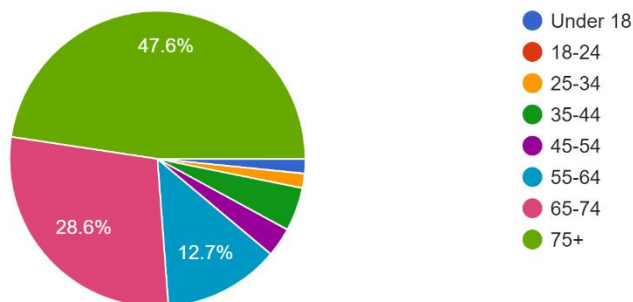


Chew Valley South Worship Survey – 63 reponses

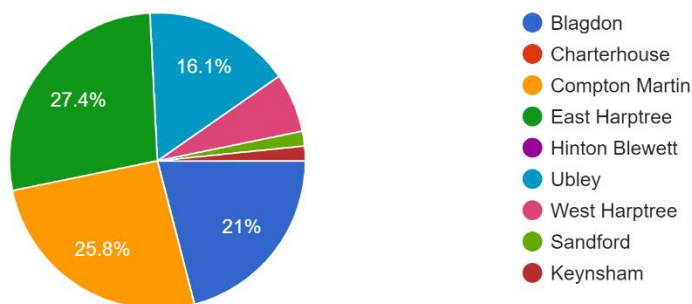
1. What age group are you in?

63 responses



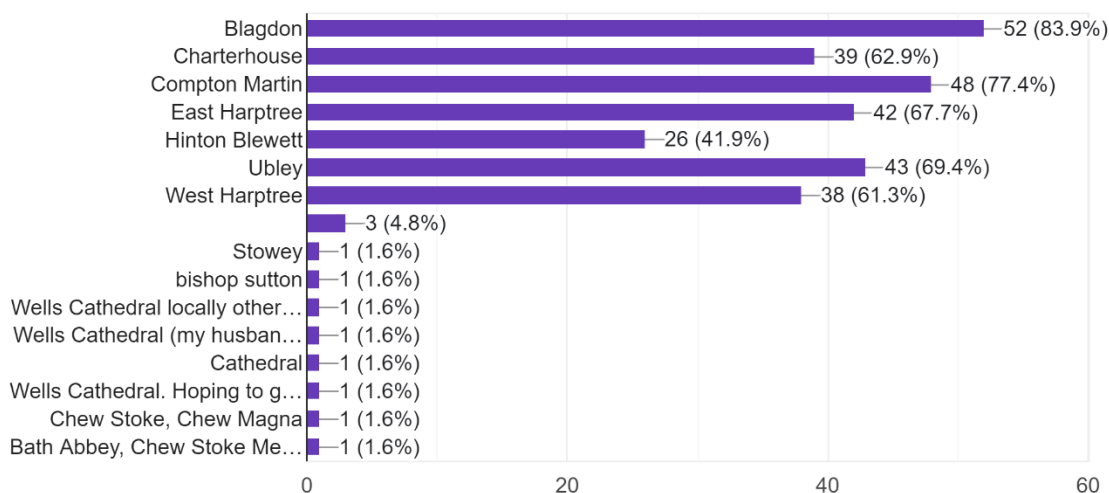
2. Which village do you live in?

62 responses



3. Where have you attended worship (please tick all that apply)?

62 responses

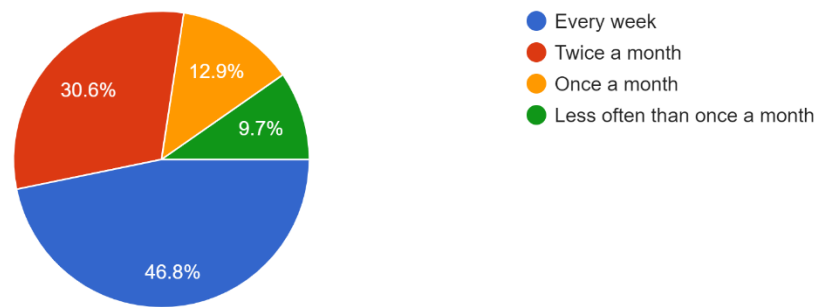


Responses to question 3 in full:

- *Wells Cathedral locally other churches further afield*
- *Wells Cathedral (my husband is a Guide there).*
- *Wells Cathedral. Hoping to get to Ubley soon!*
- *Bath Abbey, Chew Stoke Methodists, Wells Cathedral...*

