

# Stamford Bridge Group of Parishes

## Parish Profile 2018



St Peter and St Paul  
Scrayingham



St John the Baptist  
Stamford Bridge



All Saints  
Low Catton

## From the Bishop of Selby

Thank-you for your interest in this post of Rector of the Stamford Bridge Group of Parishes. This post, like others in rural areas, offers many opportunities for imaginative mission and shared ministry with distinctive challenges and possibilities for future development. If you apply and are appointed we will support you as you explore these and join with us in God's mission to this Diocese.

The Diocese is going through a time of change as our emerging strategy takes shape. Our Diocesan vision is that by God's grace we will become generous churches, making and nurturing disciples who are growing in Christlikeness, commitment, partnership, influence and numbers. In particular we sense that this will involve focussing our energies on reaching those we don't yet reach particularly the 20s-40s and people in poverty, on numerical growth and on establishing sustainable giving. A major challenge of this role will be to contextualise these goals within these parishes and this will require prayerful, compassionate and collaborative ministry which enables each parish to share in the journey together. In addition the Archbishop is committed to a pattern of weekly worship each Sunday in every church in the Diocese and to parishes working collaboratively together. Developing ministry and simplifying governance are therefore key to realising these aspirations.

What makes this an exciting role are the parishes themselves and their desire to grow in prayer, deepening their discipleship, expanding their engagement with children and parents as well as offering hospitality through food events and supporting Fair Trade. They sense that with new housing developments and therefore newcomers to the area, outreach is a key focus along with engaging gatherings for worship and learning.

This post also represents an opportunity to help our Diocese improvise effectively in market town and rural mission and ministry in a deanery which is going through change. The details of the appointment are in the Profile below. May the Spirit guide you as prayerfully you consider whether to apply for this role.

**+John Selby**



## South Wold Deanery

The Deanery of South Wold covers some of the most beautiful parts of Yorkshire and of course is traversed by the famous Wolds Way. The Stamford Bridge group of churches sits almost in the north of the area and has always supported the Deanery enthusiastically.

Over the past two years extensive work has been carried out throughout the York Diocese to better shape the way that the Deanery Synods operate and South Wold has been party to the changes. Whilst we are not a great number in terms of clergy with charges, we do have a very active group of retired clergy, as well as Readers and RPA's, many of whom regularly lead worship.

Our Clergy Chapter is very active and one is guaranteed a stimulating discussion at each meeting.

We strive to involve both clergy and laity in driving closer links amongst benefices and in sharing training and other opportunities. We are currently looking at sharing skills and resources to assist the smaller groups from the blessings of others.

We strive to be a 'network of churches serving rural communities' especially when two of our towns are fast increasing in size.

South Wold Deanery Synod offers a warm welcome to anyone joining us in the sharing of God's love in this rather wonderful part of Christ's Kingdom.

David Millican

Lay Dean  
South Wold Deanery Synod



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# Stamford Bridge Group of Parishes

The Group is made up of three Churches within two Church of England parishes: Stamford Bridge with Catton and Scoreby and Scrayingham with Leppington. We are part of the South Wold Deanery, in the Diocese of York. The Churches are St John the Baptist, Stamford Bridge, All Saints, Catton and St Peter and St Paul, Scrayingham.

## Our Ministry Team

We are fortunate to be assisted in our ministry by our associate priest - Maggy Ellison, a licensed Reader - Lucy Lawson, and a Reader in training due to be licensed in November - Wendy Macfarlane. Several members of congregation have trained as RPAs and they are involved in youth work, preaching, leading our 1<sup>st</sup>@4 and family services and preparing and leading Advent and Lent courses.

Altogether, we have 42 people who currently support the work of the church. These include welcomers, youth leaders, visiting team, baptism visitors, and intercession leaders. PCC treasurer secretary and members, those who look after maintaining our building, church cleaners, flower ladies, newssheet and website editors, vergers, linen launderer, and the very welcome producers of refreshments after our services.

**The Ministry Support Team** is made up of representatives of the various strands of our church ministry. They meet to support and work alongside all those people who lead the different services and groups. We find these meetings help us all to work easily together and provide the opportunity to share successes and any concerns.



