



The Suffolk Fresh Expressions Community

## Frequently Asked Questions

### 9<sup>th</sup> November 2020

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## Fresh Expressions of Church and Lightwave

### What is a fresh expression of Church (fxC)?

A fresh expression of church (fxC) is a new or different way of being church in and for our changing culture, established primarily for the benefit of people who are not yet members of any church. This is not a description that fits just any Christian activity or group, but involves a Christian community which is, or is on the journey towards becoming, a church. A fresh expression may be the result of a church-planting process or it may be the result of a transitional process of inculturation by an existing church that previously took a more traditional form.

### What is Lightwave?

Lightwave is the name of the Suffolk Fresh Expressions community – a Christian community, meeting in small groups in homes, pubs, offices, schools and other places which works alongside more traditional ways of being church.

Each group is part of the great wave of God's love which brings light to our county. These groups are supported by a number of Lightwave Hubs.

### Where does the name Lightwave come from?

The name comes from the idea of lightwaves being the way in which light spreads into dark places. Lightwave is committed to shining the light of Jesus in Suffolk through acts of kindness and practical service as well as worship and witness.

### What does a Lightwave Group do?

Lightwave groups do the essential things of church - but in a whole variety of different ways, suited to the needs of their members and the context of a small group who get to know each other well. So there are no sermons – but groups read the bible and try to put it into practice in their lives. There may be no singing (unless the members are musical) but groups find other ways to worship and pray for each other and our local community. Groups eat together, have fun, support each other and try to put faith to work in practical care for friends and neighbours and the most needy in our society.

### Who can be part of Lightwave?

Anyone who wants to join a Lightwave Group. People joining groups do not need to be a Christian or have faith to be part of Lightwave - if you'd like to explore with us what it means to experience and speak God's light in our communities that is enough. Having said that, many Lightwave members are also very active members of another church (most often Church of England but other kinds too) and find that being part of a Lightwave group helps them with the everyday putting faith into practice. Others would not be part of a church at all if it were not for Lightwave. Lightwave enables those who cannot get to a Sunday Service to be fully included in a community based on Christian faith. Our aim is also that people who find Sunday worship too formal or structured for them, especially younger generations and those unused to traditional forms of church, will find Lightwave to be somewhere where they can find friends to explore the journey of faith with them. Sometimes our gatherings are called "fresh expressions of Church" because they express what Church is in a fresh way.

### What happens in a Lightwave group?

They're all different - but most meet weekly and follow a typical pattern:

- Welcome - time to chat and generally "catch up" over coffee or a meal. At some point an ice-breaker question or activity introduces the theme of the meeting. This gives everyone a chance to join in and gives a relaxed feel to the group.
- Worship - time to focus on God and become aware of his presence, giving thanks, leaving behind the business of our day, and allowing him to touch and refresh us and realign our will to his.

- Word – Reading the Bible together. Groups typically use discussion and activities to help us understand a passage or a subject. The emphasis is practical - what difference will what we learn make to our lives?
- Witness - Showing God's love for our friends and neighbours. This includes praying for the needs of people, giving practical help and providing opportunities for people who want to explore faith. Many Lightwave groups will be the team for a fresh expression of Church such as Messy Church or Cafe Church which provides these opportunities.

Lightwave groups have a lot of fun together – for example barbeques, bonfires, Traidcraft parties, children's events, youth lazerquest, bowling or cinema. These are great times to invite friends and neighbours who might not normally feel comfortable to get involved with church events.

### What are the Lightwave Core Values?

"The most important commandment," said Jesus, "is this: 'Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.' The second is this: 'Love your neighbour as yourself.'" Mark 12.29-31

These commandments reflect Jesus' values – what was important to him – a high view of God, a high view of others, a high view of ourselves, and sacrificial love. We believe that these values can be used to set a life-giving framework in which people can grow and help others to do the same. In Lightwave, they are reflected in a simple "rule of life" for the small groups called the **ABCDE** values:

- **All Involved** - Everyone is included and valued, whoever they are. Everyone has a role to play.
- **Becoming Disciples** - The purpose of the group is to encourage us to love and live more like Jesus.
- **Creating Community** - We will "be real" with each other - honest about the things we go through ourselves and to respond in a loving way to each other. Caring for each other enables us to care for our wider community too.
- **Doing Evangelism** - Being as well as telling good news together. Giving other people the opportunity to learn about Jesus (Not everybody likes the word *evangelism* but really it is just about being the very best of good news for people in what we do and say - so we think it is important to understand this word - it does not involve bible-bashing!)
- **Encountering God** - Meeting with God. It is God who helps us and changes us.

