

Christ Church Colbury

PARISH PROFILE

CHRIST
CHURCH
COLBURY

*Therefore welcome one another as Christ has
welcomed you, for the glory of God.*

Romans 15:7

 THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND

 DIOCESE of
WINCHESTER

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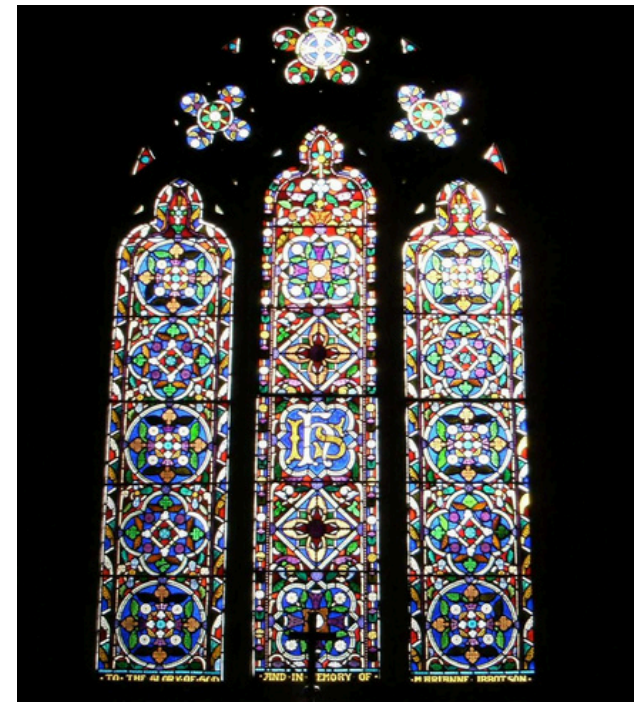
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1 The Parish

What We Can Offer You

We will offer our new vicar a very warm welcome into a church looking to share the love and generosity of Jesus Christ.

Our new vicar can rely on our prayers, support, enthusiasm, skills and experience.

Our Church and Vicarage are a few minutes from the start of walks and cycle tracks through the New Forest, where ponies, cattle, donkeys and deer graze through ancient forest, woodland and open heathland.



In the 1860s, Frederick Ibbotson, who had married into the Barker-Mill family, raised a large mortgage to build the church to serve the spiritual needs of the estate residents and workers. Consecrated in 1870, it now serves the modern Parish of Ashurst and Colbury. The Manor of Colbury is first mentioned in the 13th century. Ashurst grew up after the railway station was opened in 1847.



1 The Parish

Is God Calling You to Join Us?

Is God calling you to join us in our mission 'to offer welcoming witness to the love of God in our community' in the beautiful New Forest?

Our prayer is that this parish profile will present you with a sound basis to help you discern if we are the right church for you to lead.

A House-for-Duty Priest has an opportunity to nurture an established church community and promote our outreach programme.