Church, Village	Village Population	Regular Congregations
St John the Baptist, Stamford Bridge	3500	08:00 - 7 adults 10:30 - 35-40 adults, 4 children 1st@4 - 20 adults, 10 children
All Saints, Catton	250	15-20
St Peter & St Paul, Scrayingham	180	2-8 in 2017, no Sunday services in 2018



### Stamford Bridge

Stamford Bridge is a large village with a population of 3,500 and a strong community spirit. Situated on the River Derwent, 9 miles to the east of York, Stamford Bridge is famous for the battle, which took place on 23<sup>rd</sup> September 1066 and marks the end of the Viking era. It has excellent rail links; there are also easy links to the M1, the M62, a number of airports, and to the continent via North Sea Ferries. We are close to the North Yorkshire Moors, with the Coast and Yorkshire Dales being approximately 45 minutes' drive away. The main A166 trunk road from York to Bridlington runs through Stamford Bridge and there is easy access to the A1079 York to Hull road. A regular daytime bus service runs to and from York.

As well as St John's, there is a Methodist Chapel in the village and Roman Catholic churches at both Pocklington and York. There are over 40 voluntary groups within the village, ranging from Probus, Yorkshire Countrywomen, WRVS, the Royal British Legion, Scouting and Guiding, to the Battle of Stamford Bridge Historical Society with their tapestry section, Flower Club, 2 Choirs, Drama Group and several clubs for the elderly. There are good sports facilities maintained by local groups - a cricket field, five football pitches, two tennis courts, a bowling green, an indoor sports hall for badminton and football, and a community swimming pool run by PACT (the school's parents' association); and netball is also played. The Playing Fields Association runs over 9 senior teams and 20 junior teams.

Together with the churches and the school, these local groups help to generate a sense of belonging within the local community.

There is a good selection of shops and services in the village. There is a small Co-op supermarket and a range of independent shops including: post-office, florists, butchers, hardware, pharmacy, newsagents, bakery, three hair & beauty salons and a specialist whisky shop. In addition to three pubs, there is also a bistro and tea rooms. Stamford Bridge has a doctors' surgery, a dentist and a veterinary practice. There is a small library with part-time hours. Larger supermarkets and more extensive shopping facilities are only 20 minutes' drive away. New housing development continues to take place.



## St John the Baptist, Stamford Bridge

St. John's is an inclusive church and has a friendly, welcoming and very supportive congregation. Ages range from young children through to eighty plus years of age. Like many congregations, there is a slightly higher proportion of women to men, and we would like to work towards increasing the 20 to 40 age group.

St John the Baptist Church was built in 1868 and used continuously for worship since then. It was built as a chapel-of-ease in the parish of Catton with Stamford Bridge and Scoreby, designed by G. Fowler Jones in early English style. Its designation changed to Parish Church of Stamford Bridge with Catton and Scoreby in 1957. The churchyard is closed to burials and is now maintained by East Riding of Yorkshire Council.

The services reflect the age ranges: the monthly 08:00 has a small but dedicated congregation; the weekly 10:30 follows a pattern of Common Worship or Celtic Holy Communion, and the 1st@4 is enjoyed by families and the young at heart. Our older teens are keen to have an informal service after school. Everyone enjoys the special services, which may be quiet and meditative such as All Souls, or the joyous and noisy ones at Christmas, Easter and Pentecost.

Music forms an important part of our worship and is provided by those playing guitar, the organ and by a band of confident, enthusiastic young musicians.

Our very enjoyable social gatherings are no longer fundraisers but a chance to catch up and make new friends. We do raise money for Fikelela, an orphanage in South Africa, where, some of our young people have enjoyed a week full of amazing experiences, helping in the orphanage, gardening and painting.









## All Saints' Catton and its Congregation

Low and High Catton are rural, linear villages lying some 7 miles east of York and 1 mile south of Stamford Bridge. There are approximately 125 dwellings, according to the 2011 UK census, Catton parish has a population of 348.

There are few amenities in Catton parish; there are four farms and Low Catton has the church, a pub and the village hall used for local events. Local farming families, many of whom work hard for the church, are generous in their offer of land and facilities for church and village events, such as Rogation Services and the long established church garden party. There is a wide group of friends of the church who are very supportive.

