



DIOCESE OF BRISTOL

TRANSFORMING CHURCH. TOGETHER.

VICAR

MARSHFIELD
BENEFICE



CONTENTS

Thank you for your interest
in this position. We hope this
profile will help you with
your ongoing discernment.

A message from the Acting Bishop of Bristol	Page 3
The Area Dean's Message	Page 4
The Diocesan Strategy: Transforming Church. Together	Page 5
Being Clergy in the Diocese of Bristol	Page 6
The Marshfield Benefice	Page 7
Christ's Call to us	Page 9
Our Communities and Churches	Page 10
Our Team	Page 19
Benefice Service Pattern	Page 22
The Vicarage	Page 23
Person Specification	Page 24
Parish Information	Page 27
Next Steps	Page 29

FROM THE ACTING BISHOP OF BRISTOL

Dear Friend,

Thank you for prayerfully
discerning whether God is calling
you to serve as the next Vicar
of Marshfield Benefice.

The churches of Marshfield, Cold Ashton, Tormarton and West Littleton are blessed with faithful lay leadership and deep roots within their communities. Together they offer a rich variety of church traditions and ministries, united by a common desire to help people encounter the love of Jesus Christ.

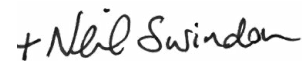
Marshfield benefice is full of opportunity. There is much to celebrate: flourishing work with children and families, excellent links with schools and community groups, creative worship, a growing culture of discipleship, and a remarkable commitment to caring for God's creation. At the same time, the churches are entering a new chapter. They are seeking to renew their governance structures, develop a shared vision and deepen their life together across the benefice.

I am praying for a priest who will lead confidently with courage and clarity, wisdom and joy. I am looking for someone to nurture existing strengths, build secure foundations and discern new ways in mission. The next Vicar of Marshfield benefice will find willing colleagues and resilient congregations who value the presence of the Church at the heart of their villages. They will be part of a Diocese which cares for its ministers – attending to their wellbeing and providing clergy coaching.

May God guide you as you listen for his call.



Yours in Christ



THE RT REVD NEIL WARWICK
ACTING BISHOP OF BRISTOL,
AND SUFFRAGAN BISHOP OF SWINDON

AREA DEAN'S MESSAGE

A Warm Invitation from Chippenham Deanery

Dear Friend,

Thank you for taking the time to prayerfully consider the role of Vicar for the Marshfield Benefice. Whether you are discerning from near or far, I invite you to picture a ministry set against the stunning backdrop of the Cotswold edge—where open countryside meets vibrant, deeply rooted village communities. Located just a short drive from historic Bath, Bristol, and transport links in Chippenham, this benefice offers a wonderful balance of rural peace and excellent regional connection. Marshfield village itself offers a local school, cafes, pubs, shops, post office and a medical practice.

The breadth of the benefice offers strong village and church communities that would welcome someone with a pastoral heart as the parishes seek to work closely together. This will require an eye for detail and balance of encouragement and patience as the team changes. In return you will meet a benefice that is committed to mission, each other, and working with their new incumbent.

As you read through this profile, you will discover four distinct church communities, each possessing its own unique architectural heritage and liturgical personality. St Mary's, Marshfield serves as the missional anchor, featuring a flourishing Breakfast Church, a strong CEVC Primary School partnership, and an award-winning Silver Eco Church ministry. Holy Trinity, Cold Ashton stands as a beautiful

12th-century sanctuary right on the Cotswold Way, welcoming passing walkers. St Mary Magdalene, Tormarton offers an active, family-focused village life with an impressive local fundraising track record and growing nursery links. Finally, St James', West Littleton is a historic gem drawing people from across the region to its treasured Book of Common Prayer tradition.

Historically, these parishes have operated independently. However, a significant gift of the current vacancy is that our Churchwardens and Ministry Team have already begun developing a single, unified vision, laying the early groundwork for a potential Benefice Council.

You will not journey alone. You will be supported by an exceptional core team of Licensed Lay Ministers, Worship Leaders, an administrator, and dedicated volunteers. Furthermore, as part of Chippenham Deanery, you will join a supportive, collegial Chapter committed to practical and prayerful support.

With my prayers and warmest wishes,

REVEREND MARC TERRY
AREA DEAN OF CHIPPENHAM

THE DIOCESAN STRATEGY

TRANSFORMING CHURCH. TOGETHER began in 2021 with listening to God and to one another.

