Developing a Vision with Strong and Healthy Roots

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The ability to think about and plan the future with imagination and wisdom.

An aspirational description of what an organisation would like to achieve or accomplish in the mid-term or long-term future. It is intended to serve as a clear guide for choosing current and future courses of action.
A Mission Action Plan:

will help you identify a range of actions, faith-based and community-based, that together with taking into account your physical facilities, will take forward your mission.
What are you for?
Consultation
Gathering information and seeking the views of those within your church and the wider community

Building audit
Undertaking 360° appraisal of your building
What is happening now? How well do we relate to those in our community?

What could change?

What needs to change?

How could the church make a difference?
*When was the last time you really looked at your building and how it functions?*

*What does your building say about you?*

*How does it speak to you and how does it speak to others?*

*Is it a millstone using up precious funds, or is it a spring board for wider engagement?*
What is special about your building?
How do you use the building?

For worship
For fellowship
For the community
What are you doing with the children?
Welcome

We are so pleased you are here.

You are very welcome to come in and investigate, to sit and pray or simply enjoy the peace and quiet.

Bless us, O God, the doors we open, the thresholds we cross, we walk the roads that be. Come and meet us here and travel with us, Amen.

FOR YOUR SAFETY
Please be aware that there are steps and possible tripping and stumbling within the church.

The Guild Church of St. Margaret Pattens is here for you all. Come in and be still and seek peace in this most ancient space. You will be most welcome to join us.
Glad you are impressed with the new underfloor heating. But we haven’t got any underfloor heating!”
We asked what people disliked. Most people interpreted the question in terms of the current situation.

By far the most common dislike was the toilets.

The porch, and view from the street was felt to be unfriendly and unwelcoming.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>What are your assets?</th>
<th>What do you want to change?</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Good access</td>
<td>Be more able to offer more support to our community and especially for young people, single parents</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Town centre location</td>
<td>More flexible space</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade 1 associated with very famous person</td>
<td>21\textsuperscript{st} Century facilities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Already well-known for music events</td>
<td>Be open every day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Council is looking for venues to host support provision for children/homeless</td>
<td>Provide better interpretation</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>What are the challenges to realising your vision</th>
<th>Who do you need to engage with/seek advice from?</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Poor access (too many steps)</td>
<td>DAC/Heritage bodies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No mains water</td>
<td>Architect</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>On a busy road</td>
<td>The congregation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade 1 so may not be able to make all the changes in the way we want</td>
<td>The community</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No money</td>
<td>Other local community facilities</td>
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<td>Lack of skilled volunteers</td>
<td>Potential partners</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Fundraising advice</td>
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An idea of what your vision might look like;
an idea of what you would like to achieve and WHY.

Statement of Need

Understand your building a lot better and what the potential is and where the challenges might be.

Statement of Significance
• to improve the quality of life for the local community
• to broaden the range of activities taking place within the local community
• to improve the accessibility of your building for community events
• to use the church building more effectively
*We want to make our inhospitable, cold and dark place of worship, a place of light and warmth and a welcoming space so we can meet the spiritual and social needs of the whole community.*

*To make our church more welcoming and by the provision of facilities be able to share our space with support services for children.*
Bringing people along with you – listening and responding

Ensuring that there is a proved need for your project
“To make St. Andrew’s Church a major centre of village life for all villagers, as a place of worship and the place where the community can gather for a wide variety of village activities in a building which is inspiring, welcoming, accessible and well-resourced”
“Every place of worship has a mission to its community. Each church can seek to articulate this, or develop it, in different ways. The most important task for any parish is to try to work through, honestly, objectively, and prayerfully, what it means to be people of God in their own community, location and circumstances.”

Resources for Rural Places of Worship, Germinate: Arthur Rank Centre
Crossing the Threshold Toolkit: a step-by-step guide to developing your place of worship for wider community use and managing a successful building project

https://www.hereford.anglican.org/Crossingthethresholdtoolkit/
Empowering Design Practices

* Transforming historic places of worship through community engagement
* Making Community Engagement Count
* Tips for your Community Engagement Strategy

A Design Thinking Guide: How to think about changes in historic places of worship

https://www.empoweringdesign.net/edp-resources.html