There has been a church on the All Saints site since the early 12th Century and is considered to be a fine example of an Old English Church. Throughout the centuries it has been developed and redeveloped at various times: of particular note are the architect G.E. Street's contributions to the building design and the east window, which is a superb example of the work of William Morris.

Life at All Saints centres around a small congregation, deeply committed to their church. Opportunities for young people are well catered for at St. John's, Stamford Bridge, so the aim at Catton is to provide regular worship and links with the local community. Recent increased co-operation with the enthusiastic Village Hall Committee, upon which DCC members also serve, has led to meaningful developments linking the church and the two villages of High and Low Catton. These are exemplified by monthly community coffee mornings and annual Christmas Fair/ Coffee Mornings and Parish Lunches. A quality to be welcomed in our new priest would be an appreciation and understanding of the importance of the sense of community so crucial to villages such as this.



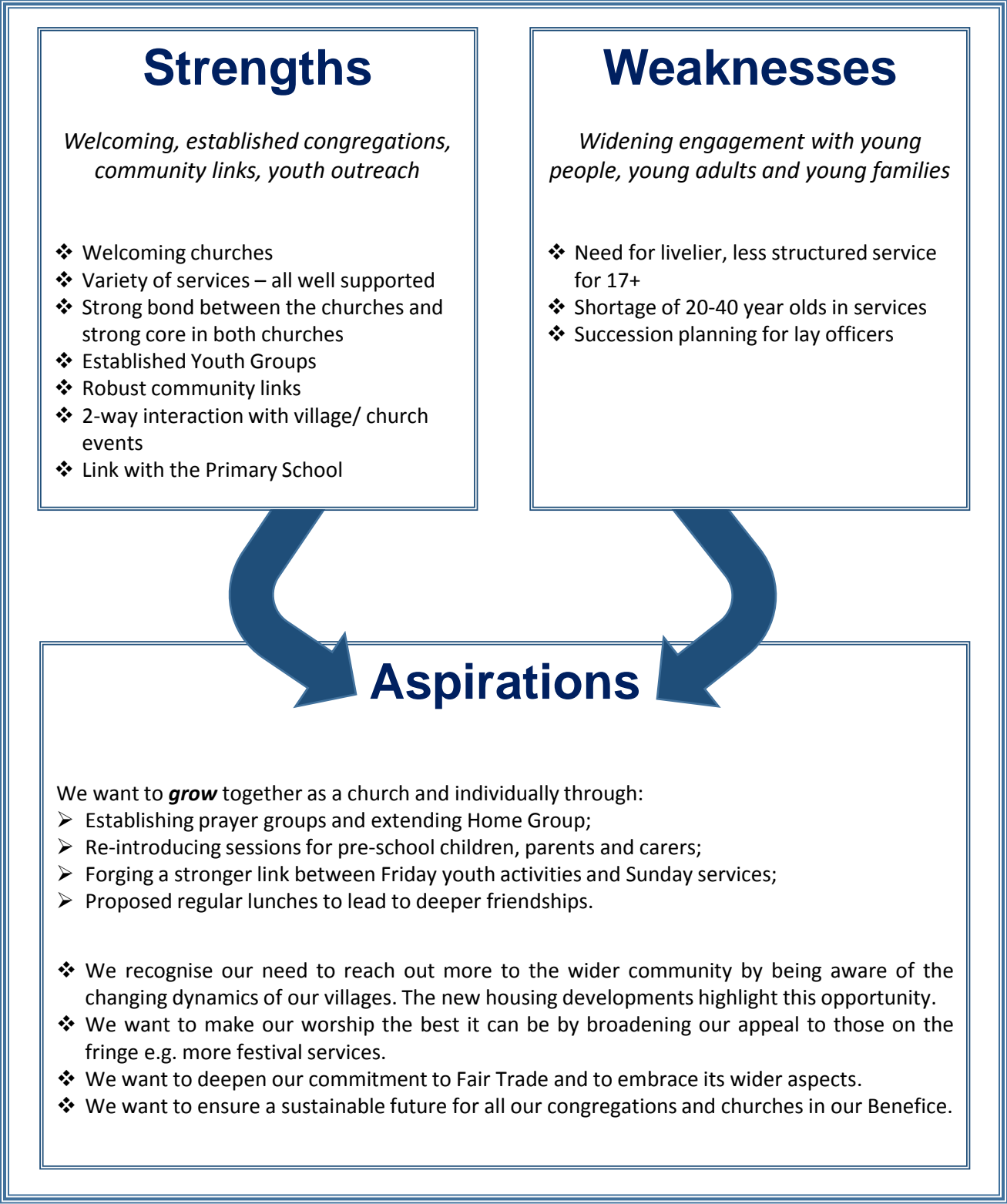






# Thoughts from the Parish Consultation

Following several consultation meetings representing all groups in the parish of Stamford Bridge and Catton, we have identified our strengths and weaknesses and in doing so we have developed a set of aspirations for our parish.







## Schools

Stamford Bridge Primary School has 249 children and the infant and junior sections are split between two sites within a short walk of 100 metres. The school, which takes children from Stamford Bridge and Catton, is community based, representing all backgrounds and abilities and takes pride in seeking to meet the diverse needs of each child. It takes every opportunity to forge links with the wider community.

There is a pre-school in the Stamford Bridge and a nursery attached to the Primary school.

Local secondary schools are Woldgate School and Sixth Form College in Pocklington and Archbishop Holgate CE School in York. In recent years, parents have had a relatively free choice of both schools.

There are also several Independent Schools in the area, including Pocklington, St Peter's, Bootham and The Mount.



### Stamford Bridge Primary School

*"Our community primary school enjoys strong links with the village church and a key feature is the open and supportive relationships between school staff and congregation members.*

*Regular collective worship is held in school and led by the vicar and is based on current RE themes or broader school topics. Our juniors and infants visit church each Harvest, Easter and Christmas for a special service and the children enjoy sharing their musical talents at the popular Carol Service. Each child enjoys producing a tree decoration for the Church Christmas trees.*