“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

Matthew 28:19-20





1 The Parish

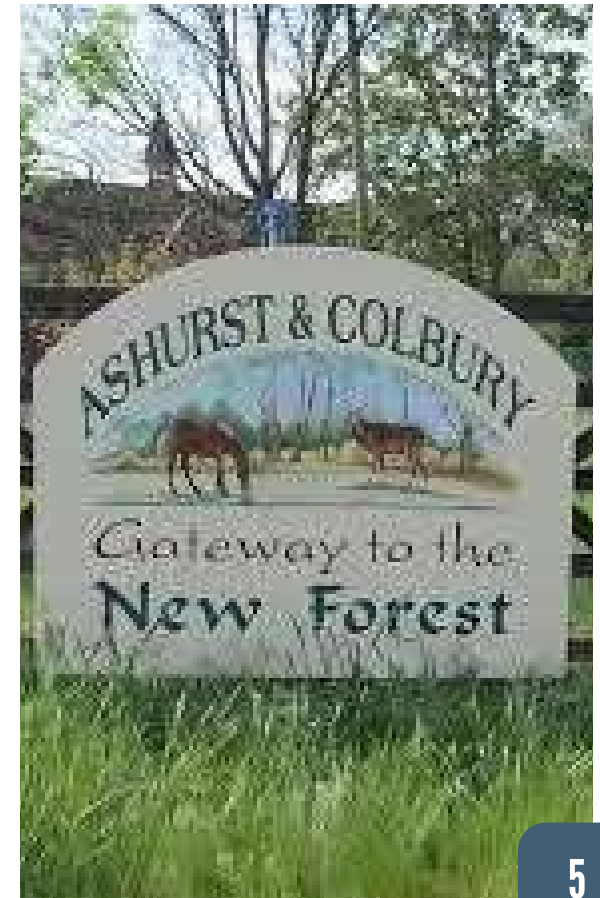
Where We Are

The hamlet of Colbury is on the eastern edge of Deerleap Lane which runs down into the New Forest. The modern village of Ashurst developed next to the railway station. Consequently, the church is not centrally placed. The A35 runs through Ashurst, east toward Southampton and west toward Bournemouth.

The level of home ownership is high, with a corresponding low percentage of social and private rented housing. 16% of the population are under 17, 53% aged between 18 and 64 and 31% over 65.