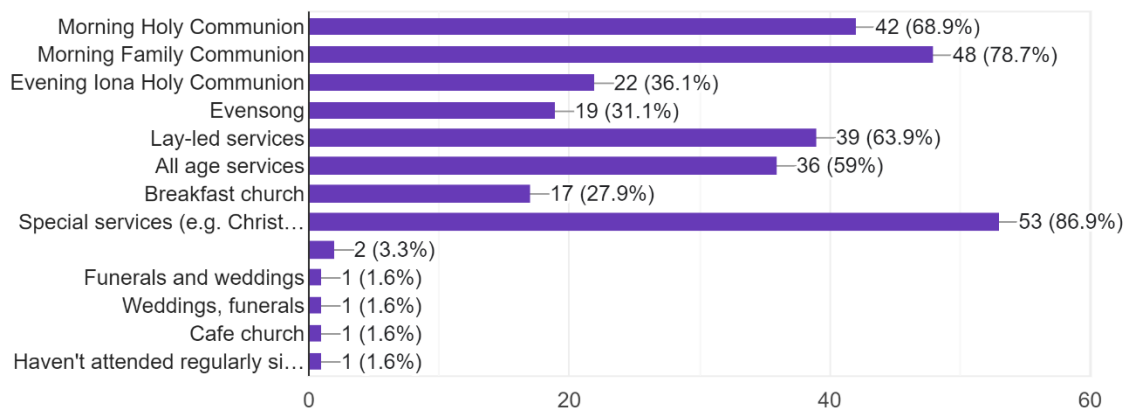
4. Typically, how often do you attend a service in the benefice?

62 responses



5. Which types of service do you attend (please tick all that apply)?

61 responses

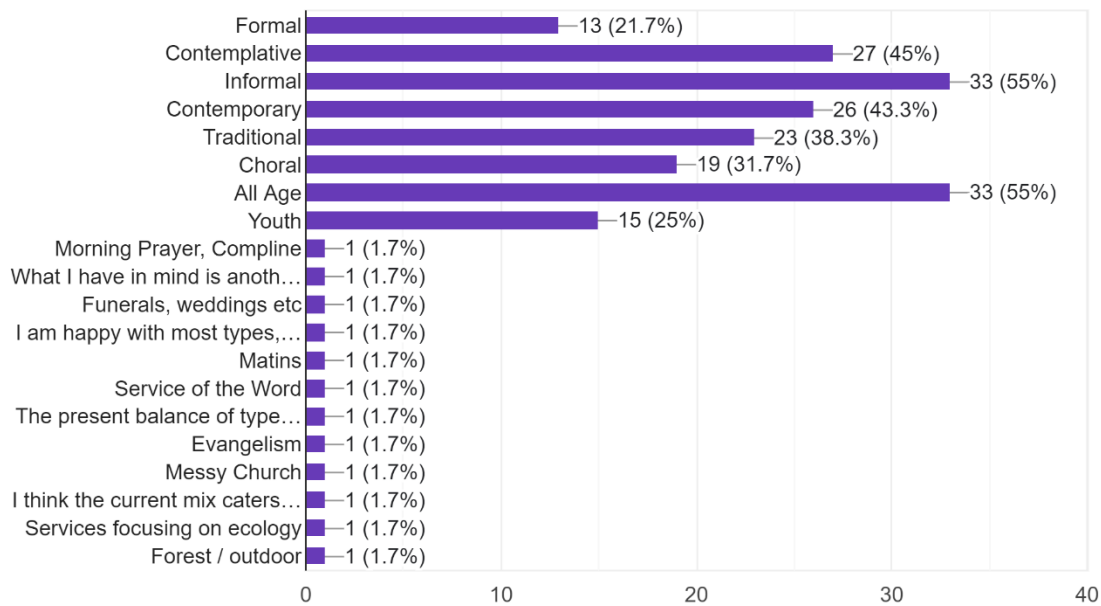


Responses to question 5 in full:

- *Special services (e.g. Christmas, Easter, Harvest)*
- *Haven't attended regularly since covid*

6. What types of service would you like to see more of (please tick all that apply)?

60 responses

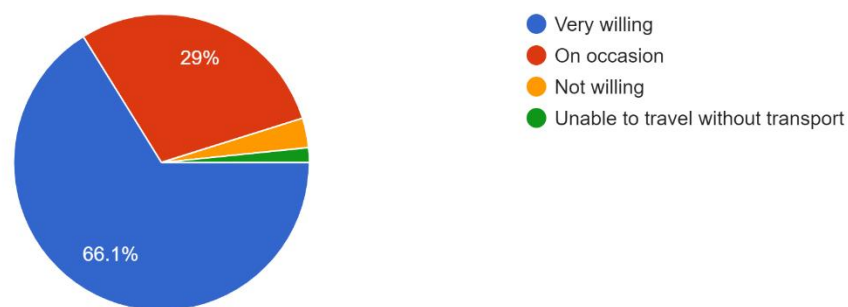


Responses to question 6 in full:

- *What I have in mind is another activity in a church to which a small element of worship is added, probably at the end*
- *I am happy with most types, but lean towards the more formal.*
- *The present balance of types of service is fine with me.*
- *I think the current mix caters for all tastes*

7. How willing are you to travel out of your village to worship?

62 responses



8. What do you appreciate about the services? 59 responses

- I appreciate the chance to meet as a family every week and to learn from different leaders. I like the richness that music adds to our worship. Since the new benefice started I have enjoyed visiting other churches and experiencing different styles of music and liturgies which bring a new energy to our worship and provide the chance to begin to make new Christian friends. I welcome the involvement of lay people in reading, leading intercession and services different from Communion. I think much can be gained from

hearing different clergy leading our worship. I think hospitality after worship is an important and enjoyable way of developing deeper relationships with other Christians.

- joining together with the family of God in the Eucharist - we are one Church because we all share in one Bread
- Coming together with the church family in contemplative worship to feel close with God. Choral music and the talents of Tricia, and Rachel.
- Light friendly and easy to follow
- Receiving Holy Communion. An interesting sermon and good singing.
- Many things. The building of a wonderful community. The opportunity to step away from the hurly burley of life. The opportunity for reflection. Challenge. They support something intrinsically good - despite the huge frustrations with the Diocese and Church of England generally. The time taken by all involved to prepare sermons, prayers, readings etc. The encouragement to be a better person and to think more about others
- Variation and Worshiping with other people
- Regular and local
- I feel that the members of the Church are part of my family and I enjoy worshipping with them
- Spiritual Depth
- Participating in something as a community. Special time for God. Opportunity to experience beautiful words, music and buildings.
- local, meeting folk I have known many years, hymns and singing, interesting sermon, time to pray.
- Well conducted liturgy, good sermons and high quality music
- Well conducted, poised dignified liturgy with good sermons and high quality music including hymns and settings
- Thought provoking sermons
- A good combination of tradition and innovation. I appreciate regular Communion services
- Good solid teaching in sermons, something challenging to inspire and work on. Sermons that will make me want to bring a note book to - because there is something worthwhile to write down, remember and work on.
- music, bible teaching, fellowship
- Music at Compton and Blagdon Sermon
- Music and preaching
- Deepening my faith and worshipping with others
- Inspirational preaching and uplifting music
- The variety of worship
- Worship with others and prompting me to explore my faith
- clear teaching about the Christian faith.
- Everything!
- Hymns, Sherman, meeting people over coffee
- Thought-provoking sermons, contemplative readings and prayers and familiar hymns.
- They make me find time for reflection in our busy noisy world
- Friendly and welcoming
- Being now part of a bigger benefice has given us a bigger choice of style of service, which is a huge positive. All are in lovely buildings and our churches across the benefice are all very different and it's great to go to services which are led by different people, ordained and lay. The opportunity to get to know others within the benefice. Always an opportunity to stop, to think, to sing, to pray. It's an important part of my week. Coffee afterwards always appreciated!

- Thoughtful, relatable sermons. Beautiful music, a real sense of community.
- Time with God and my community
- A sharing community. Every one who has a role.....leading, preaching, music, reading, prayers prepares with great care. Others are encouraged to contribute
- The atmosphere within the Church building Contribution of the choir and the music in general Mix of familiar hymns with less well known. Meeting with friends. To relate to the thoughts developed during the service.
- Coming together, singing hymns and thinking about how to serve people in my community
- There is a range of options already from which to build on.
- Fellowship
- To be able to worship with other Christians. The services are of a very high quality, prayerfully planned and delivered.
- Familiar liturgy, thought provoking sermons, spending time with church family
- Their variety
- Pleasant atmosphere not too deep
- Great to be able to have a formal monthly service, with interesting / thought provoking sermons!
- Traditional hymns, time for reflection
- Lots of variety, something for everyone.
- Uplifting. Joy of singing. Bread and wine - thankfulness. Companionship.
- I like the variety on offer. I like the chance to meet people from other villages. I like the singing and the prayers of intercession.
- The opportunity to learn and think about the teachings of Jesus
- the liturgy, the music, the place
- community
- Variety
- Communion , prayer, sermon , singing
- Leaving feeling a little bit challenged and a lot forgiven
- The quality and spirituality
- I like services with communion available.
- The quiet times, and the joyous times
- Short, single point bible referenced sermons/talks. A priest who pitches the feel of the congregation she/he is looking at on the day. Prayers that reflect events in the Benefice ie births/marriages/deaths and the wider world. The choir in attendance who sing relevant songs/hymns/anthems.
- Being part of the Christian 'family' to turn aside to worship God with joy, and find peace.
- Traditional Hymns,music we know, played by a church organ.