From these conversations, four guiding values were discerned. Creativity, Openness, Bravery and Generosity inspire a vision and strategy which seeks transformation across the whole Diocese by the grace of God. Each Deanery and Benefice is encouraged to work out what TC.T means in their particular context – the same principles can inspire and develop mission in very different ways.

With major financial support from the national church, the Diocese is offering support and resources in key priority areas of ministry.

These include:

- ♦ Enabling parishes to discern and implement vision
- ♦ Help for benefices with evangelism and discipleship
- ♦ Support for teams running New Christian Communities
- ♦ Volunteer training
- ♦ Supporting parishes with the care and improvement of church buildings
- ♦ Investing to become a Net Zero Diocese by 2030
- ♦ Addressing the church's history on racial justice and diversity
- ♦ Developing partnerships between the church and local communities
- ♦ Investment in under 18s work
- ♦ Investment in priority community parishes, church plants/grafts and Mission Areas
- ♦ Clergy coaching and wellbeing

This is a huge and exciting vision, which we can only attempt in the strength Jesus supplies through his Spirit.

DIOCESAN SUPPORT SERVICES

The Diocesan Support Services exist to support the mission of the church. Based at the Diocesan Office to the north of Bristol and made up of 90 employees and volunteers, the DSS serve ministers, parishes and schools by expressing vision, strengthening relationships, empowering people, maximizing resources and developing structures. We offer training, consultancy and advice. We manage many structural elements of the life of the Diocese.



BEING CLERGY IN THE DIOCESE OF BRISTOL

The Diocese of Bristol is presided over by the Acting Bishop of Bristol and Bishop of Swindon, the Right Reverend Neil Warwick. The Venerable Christopher Bryan is the Archdeacon of Malmesbury and the Venerable Becky Waring is the Archdeacon of Bristol. The Reverend Adam Beaumont is the Associate Archdeacon.



Pastoral care of clergy is primarily the responsibility of the Bishops, assisted by the Archdeacons, Area Deans and the Clergy Wellbeing Officer. Alongside one-to-one matters as they arise, an annual clergy wellbeing survey helps to identify themes affecting clergy and their families, which are then addressed appropriately.

There are many ways in which clergy are accompanied in their ministry. Every incumbent is invited to work with a coach as part of the Transforming Church. Together strategy. The Parish Development Officer works alongside clergy where support is needed to shape vision or mission. For those in positions of first responsibility, additional tailored input and development are provided. The Mission and Ministry team offers regular opportunities for ministerial growth for clergy and laity, and the Archdeacons, together with the TC.T team, host a Church Teams Day each year, resourcing parish officers in their roles.

The Property team is progressing a programme to move every parsonage house closer to carbon net zero, which, as well as reducing emissions, should also lower utility costs. They are also available to advise clergy on any housing concerns.

Occasionally, unexpected financial pressures may arise. In such circumstances, the Archdeacons can direct clergy to appropriate avenues of assistance and, where necessary, draw upon a discretionary fund to ease financial strain. These matters are handled confidentially, and clergy are encouraged to contact the relevant Archdeacon should such needs occur.

THE MARSHFIELD BENEFICE



Located on the edge of the Cotswolds, surrounded by beautiful countryside and yet close to the amenities and transport links offered by two of the west country's largest cities. Marshfield is 4 miles from Jct 18 of the M4. We are 8 miles north of the heritage city of Bath, 9 miles from the county town of Chippenham and 11 miles east of the dynamic city of Bristol. The combination of these three provide all the amenities you need along with a vibrant cultural scene and London is only just over an hour by train from Chippenham or Bath.

Bristol airport is approx. 45 minutes away.

The Marshfield Benefice comprises four churches across three parishes: Marshfield, Cold Ashton, Tormarton and West Littleton. St Mary's Marshfield is our largest church and offers many exciting opportunities to lead us forward in worship and mission; there are many strong initiatives already in place on which to build. Our other three church communities are smaller and seek to sustain the place of the church in each community for future generations. Historically we have worked separately but through the vacancy we have begun the work of developing one vision across the individual characters of our churches so that together we share the presence of Christ by being embedded in the unique communities of our benefice.

Find out more at www.marshfieldchurches.org



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CHRIST'S CALL TO US

As a benefice we are united in our desire to share God's love by enabling the whole community to encounter the presence of Christ through all we are and do.