The New Forest is on the doorstep. There are beaches and leisure facilities within half an hour's drive including Calshot, Lepe and Highcliffe. Bournemouth, Swanage and Poole are a little further away.

Ashurst is served by hourly trains to Waterloo and Weymouth and a regular bus service to Southampton and Lymington. There are airports at Southampton and Bournemouth and ferries from Portsmouth and Poole.



1 The Parish

Ashurst and Colbury

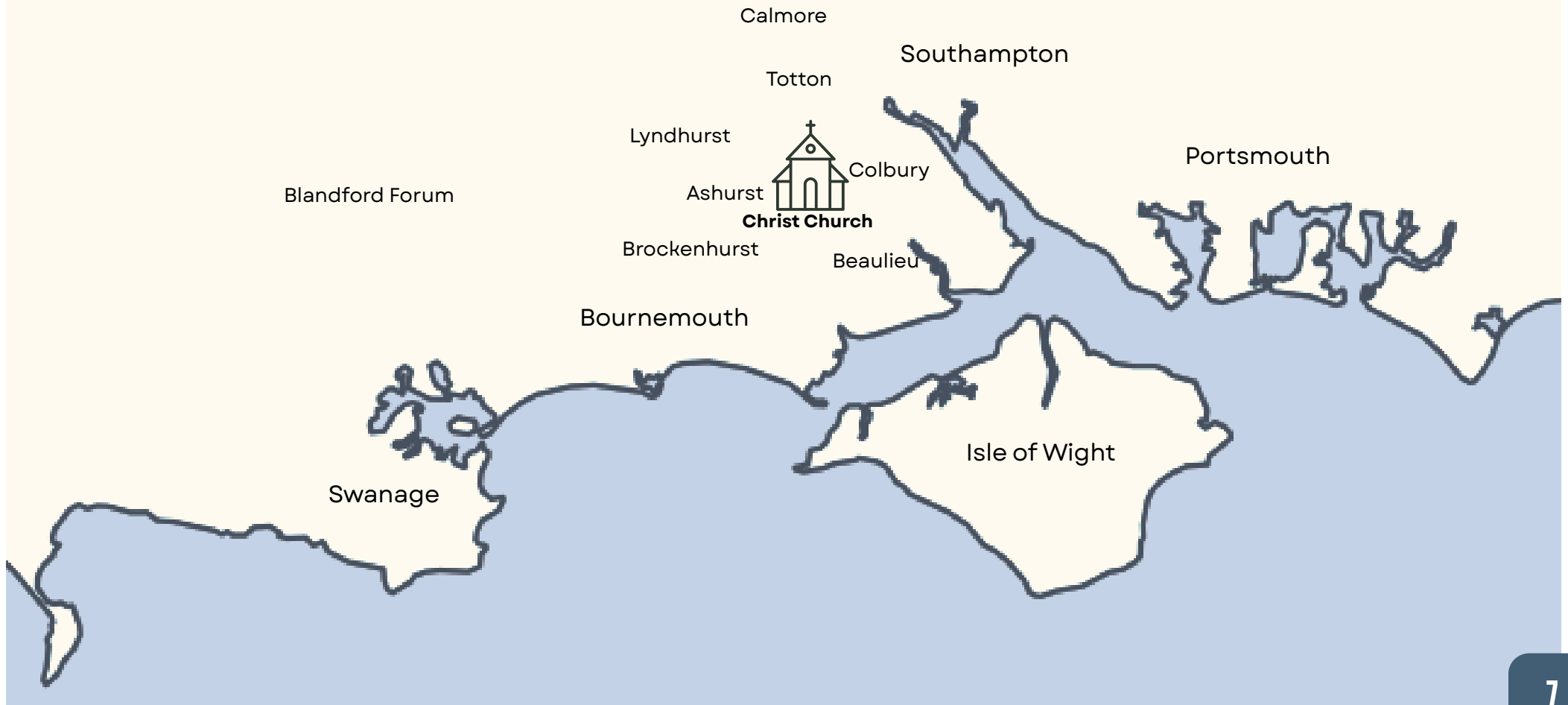
In the village there is a convenience store, hairdresser, two beauty salons, a vet, several cafes and takeaways and three pubs! Within two minutes of the vicarage there is a farm shop attached to the very popular Longdown Activity Farm. There are three doctors' surgeries within two miles.

