

# Benefice of Axbridge, Shipham & Rowberrow



## SURVEY – Your Community, Your Church, Your Say

Our Rector, Tim Hawkings, has retired and so we are taking this time to think about the sort of person we would need to help support and serve us in the future. This process will take several months. We invite you to take a few minutes to tell us what you think is important about your community and your church and what you would like to see happening. It is important that we hear from everyone, not just churchgoers. *The surveys are anonymous, but results will be made public.* Please consider the following questions and give us your views, which will help to inform our vision for the future. Thank you.

*\*Required*

### 1. Do you have a faith? How would you describe it?

### 2. Please tick up to 5 things that you value most about your church: \*

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> A focus for community events  | <input type="checkbox"/> A peaceful, spiritual place for quiet contemplation and meditation   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> A beautiful historic building   | <input type="checkbox"/> Promotes Christian values  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> A place to worship God  | <input type="checkbox"/> Friends, family and fellowship                                       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Part of our culture and heritage                                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Provides a sense of stability in a changing world                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> A place to celebrate life's events - baptisms, marriages, end of life | <input type="checkbox"/> Offers opportunities to explore spiritual questions and deepen faith |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Promotes a sense of belonging   | <input type="checkbox"/> Provides practical help where needed                                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Music and performance   | <input type="checkbox"/> Includes activities for young families                               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> A warm welcome  | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: <input type="text"/>  |

### 3. How often do you come into your church? \*

- |                                  |  |  |                                |
|----------------------------------|--|--|--------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Daily   | <input type="checkbox"/> For special services only e.g. Remembrance; Easter, Christmas Eve and Christmas Day |  |                                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Weekly  | <input type="checkbox"/> For personal services e.g. Baptisms, Weddings, Funerals                             |  |                                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Monthly | <input type="checkbox"/> For private prayer  | <input type="checkbox"/> For quiet space | <input type="checkbox"/> Never |

**4. Is there anything that stops you from coming to church? Or is there anything that would help you come (e.g. services at a different time or on a different day)?**

**5. Do you have any comments about any of the above that would help us see what we need to change?**

For example, do we need to think more about our welcome, or visiting people, or services for families? Or questions about faith and spirituality?

**6. What support would you find helpful as we come out of the pandemic?**

**7. What do you believe are the community's most pressing needs?**

**8. What are the strengths of our town or village community?**

**9. About you:** It will help our understanding of your responses.

**9a. Your parish \***  Axbridge  Shipham  Rowberrow  Other

**9b. Your age**  Under 16  16-25  26-35  36-45  46-65  66-75  Over 75

**9c. Your gender**

**Thank you for responding to this survey. Please return by 30<sup>th</sup> May.**

**If you have completed a paper copy, please return to:**

**Axbridge:** to the box in church **Shipham:** to the box in the church porch **Rowberrow:** to a Churchwarden

**If you have completed the survey online, please email to:**

**Axbridge:** [axbridgechurch@gmail.com](mailto:axbridgechurch@gmail.com) (Churchwardens - Liz Foster & Malcolm Owen)

**Shipham:** [shiphamchurch@gmail.com](mailto:shiphamchurch@gmail.com) (Churchwardens - Christine Prince & Pam Williams)

**Rowberrow:** [stantonys@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:stantonys@hotmail.co.uk) (Churchwardens - Margaret Pritchard & Jane Gunn)

**Copies may be downloaded from the church websites at:**

<http://www.stjohnthebaptistaxbridge.org.uk> or <http://www.shipham.org.uk>

**Paper copies for others in your household are available in Axbridge and Shipham churches.** To discuss anything in this survey or how the responses will be used, please email or contact the Churchwardens.