We aim to be a trusted witness to the teaching and truth of Jesus in our communities by:

- ♦ Providing a variety of opportunities for worship and learning that are accessible and attractive to villagers and visitors of all backgrounds, ages, stages and walks of life and that enable them to become followers of Jesus.
- ♦ Growing our witness to our younger generations including through continued work with our Church of England Primary School, and other pre-school provision and by planning for the next stage of development for our Breakfast Church.
- ♦ Growing in our knowledge and love of God.
- ♦ Serving our communities in Christ's name as an expression of God's love.

We hope to do this rooted in the way we:

- ♦ Welcome and value everyone
- ♦ Encourage creativity and support each other to use our God-given gifts
- ♦ Work together as the Body of Christ in our benefice sustained by worship, prayer and Christian teaching
- ♦ Care for our environment
- ♦ Share our resources generously

In addition to these benefice-wide priorities, each of our churches continues to develop their own context-specific initiatives which are described later in this profile.

In all of this we recognise that we are at the beginning of the next stage of our journey. We pray that the person God is calling to lead us will accompany us in developing and embedding our vision, helping us to work together through the variety of our traditions, gifts and resources so that all might meet Christ through what we do.

OUR COMMUNITIES AND CHURCHES

MARSHFIELD

Marshfield is the largest of the parishes and is the focal point for the majority of the businesses and amenities. It is a typical Cotswold village with a long main street of 186 fine architectural buildings with several more recent housing developments including two that have been built in the last year. The vicarage is situated in the village.

The village has a country store with newsagent, doctor's surgery, post office, gift shop, pottery shop, specialist MotoX bike shop, estate agent, two garages and a hairdressers. Marshfield is also the base for one larger business: Windhager – a biomass boiler and air source heat pump manufacturer and installer. For hospitality, the village offers a newly opened Bistro, a tea shop and two pubs.

Marshfield CEVC Primary School (c.125 on roll) was rated as good in their 2022 OFSTED inspection and in March 2026 had a very strong SIAMS inspection reflecting the partnership we have with the school.

Most children go on to state secondary education in Chippenham (school buses pick up and drop off). Bath also offers a wealth of choice with fee-paying schools. Pre-schoolers are catered for with the Marshfield Pre-School which offers wrap around care for pre and primary age children both during term time and school holidays. For parents with toddlers, there is a group that meets once a week.

Sporting opportunities in the village are numerous, with a beautifully maintained tennis club, a cricket club (with over 250 children registered) and a football club providing community fun and competition for youngsters and adults. There is a strong family feel to all these activities. There is also a well-cared for recreation ground, skate park and children's play area.

There are many musical opportunities and the church is often at the heart of these. In addition, the Marshfield Male Voice Choir and the Marshfield Town Silver Band, perform at many village events throughout the year: the May Fair, the Church Fete,

the annual Boules Tournament, the Village Day, Christmas carol singing and the Boxing Day Mummers event.

The village relies on two excellent facilities to support many events – the Church Hall and the Community Centre. The Church Hall hosts the History Society, Flower Club, Pilates, dance lessons, and the regular Lunch Club for our older community members. Marshfield Community Centre hosts Marshfield Community Friends, a community-run library, the WI and Sustainable Marshfield as well as showings of films. The Marshfield Players are long established and provide an outlet for amateur dramatics much appreciated by their members and audiences alike.

There is a rank of eight Almshouses at the west end of the village. These are available to older people with ties to the village and managed by a team of Trustees, one of whom is the incumbent.



ST MARY THE VIRGIN, MARSHFIELD

The Church was first consecrated more than 1000 years ago and is central to the historic heart of the village. It is positioned just off Market Square, with views of the countryside from the churchyard beyond. It is our biggest church and hosts a variety of services for all ages and stages of faith.

Refurbishments over the years have added a fine hospitality area, toilet, disabled toilet and storage (DAC awarded). We have just finished a project to create a flexible worship space in the north aisle.

Some of the things that excite us and where we see God at work in Marshfield at the moment are:



Breakfast Church

This takes place in Marshfield Church at 8.30am twice each month. We have between 20 and 40+ attending. Children come with their parents and enjoy a fabulous breakfast, an engaging talk, some singing and then craft. We finish by 9.30am so that families can continue on to sport etc. We moved to fortnightly services in Summer 2025 as the group was growing and we were also seeing a number of parents and children requesting baptism and it was an absolute joy to see this happen.