9. How could our services be improved? 55 responses

- I think we need to reassess the balance of the kinds of services we offer. Communion is not a service that is easily accessible to people with little church experience although it is greatly valued and is significant for many of us. We need to provide opportunities for those who love traditional liturgy and music alongside services which are easier to access and which use contemporary language and more modern music. A mixture of traditional hymns with rousing music which many people remember from their schooldays and good contemporary hymns and worship songs. We need to ensure that when children come to our services they are made to feel at home and are involved in the service in some way . Parents need reassurance that if the children cry or run around they aren't going to be

criticised. We need to identify services which can be focused on themes with wide appeal or for which special invitations are given to people to encourage them to come along.

- A greater sense of reverence and awe in the presence of God
- with dignity, reverence and quiet time for contemplation and prayer.
- More young people attending and more of village people
- Services are good at the moment but 10.30 start time across the Benefice would be easier for me to attend. Travelling time has to be a consideration.
- There is much that is good already. Some thoughts however. Simple clear messaging, which is repeated, in sermons with relevant stories is always powerful. Even more guidance, particularly with visitors in mind, of what will happen during a service and at particular points of any service.
- Better sound systems
- A wider, mix of ages
- I am not experienced enough to suggest anything
- Better training of lay people leading services and preaching
- Explaining what will happen during the service for less familiar people - e.g. when to stand/ sit and sung sections. Clearly presented order books.
- Very good as they are.
- Sermon at evensong
- Sermons and clergy at evensong
- I do think the Ubley Communion service would be better in the morning. 5pm is a rather inconvenient time i.e. dark in the winter and somehow wrong in the summer.
- Many more modern choruses/hymns (i.e. written in the last 50 years). More informal services without formal liturgy and jargon, particularly old English e.g. 'thee', 'thy' and 'thine' that EH, WH and Hinton continue to use. Reduce the formal choir participation and, PLEASE, no gowns.
- more bible teaching and less liturgy.
- Not to be so focused on the choir at the front in East and West. Hymns or songs worshipping, rather than dirges. Less formal
- See No 12 below
- By involving more villagers in participation
- I don't particularly relate to the formal, traditional (eg sung evensong) or the very informal participative (eg breakfast church)
- Modern hymns/worship songs
- I'm happy so difficult to answer.
- more modern hymns and Christian songs.
- Perhaps more spaces for contemplative or reflective silence ... properly introduced and explained?
- Regular non communion service with well known preacher
- Less structured services. Get rid of the printed service sheets showing the structure of the whole service. Make it appear more spontaneous (even if it isn't)
- I would like more traditional hymns
- More joyful and celebratory of life and our amazing world
- More variety of styles of service within our parish. Too many traditional & quite formal communions at the moment. As we are all getting used to new settings of the Gloria etc I would appreciate having some congregational practice led by our music leaders. It shouldn't only be the choir that knows the tunes! Ditto hymns we might not be familiar with. It all helps to give a sense of a church community. See below also.
- Later start time, more informal services, better use of outdoor space and resources, more bible study learning opportunities.

- If we could find a way to get younger people and children involved... even just to get them into the building for a youth choir singing spirituals or listening to music. We have an amazing Jazz guitarist in the village who might be persuaded to do a gig!
- We could use technology which would enable music, video clips etc to enrich the worship. However the atmosphere of the services (see 8) is more important
- More regular (quarterly) informal interactive cafe-style services proactively involving children.talking about Christian values of service, kindness forgiveness etc Having speakers talk about the work or life experience.
- Less communion services
- I especially appreciate it when Rachel Branston leads the music but I appreciate that she cannot be ever present!
- Consider services other than Sundays
- A BCP service
- I'm happy with them as they are but I would like to see more interaction with the congregation. I see little point in a sermon or readings if the congregation can't question them , argue or discuss . Also I'm not keen on parrot fashion prayers I prefer those that have been thought about and come from the heart
- Return to a 'lighter, non-communion service' which would appeal to families, children and those who would appreciate less formality.
- I understand that services that are children friendly are important, but the default should be for adults rather than the perceived lowest common denominator.
- I don't think they can be
- I'm enjoying the range of services at the moment.
- More modern, livelier, to encourage the younger generation.
- I have no complaints .. however i do wonder why the prayers of intercession are always read from the back of the church? I would prefer to see the reader.
- updated the liturgy and being inclusive for families and young people
- The CofE services are based on models from Tudor times which reflected liturgical compromises of the time. As such they do not reflect a contemporary view of God
- ?
- Improving liturgies such as the Iona liturgy , more alternative contemplative services, Eco services
- Larger congregations :)
- I'm sure my experience would improve if I attended more...
- They are fine.
- In the summer perhaps outdoors. Where possible moving the chairs/pews around to give a more inclusive feel.
- By inviting the community and especially 'all age' services where children would be welcome, which they would enjoy and understand. This would bring in the parents and young people.
- Lessons/bible readings using words & texts that both the reader & the congregation can understand, This is 2024. We must use language that all comprehend.