### How does a group qualify for membership of Lightwave?

Groups fill in an application which is then considered by the Bishop's Mission Order (BMO) Council of Lightwave which meets regularly throughout the year. Groups may be composed of people from any Christian denomination. The BMO Board will nevertheless talk with the CofE incumbent (and other ministers where appropriate) of the areas in which the group has its life before enrolling the group in Lightwave.

### What are the advantages and benefits of being a Lightwave Group?

Benefits of group membership of the Lightwave Community include:

- Access to quality training for group members and group leaders
- Matching with a coach/mentor to help develop the group's mission
- Customised training and support for safeguarding in small groups and fresh expressions of Church
- Small Mission Initiative Funding (£100) available to member groups to apply for, to support specific mission activity
- The opportunity to apply for a group member to become a Rural Outreach Pioneer, paid for one day a week to engage in a clearly identified rural outreach and evangelism activity
- The ability to get tax back on donated funds specifically for the use of the group or fxC church
- Support in developing financial sustainability and good stewardship in the group/fxC church

### What is the Suffolk Discipleship Pathway?

The Suffolk Discipleship Pathway (see picture below) is a way of describing the steps that most people take on their way to discovering and growing in faith. It helps churches and small groups to think about how they can provide stepping stones to faith for the people they are in contact with.



# The Suffolk Discipleship Pathway

**Fruit** – People continue to grow as disciples within some form of Church which could be a parish church or fresh expression of Church. The word fruit conveys on-going development and giving to others in witness and service.

For example: Parent and Toddler discipleship group grows from Alpha.



**Flowering** – Opportunity to find out in depth about Christianity and to commit. Taken up by fewer people so may join up with other small groups or parish activity to provide this.

For example: Alpha with Toddlers.



**Nurturing** – People who have been part of sowing can be invited to join an activity which involves opportunity to explore faith at some level (not all may say yes – so smaller size).

For example: Praise and Play offered to the parents in the Parent and Toddler Group; Messy Church.



**Sowing** – A small group connects with people and shows the love of God by enjoying mutual interest or meeting a need.

Low spiritual content – wide appeal.

For example: Small team starts Parent and Toddler Group.



[www.light-wave.org](http://www.light-wave.org)

Based on Sowing, Reaping, Keeping model. (Lawrence Sunglehurst's acclaimed book of the same name and developed by Fresh Expressions in MSM course.)



## Growing in God in the Countryside Project Funding

### What is Growing in God in the Countryside?

At the end of 2018 the diocese received funding for an exciting new project focussed on rural Suffolk. There are two connected strands to the project

- Lightwave – the Suffolk Fresh Expressions community - a growing network community of dozens of small groups all over Suffolk dedicated to sharing the love of God in their towns and villages. Each group aims to do one activity together to make a difference locally or among people they know and receives support and training in their outreach. See What is Lightwave? page 3.
- Loverural – bringing wholeness of life, and enabling rural communities to flourish – is God’s calling for the church in the Suffolk countryside. In this way we aim to be a means of God’s grace and a sign of God’s presence.

### How is Growing in God in the Countryside funded?

The total budget for Growing in God in the Countryside is just under £3m for the six years of the project (until the end of 2024). Most of the funding has come from the Church Commissioners (Central Church of England) Strategic Development Funding, with the remainder being contributed by the Diocese of St Edmundsbury and Ipswich. More information about Strategic Development Funding can be found here:

<https://www.churchofengland.org/more/diocesan-resources/funding-mission-and-growth/strategic-development-funding>

### What does Strategic Development Funding pay for?

The funding is planned to last until the end of 2024 and pays for the core project costs including Archdeacon for Rural Mission, her core staff team (project manager, communications missioner and administrator/prayer co-ordinator), and a full-time pioneer minister (lay or ordained) and curate for each of the three Lightwave Hubs. Costs for Lightwave Hub lead ministers are covered in their entirety until the end of 2024. Curate funding is available for each Lightwave Hub for a period of 3 years from their appointment.