Music

One of our key outreach opportunities is to invite people to join large festival choirs at Lammas, Harvest, Advent, Christmas and Easter. Many in our communities are talented musicians and people come together for the month before each festival to rehearse and sing together. Music is carefully curated so that it explores all that each festival means for those of faith. Last Christmas (2025) we had 80 in the choir coming together to sing. This led to a congregation of over 400 at our Carols by Candlelight Service – the largest congregation we have ever had for this event with standing room only as the service began! On Good Friday, this year a choir of 45 sung Stainer's Crucifixion having performed Faure's Requiem in 2025. For Christmas 2025 we also had a children's choir with 25 children for the annual Christingle service with about 300 people attending.

Our morning worship music is provided by a talented group of musicians: involving music from piano, violin, clarinet, flute etc. Our evening services are supported by a regular organist and occasionally some elements of Evensong are sung.

Marshfield Primary School

Our link with our local Church of England Primary School is a vital part of our ministry. One of the ministry team takes an assembly each week and we host four whole school services in church each year with parents and grandparents also attending.

In August, each year we hold a 3-morning holiday club supported by a local Schools Worker (Trevor Ranger) and a team of adult helpers alongside young people who have previously attended the club. In August 2025 we had 44 children attending.

The partnership between the school and the church is strong and there are further opportunities which could be explored – e.g. offering a club, using the school as a location for worship etc.



Eco Church

Our commitment to care for God's creation by reducing our carbon footprint has guided many of the improvements to our building. Our eco credentials are one of the many areas in which we excel and in June 2024 we were delighted to achieve the Eco Church Silver Award.

In 2016 we installed a solar panel array on the church roof and in 2024 replaced our oil-fired church heating system with electric halo radiant chandelier heaters with LED lighting powered by 100% green energy (DAC awarded). In 2026 the church was deemed carbon neutral. As a result of our success in this area, other churches consult us for advice.

We have a cutting flower patch, and our flower arrangers use this and locally sourced, seasonal flowers in sustainably arranged displays. We use no harmful chemicals and avoid waste leaving the churchyard with an active 8-bin composting system. Our three beehives produce delicious Marshfield honey. None of this could have been achieved without a committed team of passionate volunteers whose support of the church is invaluable.

To support people in other countries to combat climate change, we regularly donate to the work of Ripple Effect (previously 'Send a Cow') and their work in Kenya.

Pop-up Groups

In Spring 2025 we had 14 participants for our annual Alpha course. We also run a number of time-limited groups, e.g. a Lent group in the local pub, and a four-week Discipleship course. We have a couple of home groups who chose their own study material; last year their focus was The Bible Course (Bible Society). We long to see more people involved in regular home groups and a clear discipleship pathway beyond Alpha. In Spring 2026 we supported the 'planting' of a 'pop-up' home group in Tormarton too.



Our Care for our Elderly and our Lunch Club

We hold a weekly lunch club for elderly residents and cater for around 20 people. Once a month a ministry team member leads a short service after lunch – it could be thought of as fresh expression (!) It is a wonderful example of regular congregation members working with other people of goodwill in the village to support vulnerable members of the community.

Our Celebration of Agricultural Festivals and our Hospitality

We support our farming community and celebrate all the agricultural festivals: Plough Sunday, Rogation, Lammas and Harvest, providing excellent shared lunches on Plough Sunday and at Harvest.



Occasional Offices

Many couples choose to get married in St Mary's – it is a beautiful venue! In 2025 we had 12 weddings; this included couples who already had a family connection with the church and also those who chose to create a connection by worshipping with us. We might not see the fruit of this ministry but it is important to us.

Many families choose to have funerals in church as the connection between the church and the village is so strong. Our graveyard is closed but we have a Garden of Remembrance and burial of ashes is often requested.

Partnership with Marshfield Chapel

Marshfield Chapel is a non denominational Christian fellowship, the chapel is near the church. We have very strong links with the Chapel community and they join with us for worship on the second Sunday of each month. Our congregations are able to join their evening service on the same day. We co-host Lent Lunches and share key events together e.g. Remembrance Sunday, Holiday Club and Mid-week services. Some of the Ministry Team take part in the Chapel preaching rota.