10. How can we make our services more accessible and relevant to our local community? 53 responses

- We need to ascertain what sort of services would attract people to our churches and what things turn them off or make them unsure about going along. We need to use language that people understand and music they can enjoy. Services with a special slant , like a Songs of Praise can be enjoyed by people who aren't regular church goers, especially if they can choose what they'd like to sing. We need to find out what times and

days would suit people...eg,,, young families, older folk, bereaved people. We could make Sunday easier for people to join us if the services had a reasonably common time and a routine pattern. Could we consider trying to build up, from a very simple start, a worshipping community in our church schools?

- The Holy Spirit does not reside solely in the services of the CofE but in the active engagement of God's holy people within the community. Let's be incarnational rather than evangelical
- take 'worship' to the community rather than expect people unaccustomed to church services to come into church. Don't stick to Sundays. Wrap 'worship' in a coffee morning; young mothers' groups; pre-school; sports events; singing opportunities.
- Family worship seems to be a thing of the past. Families seem to be too busy - considering the number of people we have in this village where are they?> would they attend if was livelier probabty not. Is worship a thing of the past for the new generation. ???
- A weekly 15 minute meditation with two hymns, prayers and a short talk ie Katrina's weekly letter, In a live zoom or recorded programme.
- We need to change our mindset. We must reach out and go out to our communities and welcome them in the spaces where they feel comfortable rather than expect that they will make the effort, certainly at the outset, to come into our buildings/churches which I expect for many are strange and foreboding places. Church should become less about our buildings and more about building Christ's kingdom outside our churches. The very first step should not be about getting people to our services but about us connecting with our communities and being seen and doing things which support our local communities. We must make much more effort to break down barriers if we want others to engage with us and the church. The church used to be a central part of the community in Victorian times but it has retreated behind church doors and become isolated.
- Involve more people taking part
- People who are not regular churchgoers are very much put off by always being offered a Communion Service example a simple Harvest Service would be appreciated.
- Festival services attract the occasional churchgoer. Make a real effort with these.
- Experimenting with different timings?
- I winder if we could celebrate East Harptree pub opening, by having coffee or lunch at the pub afterwards.
- Better publicity beyond parish newsletters etc. important people are made welcome, not just personally but also through use of the familiar C of E services. Very important we continue to use all the village churches on an equal rotation.
- Better high quality publicity going beyond the small distribution of monthly parish news and weekly newsletter neither of which reach beyond the current church community. Equally regular worship in all the churches, with a confident lead in music and liturgy.
- I really can't answer this. The problem is people have got out of the habit of going to Church and have found other things to do on Sundays. Maybe try a Sunday 'school' at the same time as the morning service? A youth club might be an idea but who would run it?
- Modernise the services, and all of the above. I would rather travel to CM or Blagdon than go to EH,WH or Hinton and come away feeling as though I have listened to liturgy that doesn't correlate to the present day and the brain numbing sermons that we have experienced over the last 20 years.
- more focus on families.
- Communion Less often and when there is communion, have a short break for some to leave No choir processing, choir members within the congregation instead.
- Less formality.