Nearby villages offer interesting eateries, Post Offices and a range of attractive shops and leisure and sports facilities. There are out of town supermarkets within a few miles. Southampton, seven miles away, offers an extensive choice of High Street shops, theatres, cinemas, sports stadiums and museums.



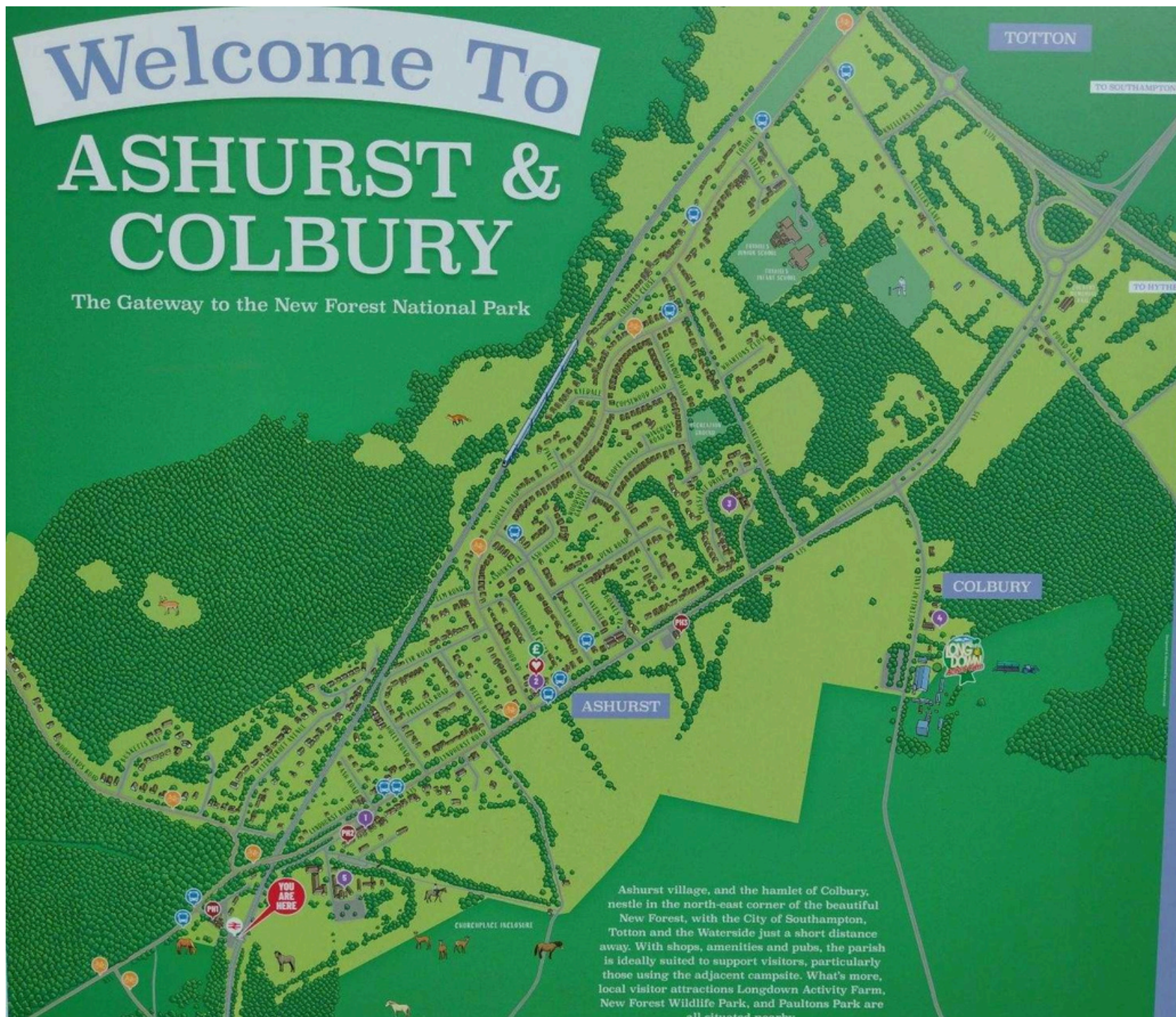
Local Cultural Attractions

- Testwood Lakes Nature Reserve
- Hanger Farm Arts Centre
- Blackwater Arboretum
- Mayflower Theatre
- SeaCity Museum
- Netley Abbey
- New Forest National Park
- Rufus Stone
- Bolderwood Deer Sanctuary
- Beaulieu National Motor Museum
- Buckler's Hard
- Bournemouth Beach



Welcome To ASHURST & COLBURY

The Gateway to the New Forest National Park



Ashurst village, and the hamlet of Colbury, nestle in the north-east corner of the beautiful New Forest, with the City of Southampton, Totton and the Waterside just a short distance away. With shops, amenities and pubs, the parish is ideally suited to support visitors, particularly those using the adjacent campsite. What's more, local visitor attractions Longdown Activity Farm, New Forest Wildlife Park, and Paultons Park are all situated nearby.

KEY

- Ashurst Train Station
- Number 6 Bus route: Southampton to Lymington
- Cycle routes
- ATM
- Defibrillator
- The New Forest, Public House
- The Happy Cheese, Public House
- The Forest Inn, Public House
- Tuesdays, 11am-2pm, situated in The Happy Cheese (PH2)
- Local Shops & Vets
- Convenience Store
- St Joseph's
- Christ Church & Church Rooms
- Ashurst Birthing Centre (No A&E)



Trainline.com



Ashurst & Colbury Parish Council



New Forest Community Rail Partnership
www.newforestcrrp.co.uk

CONTACTS

PARISH COUNCIL
parishclerk@
ashurstandcolbury
pc.gov.uk

VERDERERS
023 8028 2052

NEAREST A&E
DEPARTMENT:
SOUTHAMPTON
GENERAL
HOSPITAL
023 8077 7222

LYNDHURST TAXIS
02308 866 844

1 The Parish

Worship

There is a regular monthly pattern of worship at Christ Church. Worship centres on two morning services on Sundays.

We meet in Church at 9.30am for Holy Communion on the 1st and 3rd Sundays and Morning Praise on the 2nd, 4th and 5th Sundays. We are well-served by visiting organists.

At 11am, a Morning Praise service is held on Zoom, the Zoom service started during Covid and has continued to provide access to services and fellowship for those who cannot get to church.