PRIORITIES AND OPPORTUNITIES IN MARSHFIELD

We still need to discern these further and will want to work with our new vicar to establish a more limited number of key priorities in the light of the resources available - but currently we believe the following to be important opportunities as we share Christ's presence:

- ♦ To maintain the strong tradition of biblical teaching, enabling new and long-term believers to grow in their faith.
- ♦ To plan for the next stage of Breakfast Church with a focus on what happens when children are too old for this service.
- ♦ To continue to build on the ministry of music whereby very large numbers of people come to sing and listen to high quality music at main Christian Festivals.
- ♦ To enable more people to engage in small groups to share and grow together and to also increase our confidence about talking about our faith with others.
- ♦ To restart School Holiday club after a one-year break in 2026.
- ♦ To continue our Eco journey and to support other churches in this work across the diocese.
- ♦ To continue to serve the elderly population with the lunch club and also be a listening and caring presence for lone elderly residents in the village.
- ♦ To ensure that we reach out to all our residents, both existing and new, including the new housing association development.
- ♦ To continue to work in partnership with our fellow Christians at Marshfield Chapel.

COLD ASHTON

Cold Ashton has a thriving community life based around its Parish hall. The village comes together for a variety of different celebrations and, as there is no pub in the village, the village hall is the focal point for village social life. Many events are held throughout the year together with a wide variety of classes and the mainstay weekly coffee morning that allows villagers to meet together regularly. One of the recent highlights was a celebration of a life-long village resident, who had lots of stories to tell! The village has a very active WhatsApp group which helps to bring everyone closer together.



HOLY TRINITY, COLD ASHTON

Holy Trinity dates back to the 12th century and is open during daylight hours and enjoyed by many visitors.

By far the oldest surviving part of the building at over 700 years old is the church tower, presiding over fine views to St Catherine's Valley to the south and the Cotswold Way to the north. This well-known route passes through the churchyard itself and many walkers stop to visit the building. Both the church building and the churchyard are beautifully and lovingly cared for by the congregation and parishioners.

A highlight of the church year is the annual Carols by Candlelight. The church is packed with villagers and lit with hundreds of candles. In the summer, the church holds a Summer Fayre followed by a Celebration Evensong with lots of favourite hymns.

Members of the congregation meet together twice each month.



PRIORITIES AND OPPORTUNITIES IN COLD ASHTON

We hope our new incumbent will help us develop our thinking, but this is what we currently see as important:

- ♦ To enable the whole community to worship together in high quality Christian festival events (e.g. Christmas, Easter, Patronal, Harvest/Pets).
- ♦ To share Christ's presence in the village and with visiting walkers and continue to sustain our church building for future generations.
- ♦ To install running water and a toilet to enable better community use.

TORMARTON

Community life offers a wealth of social and sporting opportunities. Tormarton Playing Field plays host to a regular programme of Saturday cricket matches in summer, and football in the winter – all weather permitting of course. The village also offers Pickleball, Badminton and a running club. Boules can be enjoyed on a weekday afternoon at the Compass Inn and the 'Now & Zen' yoga-style class also takes place there. The Compass also hosts a weekly coffee morning.

The Village Hall is used in the day time for the Little Minds Nursery which is well attended with up to 65 children between 9 months and 5 years. The Nursery has a forest school and the children are more often heard before seen walking around the village in their tabards on their excursions. There are opportunities for clergy to visit and the owner and staff are receptive to visits to the church at Harvest to bring gifts.

The Village Hall is also a popular venue for the annual quiz night along with the annual village Harvest lunch. The inaugural Village Dog Show was held in 2024 and due to its popularity, has become an annual event. A Family Activity Day and Children's Christmas Party also ensure a warm welcome for all. The Hall Committee provide an important service in maintaining this facility. There is also a Pond Committee.

There is a village WhatsApp group to facilitate easy communication and a sense of community. The Benefice posts on this regularly.



ST MARY MAGDALENE, TORMARTON

St Mary Magdalene church is Grade I listed and dates back to the 11th Century. The impressive avenue of yews leading to the church is around 400 years old. The Cotswold Way passes close to the church which is kept open at all times to welcome many visitors for quiet contemplation.

In 2023 the congregation undertook a major refurbishment (at a cost of 70K) of the building removing pews in the south aisle to create a new heated hospitality area and gathering space. This is proving invaluable at major festivals and for concerts held in the church. In 2025 the congregation raised 30K to fix a crack in the chancel that needed urgent repair – this was a significant achievement.