- By providing regular gatherings for different groups within the village
- Avoid practices that require prior knowledge eg of when to stand or sit. Perhaps have alternatives to services such as film and discussion nights
- An informal approach and at more flexible times and days
- I believe that by showing Christ's love for all in our service to our community, people will be drawn to explore why we are what we are. Perhaps there is a need to explore weekday evening discussion groups?
- Informal structure, explaining the Christian faith, sometimes with time for asking questions
- Perhaps some social events in the churches to familiarise villagers with the churches, and to meet churchgoers and attendees?
- Regular worshippers inviting local friends
- See Q9. Advertise occasional services specifically for families and young people.
- Perhaps once a month we could have a couple of guitars and a drummer to enliven the congregation and hopefully encourage some teenagers to join us.
- By being more creative and less formal and traditional. By going to people where they are rather than expecting them to come to us (church). Considering different times of the week/day - Sunday morning is not for everyone. By offering things other than a church service - companionship, catering, music, art.....By continuing to offer variety - within parishes as well as within the benefice. By trying to get more people involved in doing things so we aren't seen as being "cliquey". Perhaps churchwardens encouraging others to, for eg, welcome the congregation, take the bread and wine up to the altar or do the collection. Something we used to do some years ago. Sometimes more congregational participation - so we're not just sitting there listening. A good mix of hymns, congregational responses, physical involvement etc. Sermons/talks from some can be too long and not tight/succinct enough. Not you Katrina! Especially important to get right when trying to appeal to those who generally don't do church. Services can be too long too. This morning's was 1hr & 20 mins.
- More services and activities in all local churches eg rather than just once a month for Compton Martin. More communication with wider community, more informal services, sharing resources with them such as the churchyard, later start time for younger people, more family-focused activities.
- See above!!!
- 1. services do not have to be on Sunday morning Consider other days and times and places. 2. Link worship with community celebrationsharvest, Christmas, Easter, All Saints ie Halloween, Lights of Love(remembering those who have died) 3. For young families worship should have an activity basis 4. Mindfulness, green issues, climate change are all themes which can be brought into worship
- Some clergy led services which do not include Communion .
- Better advertised on social media, involving younger people.
- We need to ask and listen to what our community say they want and also be willing to accept if that is festival services only (e.g. Christmas).
- Less formal
- Perhaps finding days and times when children are not playing sport, but this is not easy.
- Ask them and don't assume. Offer options to choose from rather than being too abstract.
- Involve children
- As above
- The challenge is to help villagers who do not currently engage with the church in a formal manner, recognise that St Michael's is open for all. Visibility of the Rector in the village is important, not just on Sunday mornings.

- Central leadership in each village must be balanced against 'village politics'.
- Maybe responding to their feedback from questionnaire. Perhaps consider where there are gaps or needs within the community where the church could support.
- you already offer different types of services and at different times. The only other thing would be to spread the word about these services.. Word of mouth may be possible or using the internet.
- Consider the demands on family time at the weekend and perhaps change the timing of some worship?
- as above
- The key problem is the advanced age of the congregation. Attracting young people to the faith should be the prime objective - Sunday schools, more family services, more youth activities.
- . ?
- Firstly involve them by finding out what they want and need. Quiet contemplative prayer spaces. Joint services planned with the children from the schools. Keeping traditionally well attended services such as Christingle.
- I don't know. Lots of things have been tried and not worked. Happy to try anything!
- Tree planting service?
- Currently fine.
- Invitations to specific groups ie schools
- Regular announcements, and perhaps leaflets distributed for special services i.e a 'welcome' service which could be more informal or contemporary. Also, more morning prayer services may be better understood by our local community, with communion sometimes possibly earlier.

11. What suggestions can you suggest to mitigate the limitations of clergy availability? 54 responses

- We should be realistic about the expectations we have of Katrina's time on Sundays. I don't think we should expect her to take more than 1 service on a Sunday. So we will need to use the other priests and lay people who live in our Benefice if we 're going to have more than one morning service across the Benefice. We are blessed to have 2 other priests available who live in Blagdon and one who lives in East Harptree who may be able to lead worship in different places. The ministry of Readers and other lay people is another valuable resource. In the UP we have benefitted from the ministry of retired priests (2 in particular). It may be possible to use their skills in the future , though I think we should ideally be using resources from within the new Benefice.
- Use the retired clergy that have served us well during the vacancies
- Avail ourselves of the help of retired clergy such as we enjoyed during the Vacancy.
- The way we had visiting clergy was great. A different approach by each one.
- More use of the Internet. Transmitting live Services from Blagdon and East Harptree.
- It is crucial that we all think of this as a team effort. We need to ensure we make use of all the skills available to us and that the clergy focus on where they can add most value. So administration and finance and charring meetings should be taken on by the laity, for example. The laity must shoulder more of the burden and lead on various aspects of the life of the church, including leading some worship. Clergy equally must genuinely be prepared to delegate and draw lines of what is not acceptable and not to them. The key focus for the clergy should be overseeing (not leading always) worship and pastoral care. There needs to be a plan that everyone has been involved so that there is agreement and clarity of who is expected to do what, and of course that by implication means that the laity in particular need to be prepared to step up, more.