*Wider community links are shared including a visit from The Prayer Bus to open our pupils to key values including forgiveness, peace or understanding others. Our infant children enjoyed sessions on Godly Play to learn about stories from the Bible.*

*Our school staff liaise with the church when caring for the church grounds as part of our 'Vibrant Village' initiative. We also visit to hold mock weddings and christenings, bringing learning to life in a faith context.*

*We are open to continuing this valuable relationship with our new vicar and finding further ways of working closely together."*

**Mrs T Fitzhenry, Head Teacher**



## Scrayingham and Leppington

The two small villages which make up the parish of Scrayingham and Leppington are situated in rural North Yorkshire, about 4.5 miles north of Stamford Bridge.

**Scrayingham** is a pretty village on the river Derwent and has a population of under 100 residents. In years past the inhabitants were involved in agriculture and associated industries, whereas today the villagers are mostly retired or they commute to work in York or Malton and the surrounding area. More than half of the houses are privately rented on short-term leases from the Aldby Estate in Buttercrambe but in the last year a few new owner-occupier houses have been built and some new permanent residents have moved in to the village.

There is a very part-time post office but the only other remaining public buildings are the ancient parish church of St Peter and St Paul and the old village school which became the Church Hall but fell into decay and became unusable. Today the church and church hall are still important in the hearts and minds of the local community.

**Leppington** lies on a ridge at the edge of the Yorkshire Wolds, about 2 miles from Scrayingham. A few new houses are being built in the village but the population is only around 80 inhabitants. There are no public buildings in Leppington.

Scrayingham and Leppington are within the catchment area of Leavening Community Primary School and Norton College.

Independent schools within a radius of 15 miles are at Pocklington and York.





## St Peter & St Paul's Church and its Community

The ancient church of St Peter & St Paul in Scrayingham has been in decline for a number of years due to dwindling congregations and the building needs significant upgrading. It was threatened with closure 4 years ago but the local communities strongly resisted this. The Friends of Scrayingham and Leppington was formed to support the church and to organise activities for the local community. They also looked at restoring the dilapidated adjacent church hall for community use. So far they have held 3 summer concerts to raise some funds but over recent months they have been inactive due to serious health problems among the leading members. It remains to be seen if the Friends will regroup and continue their activities.