A highlight of the church and village year is a shared Harvest Lunch preceded by the Harvest Service in Church. Musical concerts are held twice yearly and the cleaning, flower and mowing rotas are all well supported ensuring that the building is maintained.

The congregation meet for worship twice each month and has recently seen numbers up to 80 at seasonal services.



PRIORITIES AND OPPORTUNITIES IN TORMARTON

We hope our new incumbent will help us develop our thinking, but this is what we currently see as important:

- ♦ To build strong links with Little Minds Nursery in a way that encourages parents and young children to engage with the church.
- ♦ To continue to develop the building so that it can be a focus for community events (e.g. providing toilet facilities).
- ♦ To share Christ's presence in the village and continue to sustain our church building for future generations
- ♦ Appeal to villagers of all ages.



WEST LITTLETON AND ST JAMES' CHURCH

West Littleton is our smallest community. The village has no other amenities other than the church building and so the church plays a very central part in village life, and this is enhanced through village/ congregation members willingly opening their homes for social events. A group of volunteers tends the churchyard, keeping it mown and looking after the wildflower areas; others help with flower arranging and keeping the church clean.

In 2010 we completed a conservation project of four listed marble wall memorials inside and nine listed chest tombs in the churchyard. www.stjamesmonuments.org. A village Whats App group keeps our residents, young and old involved in village life.



Community engagement is also evident in the two largest events in the village calendar: since 1985 the University of Bristol Madrigal Ensemble has performed an evening concert in church, followed by a supper. The evening normally attracts around 80 people and raises invaluable funds for the church. The other is Open Gardens. West Littleton was one of the first villages to launch the concept of 'open gardens' over 30 years ago and offers a diverse range of traditional cottage gardens, woodland gardens, formal landscapes and sweeping lawns. The event is held on a weekend in June with afternoon teas served. The event concludes with a Festival Evensong. Our Harvest Festival and Harvest Lunch also draw people together across our community.

The congregation meet for worship twice each month and use the Book of Common Prayer and the King James Bible. This draws in a number of people from the surrounding area.



PRIORITIES AND OPPORTUNITIES IN WEST LITTLETON

We hope our new incumbent will help us develop our thinking, but this is what we currently see as important:

- ♦ To be a focus for Book of Common Prayer services in our Benefice.
- ♦ To continue to provide two community focused fundraising events each year: the Madrigal Concert and Open Gardens event - enabling the local community to visit and worship in the church.
- ♦ To share Christ's presence in the village by sustaining our church building for future generations.

OUR TEAM

THE MINISTRY TEAM



AUREA HART
Licensed Lay Minister



MIKE STRATHDEE
Licensed Lay Minister



ANDREW GAMMIE
Benefice Worship Leader



MOLLY WILLIAMS
Benefice Worship Leader



PETER BRUNYATE
Benefice Worship Leader

CHURCH WARDENS

Marshfield



PAUL WHITE
Church Warden



ERIC PULLIN
Church Warden

Cold Ashton



MONICA GREEN
Church Warden

Tormarton with West Littleton



STEWART WATERS
Church Warden
(Tormarton)



RICHARD LAWRENCE
Church Warden
(Tormarton)



BECCY DERRY-EVANS
Church Warden
(West Littleton)

ADMINISTRATOR

Our part-time administrator, Rachel O'Mahony, assists in coordinating the day to day running of a busy benefice. The office is based at Marshfield Chapel with a regular presence twice a week (six hours in total) plus ad hoc duties as needed.

Without doubt, we are extremely fortunate in relying on many volunteers whose contributions are essential to the running of the benefice, in making events and activities happen, and in building the sense of community.

GOVERNANCE

The Parishes of Marshfield and Cold Ashton each have their own PCC, and the Parish of Tormarton with West Littleton has historically operated as two PCCs. Work is already underway to regularise the governance. Members of each of these PCCs bring a breadth and depth of experience to their role that enhances and enables church and community life.

One development that has happened during the vacancy is the Church Wardens and Ministry Team have worked together to think about ministry, vision, and how the churches might work together better. This may be a pattern that could continue into the future, perhaps even being the beginning of a benefice council.



OUR BENEFICE WORSHIP PATTERN

This represents a typical monthly pattern of services for the Benefice pre-vacancy. We have been particularly creative during the vacancy to best use the resources we have to best respond to the needs of our communities. To check the up-to-date pattern please do refer to our website where there are also details of how to join some of our services by Zoom.

