

ALL SAINTS, THORPE ACRE with DISHLEY

ACCESS STATEMENT- December 2013

Welcome to All Saints' Church, Thorpe Acre with Dishley ; the original church was built in 1845 and extended in 1987 and, therefore, has limitations in its facilities for disabled people; this access statement is aimed at helping you to know what to expect from our buildings and practices.

The church and hall car park is at the front of the church, off Thorpe Acre Road and has limited spaces. There are 2 spaces on the flat at the top of the drive access and 1 is marked specifically for disabled use. The car park is also one of the pedestrian accesses and is on a steep incline.

A second access is via the Lych gate and this has a gentler incline than the Car park access. There is also a gate and path to the rear of the Churchyard (on Knightthorpe Road) and this is completely on the level.

Church entrance

The main church door has several steps leading up to the door and there is no handrail. However, there is a side door which is on the level and is easily accessible for wheelchairs and pushchairs.

Inside the church

The church has chairs which can easily be moved to accommodate a wheelchair in any part of the worship area.

The church is fitted with an induction-loop system for the benefit of hearing-aid users.

Liturgy, hymns and notices are displayed during the service on large screens using a data projection system. Large print song sheets and liturgy are available at all services and the weekly Newsheet can be produced in large print if required. Hymnbooks and service booklets are available at the table by the side door. All information and hand-outs are available on our website or can be sent by e-mail if a request is made in advance.

At various times during the service the minister may invite the congregation to stand; you are welcome to remain seated if this is more comfortable for you.

There is a partial handrail on the dais to assist you when coming forward for communion though you are welcome to kneel or stand as you are able. We can also bring the blessed

bread and wine of Holy Communion to the seat of anyone who might find difficulty in coming forward to the front of the church; please let a sidesman know that you would find this useful. Gluten free wafers available on request.

There is a disable friendly toilet situated between the church and the hall. This is available to users of the Hall when the church is not open.

The church hall

The main door entrance to the Hall are easily accessible for wheelchairs and pushchairs.

After the Sunday morning service we invite everyone to join us for coffee in the church hall which is accessible by wheelchairs without having to leave the building.

There are separate male and female toilets in the hall (2 cubicles in each) with 2 hand wash basins. Outside the female toilet area there is a baby changing unit and mat available.

The fire escape door between the church and the Hall is on a level and there is one other fire door but this is not suitable for wheelchairs. In the case of an emergency evacuation you will be guided by the wardens on duty.

The kitchen servery has a counter at a height of 86centimetres.

The Vicarage is on the corner of Thorpe Acre Road and Knighthorpe Road and has level access, with one step to the back door but the toilet is not wheelchair accessible.

All Saints' is welcoming to ALL. Do please speak to the Vicar, a churchwarden, or sidesman if you have any comments on our provision.

This document is available in large-print or by electronic means.