‘HOLY TRINITY HAS A VISION’

We have a vision that....

1. As an Anglican church in the modern catholic tradition, we shall continue to grow in our worship of God ‘in the beauty of holiness’, being passionate about being inclusive and welcoming, driven by the love of God, and open in our outlook and our theology. We shall always strive for the highest standards in our liturgy, music and worship which we value so deeply, being open to change and collaborative in our approach, as the ‘body’ of Christ, of all ages.

2. Our church building should always be clean, bright and shining, warm, welcoming and flexible. To this end we are clear that a building of this beauty and utility, which has a spiritual presence that garners respect, should be used for more than worship on Sunday and occasionally during the week. Such a restored and renewed church could include: redecoration throughout (especially the north wall), removal of the pews and replacement with chairs or stacking pews, a consideration of the possible relocation of both ‘nave’ altar and choir stalls, under-floor heating with a new floor, work on the organ, attention to both lighting and sound-system accordingly, and the creation of a meeting/children’s space, perhaps as a mezzanine floor within the tower.

3. Children, young people and their families should play a vital and integral part in our life as a church, and that activities specifically designed for them should be fun, vibrant and relevant and also well publicised in the community. The current ‘Junior Church’, monthly ‘All-Age Eucharist’ (but maybe with new names) and ‘mainly music’ should all develop in the light of this vision with perhaps a new Music Group, and new groups, services and activities added as and when appropriate. A well-resourced and enthusiastic Children and Young People’s Team would be the best way of ensuring that this happens – and would also continue ‘networking’ in the community, especially with the schools.

4. The church develops a well thought-out system of giving which embraces work overseas, at home and locally either through on-going or one-off collections which would consolidate our existing, and already generous, but rather fragmented giving. And that our mission projects should also embrace the spiritual by involving skills, time and direct contact, as well as financial support. Our new system regarding charitable and mission support and giving would need to include a dedicated display space in church, good publicity, visiting speakers and, of course, prayer.

5. We are a church at the heart of the community. We see this in the broadest sense as embracing the virtual community of the whole world, the community of our parish, of our church school, visitors to our church building, and of one another (of all ages) within the church. The opportunities are endless and we have a vision for a far greater involvement in the community at large, increasing publicity and enabling the church building to be more publicly used. We long to throw open the ‘doors’ (physical, metaphorical and virtual) and welcome everyone in.

6. We grow as a church community in our spirituality and theology through a range of new courses, groups, Quiet Days, articles in Parish News and a far greater use, in particular, of the St Mary Tory Chapel for quiet, reflective worship.

7. We develop a greater sense of awareness of and participation in the wider church of which we are a part – the Bradford Group Ministry, the deanery, the diocese and Bradford Area Churches Together (BACT). And that we begin to foster links with the parishes of Westwood and Wingfield with which we shall forge a new benefice in 2013, perhaps starting by occasional attendance at one another’s services and events and looking to how we can build upon one another’s strengths.

8. We become a church community where every member of the body feels that they may find and exercise their vocation and take on roles and responsibilities with joy for the good of the whole – modelling the complex but wonderfully effective pattern of bees in a hive. That some people should be enabled to exercise their passion by co-ordinating a particular area of ministry, in addition to the traditional roles of clergy, LLMs, LPAs, churchwardens and PCC, as we explore new patterns of ministry.

9. That a sense of a call to mission and its accompanying pastoral care should inspire and lie at the root of all that we are and do as a church, for we believe that we are called to love and serve as Christ loves us. ‘I have come that you might have life – life in all its fullness’.

Holy Trinity PCC, March 2012