

Thank you for your interest in the part-time post of

**Congregational Development and**

**Community Organiser**

*At St Frideswide’s, people are valued not for their importance, their role, their loud voice, or their ability. People are valued because Jesus loves them. Community organising is a great fit for our church as we support people to find their own voice and bring change that really matters to them.*

Rachel, PCC member

This is a pioneering role; we are clear about what we want to achieve through this recruitment, but very open to different possibilities in terms of who might fulfil the post. We can imagine that the role could be well suited to a range of people at different stages of life and career:

* a Christian with experience in community organising who is looking for an interesting role to complement their current commitments
* someone who is yet to embark on formal community organising training, but has a passion for social justice and seeing people grow in faith and is willing to invest in their own development
* an experienced Christian leader in search of a new challenge in the area of discipleship and social justice
* someone who is exploring a vocation to leadership in the church or as a community organiser and would like an opportunity to focus on a particular project as part of a supportive team
* you might be local to Milton Keynes, Bletchley or Water Eaton and have an interest in seeing tangible improvements to the local physical and democratic landscape
* you might live further away but be willing to invest in this community, getting to know the people and serving them with love and humility.

Above all we are on the search for someone who will:

* complement our team, invest in our church family and love our community
* join in with us as we live out our core vision to ‘have fun, make friends, and grow disciples of Jesus’
* help us grow into our role as a Resource Church for Community Organising and Church Growth

We hope this information is useful as you explore whether the role might be right for you. Please get in touch to talk further if you have any questions or would like to hear more about how we have come to the point of recruiting this role at this time. I would love to have an informal conversation with you to share something more of the kind of church we are and the hopes we have for the future.

 

Revd Catherine Butt November 2021

**Information & Application Pack**

Attached you will find:

* The job description and person specification
* An application form
* A briefing document which explains the background of our having been designated a Resource Church for Community Organising and Church Growth

**Additional information**

The Staff Team comprises:

**Revd Catherine Butt** Incumbent since September 2017

**Gill Bradley** Part-time Pastoral Ministry Leader

**Revd Steve Hallett** 3rd year curate with focus on outreach and community

 engagement on the Lakes Estate

**Revd Ayo Audu** 1st year curate with focus on building church community on a new housing development in the parish (Eaton Leys)

**Rebekah Blackburn** Part-time Communications and Media Lead

We are supported by gifted and committed churchwardens, a skilled PCC treasurer and secretary, and PCC members who have travelled the last few years together with resilience, prayerful courage and humour. As a church we want to facilitate worship which is accessible to all and build a community where each person can belong on an equal footing regardless of age, background or stage of faith. We prioritise intergenerational worship and fellowship.

We are excited about working in partnership with Citizens UK as this role develops, and about sharing our experience with others, particularly in the Diocese of Oxford, as we learn along the way.

**Interviews**

**Thursday 13th / Friday 14th January 2022 in Bletchley.**

As well as more formal questions and conversation, you will be asked to present a short reflection using one of the following questions as a starting point (details to be confirmed on invitation to interview):

* How can community organising strengthen the local church?
* How would you articulate the difference between ‘meeting the needs of the community’ and ‘working for justice’?
* Using a Bible passage of your choice, how would you support our commitment to community organising?

**Closing date: Friday 10th December 2021**

It is a genuine occupational requirement that this role is filled by someone with a Christian faith.

We are committed to the safeguarding of children, young people, vulnerable adults and all within our community and this recruitment will follow the Church of England’s Safer Recruitment guidelines.