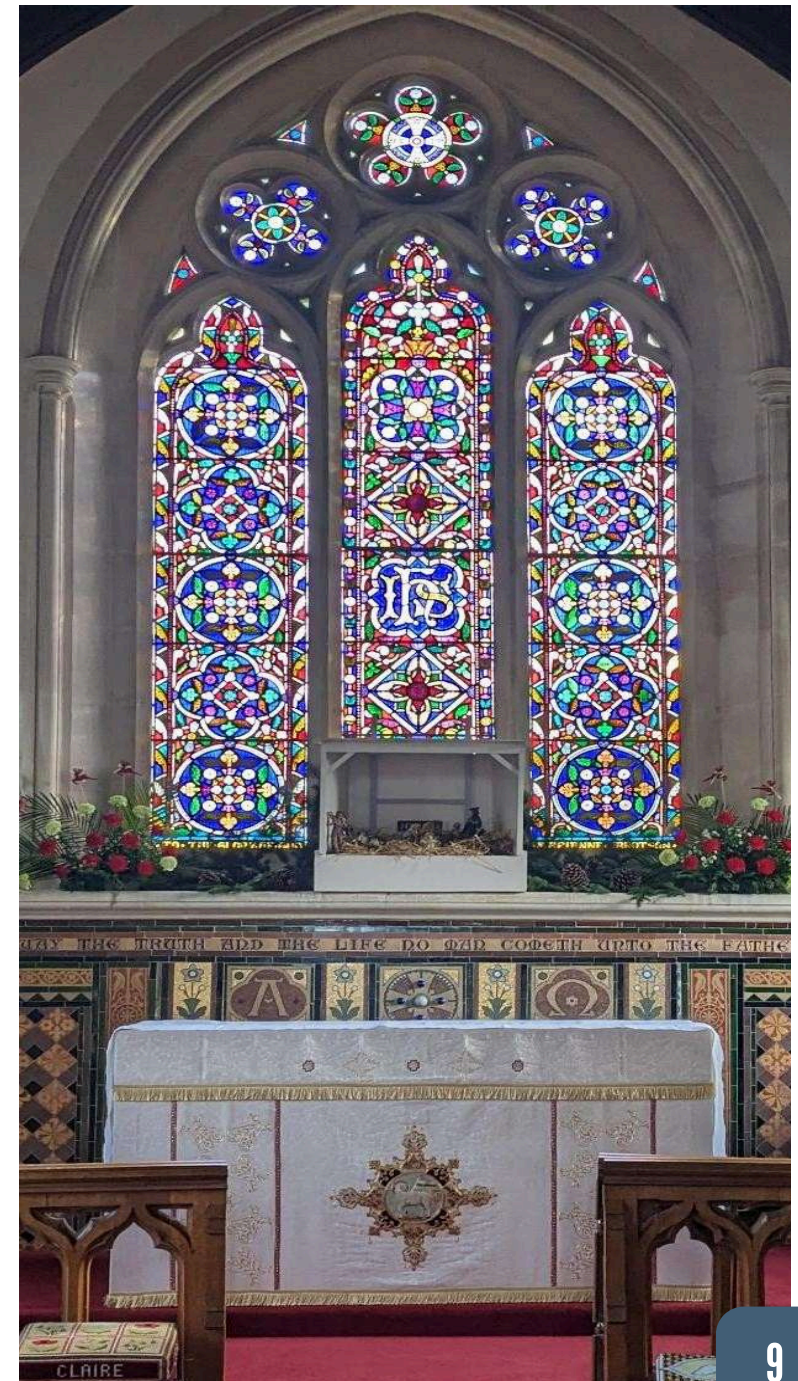
Our preferred form of worship is a balanced mix of formal and relaxed.

Attendance at the service in Church is usually 35. Attendance at the Zoom service is about 15. The electoral role is 64.

We have an important ministry to the sick and elderly, including home Communion visits, carried out by the Pastoral Team.

Sundays

- **9:30am - Holy Communion or Morning Praise**
- **11:00am – Zoom Service**



1 The Parish

Worship With Us

We are child friendly, with the children of Foxhill School attending church twice a year as part of their curriculum. Our Christingle and Carol Services are very well attended by families with children. We have toy bags ready for the children when they attend our services.

We organize seasonal bible-themed events for children.

We have had a number of baptism, weddings, and funerals in the past year.



1 The Parish

Our Church in the Community

Our church plays an active role in our community, but we are always looking for ways to develop that ministry.

We have a dedicated and energetic Social Committee who produce excellent food for regular and special events, seasonal festivities and fund raising fetes and fairs. Every month we have a Soup and Sweet lunch and every year we organise a Harvest lunch and a Christmas Lunch.

The Outreach Group holds quarterly tea parties with entertainment for those who find it difficult to get out and may feel isolated at home. New Horizons, formed ten years ago to help widows and others affected by loss to adjust to their new lives, meets every month.

These events are open to all and we arrange transport for those who need it.

Every month we also collect for a local food bank to which the congregation generously donate. This is delivered to a local distribution point by two members of our congregation.



1 The Parish

Our Church in the Community

Church members volunteer at Oakhaven Hospice. Another of our members is a Chaplain at Oakhaven.

A group of church volunteers visit our local care home regularly to sing hymns and pray with the residents.

Another member has been faithfully encouraging us to collect for the Children's Society. Another creates craft items which are sold to fund 'Starfish Malawi' and has built up quite a team to help.

We are adjusting to the 21st Century with an increasing presence on social-media. So far, we have a [Facebook page](#) and a [website](#).



2 Our Ministry

Supporting Your Ministry

This is a House-for-Duty post requiring a commitment of Sunday plus two days a week. You will live in the vicarage, provided and maintained by the Diocese of Winchester. We will pay all relevant parochial expenses.

We have not had a full-time priest since the 1980s and so we will not overburden you, we will protect your time off and encourage you to take holidays.