1ST SUNDAY	2ND SUNDAY	3RD SUNDAY	4TH SUNDAY	5TH SUNDAY
8.30 BC Marshfield		8.30 BC Marshfield		
9.00 HC Cold Ashton BCP	9.00 HC Marshfield BCP (said)	9.00 HC Tormarton CW	9.00 HC West Littleton BCP (said)	
10.30 MW Tormarton Informal CW	10.30 Mt West Littleton BCP			
10.30 MW Marshfield CW	10.30 MW Marshfield CW	10.30 MW Marshfield CW	10.30 HC Marshfield CW	10.30 Benefice HC Marshfield CW
		18:00 EP Cold Ashton Informal		
18:00 Es Marshfield BCP (occ. choral)		18:00 HC Marshfield BCP	18:00 Es Marshfield BCP (lay led)	

WEEKDAY SERVICES AND MEETINGS (MARSHFIELD)

Monday 9.15 Morning Prayer is said by the incumbent and lay colleagues, followed by a ministry team meeting

Tuesday 1st, 3rd, 4th 10.00 Prayer Meeting with Marshfield Chapel
2nd 10.00 Village Communion – alternating St Mary's Church / Marshfield Chapel

BC – Breakfast Church
HC – Holy Communion
Es – Evensong
Mt – Matins
EP – Evening Praise
CW – Common Worship
BCP – Book of Common Prayer
MW – Morning Worship

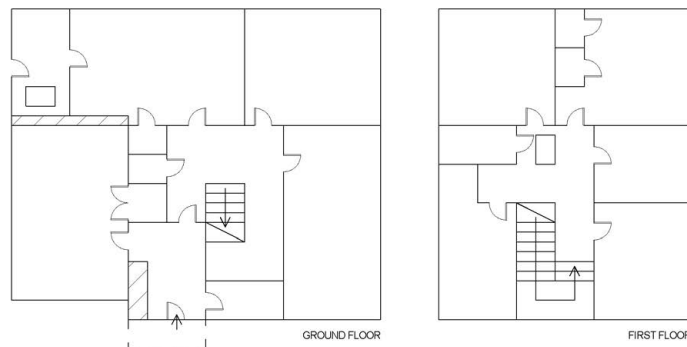
THE VICARAGE

The Vicarage is in Church Lane, next door but one to the church itself. It sits within its own grounds with a wraparound garden and is a highly attractive and functional home for a family, a single person or a couple.

It comprises a large kitchen, utility room, dining room, living room and study downstairs, with 4 bedrooms on the first floor. Surrounded by a dry-stone wall and with gates to the driveway it is easily secure for small children and pets, offering plenty of outdoor space, whilst the village recreation ground, the Withymead, is a short walk through the churchyard.

Withymead is where you'll find the tennis club, the skate park, a children's play area, and several football pitches which are used regularly during football season for training and in local league matches for youngsters and for adults.

The four churches in the Benefice are all within a 5-minute drive of the vicarage.



PERSON SPECIFICATION

This specification is intended to be complementary to the Profile, the Ordinal, the Canons of the Church of England, the Guidelines for the Professional Conduct of Clergy, the Bishops Licence, and the Statement of Particulars issued to the successful applicant.

However, the following are the criteria that will be used to shortlist candidates. Should you choose to apply please consider in particular what relevant evidence you have of your experience in these areas and the impact this has made.

QUALIFICATIONS/ TRAINING

Essential

- ♦ Ordained priest within the Church of England, or a Church in communion with it, or a Church whose orders it recognises
- ♦ Satisfactory completion of Initial Ministerial Education
- ♦ Fully trained and committed to safeguarding in order to be able lead the effective implementation of safeguarding policies and the setting a positive culture towards safeguarding
- ♦ A willingness to engage with further training that enhances the role

Desirable

- ♦ Training in rural mission, fresh expressions, or leading change

EXPERIENCE

Essential

- ♦ Helping lead a benefice in the continued discernment of its vision, developing strategy which looks to the future and builds on the past
- ♦ The management of all aspects of church life, including the effective implementation of strategy and policy alongside the day-to-day governance and administration of parish life
- ♦ Effective engagement with all ages, young and old, in order to help them to follow Jesus and serve others.
- ♦ Forming, growing and leading teams of people (e.g. ministry teams, PCCs, or other groups) in collaborative and developmental ways to encourage the best out of people, to share ministry, and to see everyone fulfil their own vocation
- ♦ The oversight, coordination and management of employees and volunteers across a range of roles
- ♦ Working creatively with schools to deepen school-church relationships, to add value to children's spiritual development, and to further embed community engagement.

