue on a separate sheet if necessary.

Institution	Quantity	Details
Schools (Primary and Secondary)	**0**	
Youth Centres	**0**	
Hospitals	**0**	

Nursing/elderly care homes	**0**	
Local Businesses		Many farms
Neighbourhood initiatives (eg NWA)	**0**	
Local Associations (eg tourist groups, historic societies)	**0**	
Other Christian Churches	**0**	
Other Places of Worship	**0**	

2.b	**Do the clergy hold any civic responsibilities in relation to the above institutions or within the wider community? If so, please provide details.** *Add any additional rows as required or if hand-written continue on a separate sheet if necessary.*

3. Local religious partnerships

Please provide information on the parish(es) relationship with local religious groups. Expand the rows as required or if hand-written continue on a separate sheet if necessary.

3.a	**Please state any involvement in local Churches Together**	Joined with the methodists for Easter, Harvest etc but the local methodist church has now closed.
3.b	**Please state any formal covenants held with other denominations**	
3.c	**Please state any informal ecumenical contacts held by the parish(es)**	

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3. Church Information

Please give details for each church individually by copy/pasting the table below or by repeating the information on a separate sheet.

Church name: St Matthew's Stalling Busk		
A. Congregation		
i	**What percentage of the congregation lives outside the parish?**	1 family (2 adults, 2 children) but do not attend each service. Others from the other Benefice churches attend regularly. Approx 25-30%
ii	**Briefly describe the demographic composition of the congregation (eg employment status, population ages, ethnic groups, home ownership, cultural diversity, gender).**	White British Farming Retired
iii	**How would you describe the worship tradition at the church?**	Relaxed in style. Inclusive, community focused. We value celebrating communion once a month. We encourage discussion following readings to deepen our understanding of the message.
B. Finance		
i	**What is the average regular weekly giving by persons in the parish(es) 16 years & over?** **What (if any) proportion of this giving is gift aided?**	This is hugely seasonably variable due to the fluctuating incomes of the self-employed farmers. Only one family give regular monthly donations, which are gift aided.
ii	**What is the date of the church's last stewardship campaign?**	October 2025 – sermons on the importance of giving. We are going to carry out a giving review later this year.
iii	**How does the church supplement direct giving in order to meets its financial needs?**	Community fundraising events Seasonal festival events
iv	**What was the amount of working expenses paid to the clergy in the last financial year?** **Were these needs met in full? (Y/N)** *If N what was the estimated shortfall*	£1067.24 Yes

v	**Please provide details of the amount of share requested and paid:** • **in last financial year (2024)** • **in the current year (2025)** • **in the next financial year**	Requested • £4,197 • £3,671 • £4,038	Paid • £4,197 • £3,671 • **£2,019 so far**
	Please provide explanation for any discrepancy between requested and actual payments	We intend to pay in full before the year end.	
	Do you anticipate meeting this year's requested payment in full? (Y/N) *If N provide explanation*	Yes	
vi	**Are there any ongoing capital projects? (Y/N)** *If Y please give brief details of estimated costs and how these will be met*	Early stages of looking into replacing and upgrading our kitchen facilities.	
vii	**Please append a copy of the last PCC accounts.**	Y	
viii	**Please provide details of the any overseas work supported by the Church including the value of any annual donations**	-	
ix	**Please provide details of the any mission agencies and charities supported by the Church including the value of any annual donations**	Papyrus £700 Cancer Research £308	

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C. Buildings		
i	**Please provide a general overview of the general state of repair of the church building and environs** *This can usually be found in the 'Executive Summary' of the most recent Quinquennial Inspection report*	• Gutter maintenance • Clear roof valleys of moss • Inspect trees, cut back monkey puzzle tree. • Cap off chimney • Full electrical inspection • Inspect bell and mechanisms
ii	**Please highlight any major maintenance requirements identified during the most recent Quinquennial Inspection**	

4. Church Education and Social Provision

1.a	**Name(s) of Church School(s) if applicable:**	No School
2.	**How is the school governance structure organised?** *eg aided, controlled, foundation*	
3.	**Approximately how many pupils are currently enrolled?**	
4.	**What is the level of engagement between the church(es) and the school(s)?**	

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5. Outreach and Mission

Expand the rows as required or if hand-written continue on a separate sheet if necessary.

