

## Revitalising Redditch

Open Forum Meetings January 30<sup>th</sup> 2.30-4.15 St Peter's Ipsley, January 31<sup>st</sup> 7.00-8.35 zoom

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### Outline Agenda

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| 2.30 – 2.40 | <b>Nikki</b> Introduction and welcome<br><br>The Transformation Agenda<br><br>Why have we embarked on this process<br><br>Healthy and Sustainable Churches   |
| 2.40-2.50   | <b>Breakout Groups</b> - What do you think a healthy church looks like?<br>(post it notes)   |
| 2.50-3.00   | Feedback (Paul to scribe on flip chart)  |
| 3.00 3.05   | <b>Kashmir</b> The process with Andy, describing the meetings with clergy and groups from the 12 Churches to remind people of consultative nature of what we have done so far.   |
| 3.05-3.15   | <b>Paul</b> Key points coming out of Andy's report.<br><br>How we engaged with PCCs and DCCs in Dec and Jan on these points and feedback received  |
| 3.15 -3.25  | <b>Nikki</b> Mapping a potential way forward<br><br>The Revitalising Redditch Proposal<br><br>What is a BMO and what does it allow?<br><br>Focus on celebrating the local, missional focus on the 98%, wider collaboration and networking for efficiency and streamlining, the resourcing church and central hub |
| 3.25 -3.35  | <b>Breakout Groups</b> – what do you affirm? What do you have concerns or questions about? ( <b>Kashmir</b> to introduce)  |
| 3.35-3.50   | Feedback ( <b>Paul</b> to chair)   |
| 3.50-4.05   | <b>Nikki</b> Temperature Check (human rainbow with follow up questions and discussion)   |
| 4.05-4.15   | <b>Paul</b> Next steps and closing prayer  |

## Outline Agenda

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|-----------|--|
| 7.00-7.10 | <b>Nikki</b> Introduction and welcome<br><br>The Transformation Agenda<br><br>Why have we embarked on this process<br><br>Healthy and Sustainable Churches   |
| 7.10-7.20 | <b>Breakout Groups</b> - What do you think a healthy church looks like?<br>(post it notes)   |
| 7.20-7.30 | Feedback (Paul to scribe on flip chart)  |
| 7.30-7.35 | <b>Andy</b> The process with Andy, describing the meetings with clergy and groups from the 12 Churches to remind people of consultative nature of what we have done so far.  |
| 7.35-7.45 | <b>Paul</b> Key points coming out of Andy's report.<br><br>How we engaged with PCCs and DCCs in Dec and Jan on these points and feedback received  |
| 7.45-7.55 | <b>Nikki</b> Mapping a potential way forward<br><br>The Revitalising Redditch Proposal<br><br>What is a BMO and what does it allow?<br><br>Focus on celebrating the local, missional focus on the 98%, wider collaboration and networking for efficiency and streamlining, the resourcing church and central hub |
| 7.55-8.05 | <b>Breakout Groups</b> – what do you affirm? What do you have concerns or questions about? ( <b>Kashmir</b> to introduce)  |
| 8.05-8.20 | Feedback ( <b>Paul</b> to chair)   |
| 8.20-8.30 | <b>Nikki</b> Temperature Check (zoom poll with follow up questions and discussion)   |
| 8.30-8.35 | <b>Paul</b> Next steps and closing prayer  |

## **Key Points from Andy's Report (Clergy and Teams from Churches)**

- The Major point is The Status Quo is not an option.
- The last near 2 years mean that Clergy (and Laity) are tired and drained – lots has been done and fast but...weary and do any of our churches “have the resources to support a wide range of activity?”.
- There is a general issue with engaging well with a younger demographic.
- We have all – to a greater or lesser degree – fallen in Parochial thinking...
  - Little knowledge of church outside of our own
  - This means that Clergy and Laity find making space for creative missional thinking difficult.
  - Despite the questions asked we have a natural tendency to think in terms of My Church or Our Church rather than THE CHURCH.
- In General our received understanding of what Collaboration in Mission and Ministry could look like is limited.
- Many people did mention a Redditch (+) wide perspective was needed and
- A number mooted the concept of a central “Hub”.

Can we think about Mission more broadly? Can we look beyond our current limited resources.

There 1 or 2 dissenting voices – re Status Quo and the overall view of the report but a significant majority did resonate with it.

## **DCC/PCC Feedback on Andy's Report – Nikki to cover the Resulting Proposal...**

Andy's report does make quite difficult reading and we need to hear the challenges it raised. The Church Councils appreciated this and we working through places where it was felt that we'd mis-communicated to mis-understood situation.

The majority of council members seemed to recognise that the report painted an accurate picture of where we are. There were some debates over some specific detailed be over we recognised ourselves in the report and the challenges we face.

In looking at the challenges raised issues of differences of theology, doctrine or church tradition and practice might cause of the issues. Also, we often pressed into models of “being church” and the challenges presented by lack of people or the overall church demographic.

Churches often spoke of specific local issues.

The emphasis on collaboration was often seen as a positive and again the need for change came through with a realisation that this may be challenging.

## **WRAP UP QUESTION**

**How do you feel about beginning to experiment with the proposed new Revitalising Redditch Mission Area?**

1. It's a great idea! Count me in.
2. I'm interested to give it a try. Probably some good opportunities worth exploring further.
3. I think there are too many problems with it and we should go back to the drawing board.
4. Over my dead body! I will resist these changes with every fibre of my being.

Follow up question?

What one thing, if we changed it, would make you take a step closer to the positive end/prompt you to give a different answer?

### **What Next**

1. Is there a groundswell that this is the way God is leading up?
2. To move forward we need to build a team to move us from Concept to Planning and Implementation.
  - a. Key Skills needed being Project Management and Admin.
  - b. Folk need to be on board with the overall direction and be willing to seek God's leading in this.
  - c. Routed in collaborative working – "Co-Creating."
  - d. Work on Role Descriptions ASAP and seek applications from folk from out churches..
3. Structure and Funding and Deployment...
4. Starting to work with Churches on local discernment of local Mission Identity.
5. Starting to work with Clergy on how to communicate well and build a collegiate approach.