

## **Report from St Mary's Church Boxford to Boxford Parish Council 26<sup>th</sup> April 2025**

St Mary's Boxford continues to try to be an accessible space for the community, with a variety of concerts as well as services from the traditional Eucharist to family-oriented services to Evensong once a month.

The Reverend Robert Parker-McGee is leaving at the end of June to take up a position in Lincolnshire and we wish him well. There will be an 'interregnum' until a new Rector is selected, which can take 12-18 months. In the meantime, the Ministry Team will be handling services – we are lucky to have two priests available to us as well as Readers.

We held a public consultation on building plans for the church, including a permanent disabled access, installation of a disabled access loo, conversion of the tower base into an office/meeting room, and updating the space to make it more accessible to the community. We have revised the plans in response to public feedback and hope to start fundraising soon in order to make these plans a reality.

St Mary's would like to thank the Parish Council for its generous support, particularly with insurance costs and the building, and for the hard work it has done in the churchyard. We hope that the community of Boxford will turn out for Gardens Open the 1<sup>st</sup> of June as it is the church's main fundraising event this year.