Ministry of Church Tourism/Welcome
TERMS OF REFERENCE AND THREE YEAR PLAN 2015 - 2018

Objective of the Ministry of Church Tourism/Welcome Group, St Albans Diocese
The aim of Ministry of Church Tourism/Welcome Group in the St Albans Diocese is to promote our Church buildings and to ensure that they are accessible and welcoming to all.
To achieve this we will:
❖ Encourage more Churches to be open inviting and welcoming to all visitors and enquirers by offering guidance on promotional material using contemporary methods;
❖ Co-ordinate the Open Church Sunday event each year;
❖ Support Churches to manage the buildings as place of sacred space;
❖ Work with Rural Deans to share information and promote good practice;
❖ As requested, act as a catalyst for Parishes to add value to their local communities;
❖ Regularly report to the Board of Church and Society;
❖ Create a Mission Action Plan (MAP) for the group.

The Ministry of Church Tourism/Welcome Group is made up of
The Church Tourism/Welcome Officers for the Archdeaconry’s of Bedford, Hertford and St Albans. The Officers report to the Board for Church and Society (the Board). All posts are voluntary positions.

Three Year Plan 2015 – 2018
It is our intention, in the next three years, to undertake the following tasks:
 Continue to organise “Open Church Sunday” in the Diocese, to take place around St Alban-tide each year.
 Following each Open Church Sunday, to review and advise the Board of the results of the day- number of churches participating, comments received etc.
 Continue to use the services of an administrator for Open Church Sunday administration as required, together with approved Diocesan resources as needed.
 Take advantage of opportunities to share knowledge on how the welcome provided by the Anglican Church in this Diocese can be enhanced, taking advantage of other Dioceses experience as appropriate;
 As requested, to work with Parishes that have put welcome as a goal on their Mission Action Plans (MAPS).
 Re-issue the 2008 Articles of Enquiry survey on churches open during daylight hours, benchmark the current position against it and report to the Board on the findings.
 Before each scheduled meeting, report to the Board on the work completed and in progress.
 Create, seek Board approval and publish a MAP for the group and review it annually.

Budgetary Control
Expenditure for Church Tourism/Welcome will come from the Board of Church and Society budget. It will be controlled by the Ministry of Church Tourism/Welcome Officer for Bedford.