Start-up costs and some initial funding for ongoing operational costs for each Lightwave Hub are included, along with some one-off event costs (e.g. for things like the Catching the Fire Pentecost launch service) for community engagement including loverural. Funding is also available for Small Mission Initiatives and around 20 Rural Outreach Pioneers working 1 day week for 2 years each (see above).

### How can people be sure any money they give will be used for the Lightwave Group or Lightwave Hub and not just go into Diocesan Funds?

All giving to Lightwave (and any associated Gift Aid money reclaimed by the diocese) will go into a Restricted Fund within the Diocesan Board of Finance (the charity under which the Lightwave BMO has been established). Monies can only be used for Lightwave and no other purpose. If the gift is for a specific Lightwave Hub or Lightwave Group the Lightwave Treasurer and the BMO Board will maintain a schedule of monies given to each group and ensure that monies are not diverted between groups unless that’s the express wish of the groups themselves – for example a Lightwave Hub might wish to help fund a small Lightwave Group to do something, or a Lightwave Group might wish to give a gift to a Lightwave Hub to fund an activity from which they would benefit.

A Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) for Lightwave is currently being established and when that is completed it is anticipated that giving will go to that new charity. Details are currently under development

### Can established churches access funds set aside for Lightwave?

Any small mission group or fresh expression that subscribes to the Lightwave ABCDE values and is accepted by the BMO Board as a Lightwave group can access Lightwave funds – including those in existing parish churches.

**Do churches need to 'close' existing groups/fresh expressions of church and rebrand as a new "Lightwave" group to access the ring-fenced funds?**

Existing groups do not need to be closed. Existing Fresh Expressions of Church and small missional groups can come under the Lightwave banner if they have a core group that subscribes to the Lightwave ABCDE values, and are developing a clear missional vision. They simply need to be approved for membership by the BMO Board through the normal application process.

They do not have to be a completely new group, and we have had several existing groups join Lightwave in this way. They can continue to use their existing name and can continue under the jurisdiction of their existing PCC and use existing PCC finance, insurance, safeguarding policies if that's how they operate today – there is no need for any change. All groups gain the benefit of a coach (through Inspiring Ipswich if in Ipswich) and access to Lightwave training. If such groups are rural (<10,000 population) then they can also access Small Mission Initiative Funding and Rural Outreach Pioneer Funding.



# loverural

making Jesus visible through loving action

## What is Loverural?

We believe that bringing wholeness of life, and enabling rural communities to flourish, is God's calling for the church in the Suffolk countryside. In this way we aim to be a means of God's grace and a sign of God's presence. Loverural is the banner for forthcoming exciting work in this area to be launched in the Spring of 2020.

Loverural is about "making Jesus visible through loving action" in the Suffolk Countryside. It is part of the diocese's strong commitment to rural areas.

We want to form a small but dynamic interdenominational team to:

- a) **SHOW:** Draw attention to the enormous role of the rural Christianity in building social capital
- b) **SHARE:** Connect projects and congregations in the countryside including those of of different streams and denominations so that good rural practice can be shared and mutual support offered
- c) **SHINE:** Enable those engaged in Christian-based social action to gain confidence and wisdom in how to make exploration of the Christian faith accessible to those engaging with their initiatives

More information available at <https://www.light-wave.org/loverural>



## Lightwave Bishop's Mission Order

**NOTE: that the BMO is currently being re-structured and this will result in a newly constituted BMO Council – acting as far as possible like a local PCC, and a Growing in God in the Countryside Project Board which will take on the oversight of the wider project as a whole. We will reflect these changes in the next issue of this document when they come into effect.**

### What is the Lightwave Bishop's Mission Order

The Lightwave Bishop's Mission Order is a legal framework across the diocese to support the work of Lightwave (Lightwave groups and Lightwave Hubs). It consists of

- a) A legal framework under which it operates
- b) a BMO Board similar to a PCC – chaired by the Archdeacon for Rural Mission
- c) members – similar to Parish Electoral Roll members – who annually elect members to the BMO Board (see below).
- d) Policies and Procedures similar to those of a PCC which govern how the Lightwave Hubs and Lightwave Groups that come under the BMO's jurisdiction operate

The BMO Board allows Lightwave to operate a bit like a parish church, but across the diocese and across parish and benefice boundaries.