Scrayingham church was always considered to be a Victorian rebuild of a medieval building but in 2010 a church building specialist found evidence to suggest it has early Saxon origins which makes it one of the oldest churches in the north of England. In addition the Railway King, George Hudson, is buried in the churchyard. So Scrayingham receives a fair number of church tourists and railway enthusiasts as well as cyclists and walkers who like to stop and enjoy the peace and beauty of the churchyard.

Over the last 3 years the very small church community of 6 - 8 people have gathered for a monthly service of Holy Communion except during the coldest months. In addition, special services have been held from time-to-time e.g. Rogation, Songs of Praise, Harvest and Remembrance. These have attracted much bigger congregations of 50 – 70 people drawn from the local area and from the church communities in Stamford Bridge and Catton. The annual Carol Service is a very popular event organised jointly with the Friends.

As the church community is so small, the task of maintaining the essential elements of both church life and the church building proves very challenging. There is great commitment of a few people who clean the church and maintain the churchyard, and look after the finances. This year a decision has been made to move towards becoming a Festival church and the monthly services have been discontinued due to a lack of support. The PCC is hoping to install a new lighting system shortly as the present system has been declared unsafe.

Unless the Friends of Scrayingham and Leppington regroup and actively support the church community in maintaining and using the church building, the future of this lovely ancient church in Scrayingham remains very uncertain.



## Children and Young People's Activities

We are always delighted to be joined in our services by children of any age. Within the pews we have a lovely children's area where they can enjoy activities next to their parents. There is a Sunday School twice a month during the 10:30 service, a monthly interactive and accessible All Age service and the informal 1st@4 is becoming a fresh expression service enjoyed by families and the young at heart!

### Friday is Youth Night!

#### Free Spirits

13 Primary children meet after school for bible stories, activities and fun.

#### Cornerstones

12 Secondary youngsters meet and enjoy a wide range of activities, which always include some teaching.

#### Sparks

A small group of seniors and A-level youngsters who meet for fun, food and fellowship.

#### Youth Sport

30 Secondary youngsters enjoy sport in the winter months. This is played in a real spirit of friendship and tolerance and attracts youngsters who don't have any other links to Church.

All the groups enjoyed a visit from Emily's "Bus Stop" and they have been involved in raising money to support the work of Christian Aid.

Our youth groups also enjoy helping the flower ladies as they prepare the Church for Mothering Sunday, Harvest and Christmas. In addition, each group worked hard to decorate their tree for the themed Christmas tree festivals and Cornerstones were thrilled to come second in the village scarecrow competition depicting two Chelsea fans at the wrong Stamford Bridge!

A group of talented musicians from Cornerstones and Sparks lead our Youth Services. These are held in St John's two or three times a year. These services start with crafts and activities and their music leads and enhances our worship.









# Activities within the Benefice

**Mothers’ Union:** Each month twenty members of the Mothers Union meet together in the Old Station Club. There is usually an interesting speaker and Communion is celebrated regularly. The chance to share news over a cup of tea is greatly appreciated. This monthly get together supports many who have few opportunities to be out and about. We like to help with MU initiatives and have been almost overwhelmed by the village’s response to our request for clothing, household and personal products for the people trapped in Syria.

**LYCIG Study Group:** We were fortunate to be one of the early groups in the Diocese studying the LYCIG materials and implementing interventions for the issues identified. We renamed this initiative ‘Let’s Grow’.

**Home Group:** A small group meets weekly for bible study and fellowship. They have recently been studying Matthew’s Gospel.

**Pastoral Work:** Members of the visiting team usually visit one or two different people each month. Some of the people are frail and housebound but some may be young mums at home who would welcome some cheery conversation for both themselves and their children. These members have undertaken a listening course to improve their skills, and are actively supporting a number of people.

**Home Communion:** Six members of the congregation take home communion to those unable to join us in Church. The short service is usually followed by a cup of tea and a chat, and is a much appreciated activity.