1.a	**Please provide details of any regular mission and outreach activities**	Following our Parish share meeting, we are wishing to join the national Champing register to encourage visitors to stay overnight in our beautiful, peaceful church. Outreach and financial diversification.
1.b	**How are you helping people find out about Jesus?**	Open discussions and private conversations at all events. Personal invitations to services
1.c	**How are you helping people to grow in discipleship?**	Sharing experiences, conversations as part of and after services. Home visits. Exploring Christianity course
1.d	**How are you helping people to grow in leadership?**	Benefice services, inviting new people to participate and help in small ways to become used to roles.
2.a	**Are there any overseas link(s) with the parish(es)? (Y/N)**	No
2.b	**If Y, please give details:**	
3.a	**Do you have an organised system to provide outreach and welcome to new members of the community? (Y/N)**	Yes
3.b	**If Y, please give details:**	Welcome hamper and details of services and activities across the Benefice is given to all new residents.

4.	**What role do you play in meeting the needs of the local community?**	The building is always open. Close communication and awareness of illness/crises/ vulnerabilities. Phone contact and home visits. Open discussion as part of services. Opportunity for private conversation after services over a cup of tea
5.	**How do you engage with young people outside of church-based organisations?** *eg open youth work*	

6. Lay Discipleship and Participation

Expand the rows as required or if hand-written continue on a separate sheet if necessary.

1.	What are your education and training provisions for: • Children (*eg Sunday School*) • Young People (*eg Youth Projects*) • Adults (*eg Alpha*)	Details	Approximate numbers
		Alive in Christ for Youth	10
2.a	**Please give details of any house/prayer groups**	Weekly meetings in Askrigg and Hawes which we can attend	
2.b	**Are these groups led by lay or clergy?**		
3.a	**How would you rate the strength of lay leadership?**	Pretty good – with very good support from other lay leaders	

3.b	**What is the source of lay leadership strength or weakness?**	

7. Mission

In this section you are encouraged to consider your future priorities and aspirations. You are invited to contemplate areas you feel need addressing, evaluate any limitations which may prevent you from addressing them, and envision what your new priest's role could be to help you achieve your ambitions. Expand the rows as required or if hand-written continue on a separate sheet if necessary.

1.	**Which areas of church life do you feel would benefit from further development in future?**	Future development has been considered as a benefice. Please see the parish brochure.	
2.	**What are the main areas of mission that you would like your new priest to prioritise?**	Mission has been considered as a benefice. Please see the parish brochure.	
3.	**What are the biggest potential challenges which you and the new priest will need to address?** *Name and elaborate on no more than three*	The competing attractions of modern life, and lack of interest in organised religion. Also considered as part of benefice, referred to in the parish brochure.	

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8. Additional Information

Use this space to record any other information which you would like the Patron and the Bishop to be aware of regarding the conditions, needs, or traditions of the parish(es). Continue on a separate sheet if necessary.

- Rurally deprived area
- Aging population, church is not always accessible in bad weather
- Seasonal changes in pressure – time and financial
- Key times of the year when farmers are under additional stress
- Tourism industry very seasonal
- Weather related issues re access and safety
- Geographical area – huge area to cover – travel distances for hospital visits etc
- Over expectation to raise funds when our congregation is so small. It is the same people giving their time and money all the time.

9. The New Priest

Use this space to identify and list the qualities and skills you would like to see in the new priest. Continue on a separate sheet if necessary.

Qualities and skills were considered at our summer PCC away day as summarised in the Benefice Brochure.

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Agreed by the PCC of ST MATTHEW'S STALLING BUSK

On the (date) 27 (month) 9 (year) 20 26

Signed: [signature]

Print Name: MIRIAM CLOUGHTON

Office Held: CHURCH WARDEN

Once completed and signed as agreed by the PCC, this form should be sent directly to the Archdeacon's office and to Gemma Shearwood:
Gemma Shearwood
Diocese of Leeds, Church House
17-19 York Place, Leeds, LS1 2EX
gemma.shearwood@leeds.anglican.org

Copies will be circulated by the office to the Patron and Bishop

Please make sure copies all PCC members retain a signed copy of this form for their records.