- Lay led non communion service and lay people visiting the sick
- Younger voluntary help is essential
- Make more use of retired clergy.
- Lay led services used to be a regular feature and popular.
- Other parishes appear to have a curate. Not sure why this has never been the case here.
- Appointing curates and readers like so many other parishes.
- We seem better off for clergy than we have been for some time! However that is relying on the good will of the ordained clergy in the Benefice. Lay led services we already have and there is a pool of retired clergy who we were able to use during the Interregnum.
- Let folks from the congregations play a part in leading, speaking etc. without the necessity to have a 'formal C of E qualification i.e. ordination/Lay readership or similar'. Risky and difficult to put in place as many folks are older, set in their ways and so many are used to 'just turning up' - leaving it all to someone else and without having to think very hard.
- potentially delegate?
- Perhaps when no clergy available, use a video on screen of a recorded speaker.
Occasional testimonial from congregation members
- See below
- Encourage regular churchgoers to take responsibility for church activities and visit needy people within the villages
- Lift rotas to enable folk to move from one parish to another to go to the church where the service is?
- Lay led services
- Recruitment and training of more lay readers
- train lay leadership, especially for visiting homes. Introduction of evening home study/prayer groups.
- More involvement from the laity, after identifying their gifts?
- Non communion services taken by well known local people
- We have Readers who can lead services themselves.
- Unsure how this can be overcome
- More lay and collaborative involvement - and this to be more formalised, with training etc given. Understanding that there will be limited services in the benefice on a Sunday.
- Training lay people to take on more active roles in their churches.
- Make more use of our readers .. particularly Gene
- Use lay people to lead worship. As well as readers we have others who are able to work as a team to lead non -Eucharistic worship
- Appointment and development of one or more 'Service Leaders' from within our own church if rules permit.
- More lay-led services
- Have more lay-led services and make best use of available retired clergy.
- Early and late services. Say 9-30 and 11am
- By forming a team for non-eucharistic lay-led services.
- Training and support for Lay led services
- More lay led services
- We have lay led services which are fine
- To ensure visibility of the Rector, the PCC needs to relieve the Rector of admin and other related tasks. Also to inspire / train laity to take a lead.
- Fewer services, better advertised and therefore better attended with an equal rotation around the churches in the benefice?
- Encourage lay people to explore their gifts.

- As you are doing. Joining together with other villages
- We already have lay led services which are very good. people need to be more willing to travel to the other churches after all its only a few miles.
- Consider more lay led services
- lay led services
- In the past, the rector conducted multiple services on Sunday as well as several services during the week. There would seem to be sufficient clergy availability to meet current demand.
- More joint services
- Development of a cross Benefice lay led team. Visiting clergy from the diocese.
- Grow lay leadership
- Acceptance of lay led worship, improving and encouraging lay leaders access to training and inspiration.
- Not too sure.
- We are lucky having some really wonderful lay people in our parish
- I think we are well served by readers and retired clergy in our Benefice
- Very difficult ... In the bigger picture, we need the children in, in order to bring the young parents in, or we will not have young people training for the ministry. Meanwhile, we must meet to discuss how we can go forward with each church. We need to ask for volunteers to deliver flyers to advertise our services, or put up more notices of services to make the community welcome, and aware of us.

12. Is there anything else you would like to say? 44 responses

- I am heartened by early signs of growth and reinvigorated worship in the Benefice. I think we need to pray for a truly outward looking approach. Rather than expecting people to immediately want to join us we have to be ready to meet people in their contexts and through our engagement with them to sow seeds and learn from them how we help them to come to a place of faith. So mums groups, lunch clubs, coffee mornings and the opportunities we can find to meet with folk and engage them in conversations where our faith can seep out are worth considering. For those in the church Community I think learning groups eg at Advent and Lent can help to deepen relationships and faith. We're not that good at sharing what we think, even in our own congregations ! I think people might also find they would enjoy and find peace and nourishment in Contemplative worship, which is outside lots of peoples' experience.
- There are different traditions of churchmanship across the two benefices and this should be weighed carefully against any desire to 'standardise' worship across the various parishes
- A request that Lay-led services follow more closely the doctrine outlined by the Church of England as, often, they can be a pastiche of various practices. That those leading them are trained.
- Since arrival of Katrina services seem lighter. Almost fun!!
- Keep up the good work! We're pleased to have a permanent Priest in Charge.
- It is beyond joyous to have Katrina as the Priest in our benefice. It is 27 years since we last had a full time Priest. I am very hopeful about the future
- Informal prayer & praise for pre school children and parents
- I would like to go to the altar to take Communion and not stand up at a table
- A very appreciative thank you to Katrina
- Sometimes, the welcome in our churches can be a bit overbearing.
- Fully supportive of the creation of the joint benefice. Harptrees and HB have been poorly served by the Diocese since our last incumbent left 25 years ago.