The Parish Office is based in the Church Rooms. Our Parish Administrator works eight hours a week on Mondays and Wednesdays.



2 Our Ministry

Current Leadership

Meet the Team

In your ministry you will have the following volunteers, and a paid employee to help you in your duties and spread the love and Good News of Jesus.

Ian Dougherty: Licenced Lay Minister and Church Warden, who has been with us for many years.



Adam Marsh: Newly Licenced Lay Minister, Parish Safeguarding Officer and Deanery Synod representative.

Viv Burch: Parish Administrator. This is a paid role and Viv carries out all the administration, arranging baptisms, weddings, funerals and church yard management. She also sends out the Zoom link weekly for those who attend that service and prints the pew sheets ready for the Sunday service.



You will also have a team of Bible readers, Prayer leaders, Chalice assistants and two sacristans. Six lay members are authorized to distribute the sacrament. One member has completed the Bishop's Commission to Mission for Children Families and Youth. Two members are trained and commissioned in the pastoral ministry.





3 Buildings & Finance

Church & Lychgate

The Church Building

Colbury is blessed with a beautiful church building – although there are challenges of maintenance and a location which is less than optimal. Currently the Church is open when the Administrator is in the office.

The Church and Lychgate are Grade II listed. The Church, consecrated in 1870, was built by Frederick Ibbotson, who had inherited the Barker-Mill estate through his wife Marianne. The Barker-Mill family remained patrons for over a century and the estate continues to support the church.

Seating 120 people the Church consists of nave, chancel, the former vestry housing our audio system, north-west porch and western bell-turret. It has a modern sound system and loop facilities. There is wheelchair access.

Colbury is a Commonwealth War Cemetery with five graves from the Second World War. The Lychgate commemorates the villagers killed in World War 1, including Claude Vaudrey-Barker-Mill.



3 Buildings & Finance

Churchyard

The Churchyard

The churchyard is still open for burials and internment of ashes. Historically, those who died in the workhouse were buried here – in unmarked graves. In 2020, a flint stone memorial made by a local villager was laid in memory of them. It was blessed by the Bishop of Winchester and attended by the current vicar and four previous vicars as part of our 150th anniversary celebrations.

A significant feature of the churchyard is the graves of the traveller community who lived nearby in Longdown Camp until 1960 and still regard this as their burial site

The Church Rooms

The Church Rooms were built adjacent to the church in the 1970s, providing facilities which serve both the church and community at large. Services can be relayed from the Church.

The rooms have a modern kitchen to meet various catering needs ranging from basic light drinks to full three course meals.



The Vicarage

Colbury Vicarage is a modern detached south facing house situated in the grounds of the church. With views across neighbouring fields.

The accommodation is on two floors. Downstairs there are two reception rooms, a separate study, kitchen, utility room and toilet. Upstairs there are four bedrooms, the largest with an en-suite shower room with toilet, a family bathroom and separate toilet and a carpeted storage area.

There is double-glazing throughout with an oil-fired central heating system. The house and attached garage are set in an enclosed garden, mainly laid to lawn with shrubs and trees and easy to maintain.



3 Buildings & Finance

Finance

Christ Church has been blessed with a number of generous bequests from its members over the years, some with restrictions on their use. These have enabled us to weather the challenges of looking after a Grade II listed building and maintaining the vicarage. Our finances are available to view—please ask to see these.

We have regular givers who donate in a variety of ways, via Standing Order, cash or using our Sum Up machine augmented by various fund raising events during the year.



Income	113,604	118,193
Planned Giving	51,269	49,062
Other Giving	15,852	20,890
Gift Aid	15,421	15,606
Grants	3,934	3,839
Fundraising	6,139	5,910
Net hall rental income	279	1,825
Net magazine income	1,305	2,099
Net PCC fees	9,087	9,202
Interest/Dividends	9,897	9,410
Other	437	350
Expenditure	119,639	118,342
Quota	71,920	68,253
Charitable Giving	4,534	7,274
Church and churchyard running costs	13,749	12,610
Salaries	16,471	17,157
Ministry Costs	7,546	8,481
Outreach	5,419	4,567
Balance	-6,0	-149

4 Are You the Right Person for Us?

Are You the Right Person?