**EXPERIENCE
(CONTINUED)**

Desirable

- ♦ Leading in a multi-parish context
 - ♦ Leading mission and ministry in a rural setting
 - ♦ The formal line management and training of staff / ministers / parish officers
 - ♦ Experience of school governance
-

**KNOWLEDGE/
SKILLS
AND
COMPETENCIES**

Essential

- ♦ A skilful attention to theology and scripture which informs high quality preaching and discipleship which is accessible to all
- ♦ Sympathetic and creative leading worship, in a range of styles and in a variety of contexts
- ♦ Caring and generous pastoral skills which, for example, use the occasional offices for mission as well as ministry
- ♦ The ability to inspire and motivate the church into new areas of mission, and the courage to stop those which are no longer appropriate
- ♦ Good time management and administrative skills
- ♦ Sound IT skills, fluent in the use of 'office' software

Desirable

- ♦ Understanding the landscape of education and how it relates to the governance of schools
-

PERSONAL ATTRIBUTES

Essential

- ♦ Someone who has discerned a deep and rational sense of call to this benefice, and has a vision to build on the vision for the opportunities for mission and ministry here
- ♦ Someone who has a clear love for God, which overflows into a generous, joyful love for people
- ♦ A collaborator who is passionate about working together within and across communities and who seeks to be embedded within them – knowing people and being known
- ♦ Someone who is naturally outward facing, who is able to build relationships and trust across the parishes
- ♦ A leader who is able to inspire, enthuse, and motivate with energy and resilience
- ♦ Someone who is faithful in prayer, for us and with us
- ♦ A person who is keen to work with other across the deanery and diocese, and is excited about playing a full part in the transformation of the church through the diocesan strategy
- ♦ Someone who takes care of themselves, spiritually and physically, ensuring that they give appropriate time to personal relationships, family life, friendship, recreation, retreat, personal health, days off, and their full holiday entitlement

Desirable

- ♦ A good sense of humour!

OTHER

Essential

- ♦ Able to travel independently around the benefice

PARISH INFORMATION

BENEFICE DATA

	EST POPULATION	ELECTORAL ROLL 2026	USUAL SUNDAY ATTENDANCE 2025
MARSHFIELD	1599 (2024)	110	50
COLD ASHTON	273 (2024)	24	11
TORMARTON	315 (2024)	34	10
WEST LITTLETON	70	40	10

OCCASIONAL OFFICES BENEFICE DATA

	BAPTISMS	WEDDINGS	FUNERALS
2021	11	12	25
2022	6	9	10
2023	14	12	20
2024	13	12	14
2025	21	11	14
Average	13	11	17

ATTENDANCE AT FESTIVALS IN 2025

	CHRISTMAS MID-NIGHT/DAY	CAROLS	EASTER DAY	HARVEST	REMEMBRANCE
MARSHFIELD	144	408 Carols 263 Christingle	188	67	132
COLD ASHTON	16	131	11	27	14
TORMARTON	44	52	18	36	28
WEST LITTLETON	27	85	24	24	Joined Marshfield

FINANCIAL DATA FOR 2025

	INCOME	EXPENDITURE	CASH
MARSHFIELD	£160,631	£131,631	£172,730
COLD ASHTON	£13,059	£12,416	£48,088
TORMARTON	£42,885	£42,913	£32,216
WEST LITTLETON	£27,689	£13,416	£90,458

PARISH SHARE PAYMENT MADE IN 2025

	INCOME
MARSHFIELD	£59,736
COLD ASHTON	£4,500
TORMARTON	£10,296
WEST LITTLETON	£8,526

NB: All our parishes paid their parish share in full.

NEXT STEPS

Thank you for reading this far, we are praying that our profile has helped in your discernment about this role. We pray too that God is putting a deep sense of call into the heart of the person who will be our next Vicar.

If you would like an informal conversation about the role then please contact Revd Adam Beaumont, Associate Archdeacon,
adam.beaumont@bristoldiocese.org

To apply for the role, please visit
<https://pathways.churchofengland.org/en/jobs>



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