### How was the Bishop's Mission Order established and how has the Lightwave project engaged and consulted with existing churches and church members across Suffolk?

In Autumn 2018 a consultation took place concerning the establishment of a diocesan Bishop's Mission Order (BMO). In the consultation, a wide range of people were invited to submit views in addition to a general invitation through e-news. The idea was also discussed at diocesan synod. The consultation received 3 written responses and approximately 60 people attended dedicated consultation evenings in the East and West of the county. The vast majority view was that plans for a diocesan-wide Bishop's Mission Order would simplify the processes by which more innovative mission could be supported and offer new options for clergy and lay people.

### What are the advantages of a Bishop's Mission Order?

The main advantages are seen as:

- Provision of administrative and personnel services to fresh expressions of Church and mission initiatives across the diocese so that lack of administrative capability ceases to be a bar to employing evangelists, youth workers and outreach Pioneers.
- Giving some fresh expressions of Church legal status to make them less vulnerable to changes in clergy and make it easier for the Diocese to support such fresh expressions during clergy vacancies
- Enabling small fresh expressions to promote good stewardship and to get tax back on donations directed to the fresh expression without the need to get separate charitable status; enabling them to access funds and insurance for mission activities at short notice even when local PCCs meet only quarterly.
- Ensuring that safeguarding is fully implemented within small missional groups and fresh expressions of Church, giving attention to the different situations & particular vulnerabilities which can arise in these initiatives.
- Promoting accountability in fresh expressions of Church to work within the values of the BMO, including good cooperation with local churches.

### How is the BMO structured?

The Leader of the BMO is the Archdeacon for Rural Mission, the Ven Sally Gaze and the Bishop of Dunwich in the role of Episcopal Visitor. The BMO carries the legal name of "The Suffolk Fresh Expressions Community" but is usually be known by its more user-friendly name of "Lightwave". The BMO is currently governed by the BMO Board which operates is a similar way to a PCC.

## What is the purpose of the BMO Board?

The board's formal legal purpose is to govern the activities of the Lightwave Community and support and enable the aims of the Community which are to:

- a) help bring new Christians to faith
- b) help both new and established Christians to grow in discipleship, vocation and leadership
- c) enable inculturation of the gospel and the initiatives which arise from this to flourish.

In order to fulfil this role, in the period of the Growing in God in the Countryside project, the Board will act as the Project Board for the whole project.

The board will

- Provide oversight of the delivery of the project plans for the Lightwave Community and overall
- Shape the delivery of the project to deliver the strategic aims of the Lightwave Community as defined by the original SDF bid and associated milestones and agreed numeric and other outcomes
- Ensure the Lightwave Community remains aligned with, and supportive of the Diocesan strategy of Growing in God and other diocesan work
- Provide visible leadership for the Lightwave Community and model new ways of working
- Ensure appropriate stakeholders are engaged throughout the work of the Lightwave Community and approve the communication plan
- Track progress against agreed outcomes from the bid using a variety of measures and indicators
- Provide direction and support to the Lightwave Community team in handling risks and resolving issues
- Review any significant changes to the project as it affects the Lightwave Community (e.g. scope, budget), approving or escalating as appropriate – appropriate delegations of authority for changes to be defined.

## How often does the Board meet?

The board meets approximately monthly

## Who is on the Bishop's Mission Order Board at present?

After elections at the latest Annual General Meeting of Lightwave on 5th October 2020 the BMO Board has the following members:

- Bishop's Visitor - Right Rev'd Dr Mike Harrison, Bishop of Dunwich
- Ex-Officio Chair - Ven Canon Sally Gaze, Archdeacon for Rural Mission & Leader of Lightwave Community
- Bishop's Finance Representative – Gary Peverley, Diocesan Finance Director
- Bishop's Ecumenical Appointment - Revd Colin Watkins, Methodist Superintendent Minister for Ely and Newmarket Circuit
- Bishop's Safeguarding Representative – Karen Galloway, Diocesan Safeguarding Advisor
- Elected members of Lightwave Community
  - Sophie Charlton
  - Revd Canon Julia Lall
  - Claire Marshall
  - David Theobald
- Bishop's Appointees involved in planting Fresh Expressions
  - Bob Hamilton
  - Peter Plummer
  - Revd Tiffer Robinson

