

WHAT HAVE WE BEEN DOING?

- We invited all villagers to an open meeting, one in Upper & one in Lower Dunsforth in 2013
- Written views and ideas were collated
- A SWOT analysis (Strengths Weaknesses Opportunities Threats) was prepared
- A review of attendance figures for the last few years was carried out
- Church accounts over last five years were analysed
- We looked at the condition & layout of church buildings & their suitability
- We considered St Mary's relationship with other denominations
- St Mary's place in the community was reviewed



WHO ARE WE?

THE ST MARY'S CHURCH COUNCIL

The Reverend Philip Smith is assisted by a group of volunteers as follows:

Chairman & Treasurer- Mike Wildblood

Churchwardens - Christine Turner & Fiona Merchie

Secretary - Valerie Thompson

Church Council Members -

Carole Andrews

Mike Cotton

Julie Sanderson

The Vicarage, Church Lane, Boroughbridge

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see St Mary's Church & Events tabs for information & calendar of events

ST MARY'S DUNSFORTH

2014

MISSION ACTION PLAN



The foundation stone was laid in 1860 for the present church which replaced a much earlier church that occupied the site for at least 800 years.....





WHERE ARE WE NOW?

- Our attendance is relatively constant with AWC (Average Worshipping Congregation) of 16 & attendance is high compared to national average!
- The special services see larger attendances e.g. Christmas, Harvest, Easter, Remembrance
- Annual social & fundraising events are well supported & enjoyed by the local community
- We need to raise nearly £9,000 annually to pay the parish share plus expenses
- Church income is not keeping pace with inflation & a wider fundraising effort is required
- Church roof repairs need to be scheduled
- Gates are currently being replaced
- We have to use portaloos for special events as there are no toilet facilities
- We use kettles but do not have any kitchen facilities!

WHERE WOULD WE LIKE TO BE?

- **St Mary's Mission Statement - St Mary's aims to be a welcoming, caring & worshipping Christian community of faith.**
- We would like to put St Mary's on a sounder financial footing
- We would like to provide a comfortable & welcoming environment within church
- We would like to see increased use of the church building for community uses
- We would like to be able to offer up to date facilities for increased use of the Church
- We would like to encourage & see St Mary's enjoyed by all in the community, not just for worship



HOW ARE WE GOING TO GET THERE?

- Explore the possibility of unlocking the church on a regular basis
- Hold more alternative services e.g. in 2014 there will be a Pet Service & a Grandparents Service
- Provide additional support to CAMEO (Come & Meet Each Other) Cake & Prayers Group
- Explore the feasibility & costs of providing WC & kitchen facilities
- Encourage new villagers to join the PCC (Parochial Church Council)
- Improve communication e.g. use of Village website & emails
- Explore ways of being on a sounder financial footing e.g. Friends of St Mary's, Dunsforth Draw, Regular Giving, careful budgeting, maximising opportunities to reclaim tax & research grants available
- By welcoming & listening to feedback from the whole community