

# **St. Matthew's Church, Hayfield**

## **Mission Action Plan (MAP) 2016**

### **The Church and the Community**

#### **Village Context:**

Hayfield is an attractive village in the Peak District. It has road and bus links to New Mills, Chinley and Glossop and onwards to Buxton, Stockport and Manchester, where travellers can connect with the rail services.

The river Sett flows through the village and New Mills, with a good walking/cycling trail between these.

The village has a range of small shops, including a chemist, newsagent, general store, post office, art and gift shops, as well as a couple of tearooms. There are also public houses, hotels, some holiday accommodation and some small businesses.

Hayfield has a County Primary School, two doctor's surgeries, a library and pre-school groups.

Housing dates from the early 16<sup>th</sup> through to present day. There is sheltered housing for the elderly and a small amount of general social housing.

There are many village organisations including uniformed groups, toddler groups, junior and senior football and cricket teams, Civic Trust, Derby and Joan, U3A, Pavilion club for the housebound, WI, Hayfield Singers, Country dancing, Sustainable Hayfield and gardening club amongst others.

#### **Our Population:**

There are about 2,700 people living in Hayfield and the spread of the population is broadly similar to the rest of the country, except there are fewer younger people living here in their twenties and more in the 65+ age group. Because Hayfield has, in recent years, become a popular place to live it is now more difficult for younger people to afford to live here and live elsewhere until such time as they can afford to return.

Most of the employment in the village is now in local retail businesses, including pubs and eating places. The majority of people commute out of the village to find employment elsewhere. In spite of this there is a good, active community spirit, with many groups meeting regularly.

#### **Church History:**

The church was built on its present site in 1386 and has undergone many changes throughout that time. Several floods during 18<sup>th</sup> and early 19<sup>th</sup> centuries called for major restoration, including raising the floor level. Maybe the most notable in its recent history was when the relief road, the bypass was built, which in effect cut the village in half. The compensation received enabled the church to be extended to provide a hall, which could be used for village, as well as church events. The church has since been extended again with the addition of the Crosby room and improved toilet and kitchen facilities.

### **The MAP Process**

To produce the 2016 MAP, we invited those on the electoral roll to make further comments and offer any new suggestions. There was a low return on questionnaires which were distributed, leaving much of the thinking to the PCC, specific members who formed a MAP team, and the Vicar.

This new MAP was formulated which will be forwarded to the Bishop and Church Growth Officer

The MAP will be presented to the congregation in a format to be decided.

The PCC will then continue to discuss and implement the plan over the following months and years.

## ***1. Bridging the Gap***

### **Church Vision**

Making connections with people not yet prominent in our church family

### **Proposals**

- strengthen connections with families particularly by better database and invitations to events
- improved media communication
- establishing baptism and bereavement support teams
- continue discussions with Chinley and Buxworth parish re possible youth or parish worker

## ***2. Music and Worship***

### **Church Vision**

To provide a variety of worship styles which reflect various backgrounds and aim to help in strengthening faith and commitment to God.

### **Proposals**

- To encourage a variety of people in participation and leadership of worship and prayer.
- Introduce informal worship service
- continue to consider varied styles of worship, in consultation with music group and organist
- include young people in All Age Worship service wherever possible

## ***3. Discipleship***

### **Church Vision**

To encourage every member of the church to grow in their relationship with God and to become confident in sharing their faith.

### **Proposals**

- Continue to support and establish the Youth Group
- run a Christian Foundations course such as 'Alpha', 'Emmaus', 'Christianity Explored' for whole church

- increase the profile of the Prayer Ministry Team
- appoint a Bible study notes rep
- start a daytime homegroup – in consultation with Chinley and Buxworth parish
- promote study courses in deanery and diocese

## ***4. Building Community***

### **Church Vision**

To strengthen relationships in both our church family and our village

### **Proposals**

- Reinstate creche for Sunday services
- keep an up to date list of contacts for village organisations and businesses and keep close connection with Parish Council
- ongoing involvement and presence at village events
- open the church more
- revive the pastoral network
- encourage more social events for the church family
- introduce a regular 'soup lunch' in two seasons of the year

## ***5. Finance***

### **Church Vision**

To develop ways of improving our financial status

### **Proposals**

- Arrange a minimum of 6 fundraising events per year
- create a finance group to meet twice annually to discuss financial matters
- arrange an annual 'Promise Sunday' encouraging review of giving by church members