The vacancy has given us time to reflect, pray and consult about the ministry of the church. It comes at a time when God is blessing the Church with green shoots of growth. We are looking for an enthusiastic team player who can work with us to help us take advantage of these blessings. We believe that the following characteristics will fit the needs and opportunities that the Parish offers:

Love for God

a prayerful person, with a pastoral heart, rooted in God, who will teach, inspire and challenge us with your preaching to apply the insight of scripture to daily life.

Self-regulating

comfortable in a House for Duty role, knowing the PCC will neither ask you to do more than has been agreed nor expect you to do more than has been agreed, giving high priority to your own well-being.

People Person

able to integrate into village life, committed to sharing the Gospel with the wider community and working with people of all ages and backgrounds.

Reaching Out

willing to sustain our relationship with the local schools and support our outreach programmes.

Collaborative

will work collaboratively with all of our volunteers and neighbouring churches to realise and build God's vision for us.

Leader and Manager

has the ability to lead and manage our Administrative Officer, volunteers, Lay Ministers, PCC and Congregation all done with sensitivity and compassion.

Pastoral

has an understanding and love of parish ministry and pastoral outreach, working with our dedicated team.

4 Are You the Right Person for Us?

Who We Are Seeking

We asked our congregation what they considered were the most important aspects of our church. This word cloud displays their answers.

We are looking for the right person who will help us to move forward, as we live out our mission statement and review our planning. We are enthused about the future and keen to move forward in the power of the Holy Spirit.

We want to consolidate our purpose to be a church that offers prayerful worship, cares for the community, encourages spiritual maturity and ministers to young and old alike.

We have benefited from the ministry of male and female clergy and we welcome both equally.



“

Finding God through the fellowship of the Holy Spirit and a shared community and purpose.

”

4 Are You the Right Person for Us?

What Next?

Thank you for your interest in Christ Church, Colbury. We hope you have gained some sense of who we are, and of the possibilities and opportunities that there are for ministry here.

A full application pack, along with Terms & Conditions, is available from the [Diocesan website](#).

For an informal conversation about vacancies in the Winchester Archdeaconry please contact:

Archdeacon of Bournemouth : The Ven Jean Burgess

01962 710963 Jean.burgess@winchester.anglican.org.

Clergy Appointments Assistant: Jane Hammond

01962 737310 clergy.appointments@winchester.anglican.org





Letter from the Bishop of Winchester

Welcome to Winchester Diocese!

Thank you for your interest in coming to minister here in this Diocese.

We serve a whole range of diverse communities, from the historic city of Winchester with our glorious Cathedral, to the great port city of Southampton, the burgeoning boroughs of Basingstoke, Bournemouth, and Christchurch, thriving market towns such as Andover, Alton, Alresford and Romsey, and innumerable picture-perfect Hampshire villages. In all that there is much wealth – but there is also significant deprivation too, especially in our large urban conurbations where our churches are supporting some of the diocese’s poorest communities.



In every context we are committed to the making the love and life of Jesus Christ known, through our churches, schools and chaplaincies in a way that makes a tangible difference to those communities and their people. We do that through our common commitment to ‘Walking the Wessex Way’: in Winchester’s past we find a rich heritage of serving, learning, growing and loving which inspires us for the future.

In many ways the Diocese of Winchester is in transition, as is the world around us. In parish ministry we seek people who are aware of the challenges that we face, but who are motivated above all by faith, hope and love in addressing them. We welcome those who are committed to help God’s church to be the very best it can be, in the power of the Spirit, releasing all God’s people into the mission and ministry to which they are called. And we recognise, too, our need to develop in diversity.

We are excited by the opportunities before us, and warmly invite applications from those who want to join us in addressing them. With the assurance of my prayers as you seek God’s best next step for you,

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads '+Philip'.

+Philip

Diocesan Information

The Diocese of Winchester was founded in 660AD, and its first bishop was Wini (sometimes spelt Wine). The diocese is a mixture of rural and urban, new and old, innovative and traditional, serving a population of 1.27 million, of whom over 20,000 regularly attend worship in one of the 375 church buildings across our 255 parishes, led by our 202 ordained clergy, 87 Licensed Lay Ministers and a growing number of lay people commissioned for ministry.

The diocese consists of about two-thirds of the County of Hampshire and most of Bournemouth in the County of Dorset, excluding Portsmouth and the area immediately to its north and northeast. Stretching from the beaches of Bournemouth to the Surrey border, and from the River Hamble to the outskirts of Newbury, over half of the diocese is geographically rural and yet nearly 80% of the population live in urban areas.