- Thank you for taking on the job. It's good news finally to have a full time vicar after 25 years. The Harptrees have not been looked after at all by the diocese. Our visiting clergy, organised by our church wardens, in the latest gap have been excellent and very supportive.
- I understand that you will be changing things and I think we should give you the space and support to do so.
- You have made a valiant start Katrina. I pray that you will be able to keep it up and the congregations will be willing and able to take on the challenge. For the next question 13, I have over the last couple of decades been unwilling to invite anyone to formal services for fear of putting them off Christianity but I am answering that question based on the services you have led since joining us. A big 'thank you'. You are a breath of fresh air.
- I am putting 7 down for question 13, but I feel that will go to a 10 if you are able to facilitate more services for the non churched people and children. I am aware that many are entrenched in tradition though, which is a block to encourage people to come .ie Liturgy and formal robed choir, conductors, responses to liturgy.
- I have lived in EH for just 6 months so am still finding my way around and getting to know some people. We moved from Atworth in Salisbury Diocese where, as a Lay Reader (LLM) I was part of the Ministry Team until becoming Reader Emeritus a couple of years ago. I knew we were likely to move quite soon and really needed a break! My husband (who belongs to the Catholic Church) and I also led a monthly Home Group for many years. Reading your letter a few weeks ago which asked for more people to read scripture and to pray I did mention to Mary Cookson that I would very much like to be on the rota do just that. Once i become more familiar with the area, I would be happy to travel to other villages on some Sundays.
- It is important to involve more people and allow the church to be used for a range of activities in the village's
- It's been good to have bigger numbers in services recently as several parishes have come together to worship. Small congregations feel awkward whereas a larger number is encouraging . Would the choir in east harptree be willing to try out some more contemporary music?
- Training so that people are confident about their faith and explaining it.
- I'm grateful for, and excited about, the way our churches are coming together. It's wonderful how Katrina is proving to be a catalyst for all this new growth. Thank you God, and thank you Katrina. And thank you God for Katrina!
- Perhaps holding social events in church
- Childrens Sunday School
- Possible visits to other faiths
- Lent courses, Study groups and prayer groups at the moment only seem to happen during in the day during the week which does not make it possible for anyone working full time to attend. Would be great to have more options.
- No Except that is wonderful to have Kristina here .
- We are not afraid to experiment and try new things
- I believe that people should have access to the worship that is enriching, relatable and 'speaks' to them. We need to provide services our current people want but be open to trying new things. We need a range of services rather than trying to make one or two 'types' fit everyone.
- Keep up the good work!
- When a service is billed as All Age often children are not there. If they were they would find little appropriate for them, or is colouring in at the back of church enough?

- Sometimes I like the comfort and reassurance of familiar service and liturgy, but that doesn't mean I wouldn't also appreciate being asked to take part rather than sit and listen. I don't mean help lead/ do prayers, etc, but have discussion or sharing of experiences as part of the service.
- No
- No
- We coped pretty well with the vacancy and we were blessed with a group of retired priests who very much enjoyed leading worship at Saint Michaels. Helpful though that was, we know the real benefits of having our own resident rector in the benefice we must give her our full support so that together we can grow the kingdom
- If a new hymnal is planned at any stage, one with enough traditional hymns would be an improvement.
- Katrina is wonderful
- I appreciate all the efforts being made to offer varied services and I enjoy the music and singing. I will try to spread the word by talking to my neighbours.
- Although it is virtually impossible to solve the problem, having seven listed church buildings to serve the current congregation sizes is massive overprovision. As a start, Charterhouse should be passed to somebody who can provide the maintenance and routine heating it so desperately needs
- No
- I know we need to balance fresh ideas with the desire of more elderly congregation for ongoing traditions but we do need an injection of energy. Ongoing discussions at PCCs about expectations and experience of worship. Finding out the strengths of people actually in the congregations regarding their involvement in worship.
- Apologies for lack of regular attendance. Life changed dramatically during covid and it is taking a frustratingly long time to get back on track.
- No.
- In Ubley our churchwarden has encouraged folk who have never rung bells to come and learn which is a very good initiative but I don't want these volunteers to be put off by being charged for the privilege. Surely any cost pertinent to the bells and tower should come out of the designated Tower fund?
- The individual churches have tried very hard to keep going without leadership and we greatly appreciate their amazing contributions.
- Our services are excellent & most enjoyable, except when goble de gook occurs!!

13. From your experiences of our church services to date how likely are you to recommend them?

61 responses