# Outreach

The Group of Parishes has outside links with a number of activities. We are very fortunate that at least one member of our congregation belongs to each of the village clubs. Through a weekly newssheet and our website [www.achurchnearyou.com](http://www.achurchnearyou.com) we reach a wide number of people.

The Mothers Union takes a turn with the other groups in the Deanery to provide a starter basket of food for the families who enjoy a holiday in the *Away from It All* caravan.

Our youth groups are open to those of all faiths or none at all.

Harvest gifts from Stamford Bridge go to Carecent which provides breakfasts for homeless and cash donations go to The Farming Community Network. Donations from annual Harvest Festivals at Catton and Scrayingham always support The Salvation Army.

We have just started fundraising for Fikelela, an orphanage in Cape Town, South Africa which several of our young people have visited in the last few years.

We are planning to further develop our commitment to Fair Trade and the wider aspects of Trade Justice, maintaining and developing our commitment to care for creation, through Eco church, and working for climate justice.

We also endeavour to use our building to help other groups raise money for their charity. This year the donations from our Community Choir concert raised £1000 for York Against Cancer.









# Current Monthly Worship Pattern

Morning Prayer is said at 09:00 each Tuesday and Thursday in term time in St John’s.

On 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursdays at 11:00, Holy Communion is celebrated at the Beaumont Care Home in Stamford Bridge.

Sunday	St John the Baptist	All Saints	St Peter & Paul
1 <sup>st</sup>	<b>10:30</b> All Age Celtic style Holy Communion <b>16:00</b> 1 <sup>st</sup> @4 for families and the young at heart	-	*
2 <sup>nd</sup>	<b>10:30</b> Holy Communion with Sunday School	<b>09:00</b> Holy Communion	*
3 <sup>rd</sup>	<b>08:00</b> Holy Communion <b>10:30</b> All Age Service	<b>10:30</b> Morning Prayer	*
4 <sup>th</sup>	<b>10:30</b> Holy Communion	<b>09:00</b> Holy Communion	*
5 <sup>th</sup>	<b>10:30</b> Benefice Holy Communion		

\* At present, services are only held at Church Festivals.



# Safeguarding

We take safeguarding very seriously to ensure that our children, young people and vulnerable adults are safe in our care. Our Parish Safeguarding Representative ensures that we follow the Diocesan Guidelines and we are, at present, undertaking the new on-line training and the more advanced C2 and C3 courses where appropriate.



## Finance

Each church has its own Honorary Treasurer and there is a Group Account that covers clergy and other shared expenses e.g. altar supplies. Funds are raised through service collections, gift-aid, donations and some fundraising events.

2017	Stamford Bridge	Catton	Scrayingham
Annual income	£49,071.60	£23,112	£2,545
Freewill Giving	£30,000.00	£9,815	£750



## The Rectory

The Rectory for the Benefice is situated in Stamford Bridge at the head of a secluded cul-de-sac with a rear, gated, pedestrian access directly opposite St. John's Church.

Built in the mid-1960s, it is a light and airy detached house with a good sized, garden and generously proportioned living accommodation, which includes a separate office.

A front porch leads into a spacious hall, from which all the downstairs rooms, including the office, can be accessed. The downstairs rooms include the cloak room/ toilet; the front living room with patio doors to the garden, the dining room, and kitchen. From the kitchen there is a small utility room, a walk-in pantry, and a rear porch with access to the back garden.

From the hall, the staircase leads to a large, square, galleried landing with a family bathroom, and 4 generously sized double bedrooms. Previous incumbents have chosen to use the large bedroom as an upstairs sitting room.

The driveway to the house has ample parking for up to three cars and has a single garage, with a very large store built on to the rear. Tucked in the corner of the garden is a shed purchased by the Youth Groups storing both youth and church equipment. Part of the garden is totally secluded and not overlooked from any direction, and both the Infant and Junior Schools are within easy walking distance.





Thank you for reading our Parish Profile – we hope you enjoyed learning more about our activities and the villages. If you need any more information, we suggest the following pages are helpful:

<https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/18986/>

<http://www.stamfordbridge-pc.gov.uk/village>

<http://www.thecattonseastriding.org/>