## How can people be elected to the BMO Board?

Annually members of the Lightwave Community (that is members of all the Lightwave Groups formally enrolled at that time) holds an Annual General Meeting of all such members which is similar to an Annual Parochial Church Meeting. At that meeting the Lightwave Community can elect four members to be members of the BMO Board. In addition to elected members there are a number of members specified by the BMO governing document, including a number of Bishop's appointments, which must include a safeguarding officer,

a finance officer and at least one other appointee who is involved in planting Fresh Expressions of Church.

## Lightwave and Lightwave Hubs (also known as Rural Resourcing Churches)

### What is a Lightwave Hub?

A Lightwave Hub is a fresh expression of Church which also intentionally resources mission across a rural area, by reaching out to those who are not yet part of any church, developing leaders and co-operating with other churches (of all denominations) for mission. It has a vision to be good news for the whole area and to collaborate in God's transforming work in the wider community.

- Wherever a Lightwave Hub is placed, it will have a strong focus on prayer and practical mission for the whole county
- As part of the Lightwave community, it will be a supportive hub for the Lightwave groups in its local area – developing, resourcing and training those groups as needed (see **What is Lightwave?**)
- It will seek critical mass and co-ordination for community projects which bring good news and transform society across rural areas wider than a single benefice.
- It will seek to be a place where younger families, children, youth and younger adults can come together and be enabled for discipleship to grow in the countryside. For example, if local churches or Lightwave Groups can only provide for children through Messy Church or similar once a month, the might seek to fill the gaps for youth-appropriate worship and discipleship on other weeks – bringing together those families who are interested to go deeper from a number of villages to with enough participation for a quality weekly, sustainable programme of discipleship activity which connects people back to their own villages to serve and reach out.
- Lightwave Hubs will develop a distinctive culture and approach to connect with people who do not presently engage regularly with existing rural models of church in the area. The culture grows around the interests and styles of those exploring faith.
- Lightwave Hubs will co-operate and help to promote shared community projects between churches in areas of social need where appropriate, e.g. Meet Up Mondays, Bereavement Care etc.
- The model is based on growth and fruitful rural mission elsewhere especially that of the Fountain of Life in Norfolk and Threshold in Lincolnshire

### How will Lightwave Hubs be led?

Each Lightwave Hub has a full-time appointed leader (who may be lay or ordained) assisted by a Curate once the work is established.

### How are the locations for Lightwave Hubs chosen and how has the Lightwave project engaged and consulted with existing churches and church members across Suffolk?

We will initially develop three Lightwave Hubs whose special focus will be to grow and nurture new disciples especially amongst younger families, children, youth and younger adults in areas where this has been limited in existing forms of church in the area.

In summer 2019 a consultation was started across Suffolk to discern where Lightwave Hubs should be located. Local groups and leaders were invited to gather a small team to listen, talk to local leaders, research, pray and begin to shape the vision, working closely with the Diocese and the Archdeacon for Rural Mission, Sally Gaze.

After this period of missional listening and consultation with churches and leaders several key locations were identified – and the first Lightwave Hub location in the area around Red Lodge, Mildenhall, Suffolk was announced in April 2019. The Lightwave Hub lead for Red Lodge, Diane Grano, was appointed in July 2019 and started in September 2019.

A second Lightwave Hub church is developing in Otley Suffolk, with Ben and Leanne Wale licensed to lead that work on 6<sup>th</sup> November 2020. The third Lightwave Hub location is being finalised and will be announced very shortly.

In all cases we have sought and will continue to ensure that consultation happens locally before plans are agreed or publicised and that there is a constructive dialogue with existing church groups to ensure ideas are not and do not feel imposed.

### **How will each Lightwave Hub engage with the local church and the wider diocese?**

Lightwave Hubs will seek to live out the value of Generosity and Humility

- **Generosity** – Lightwave Hubs will, with appropriate discernment, give away what they have been given (resources, teams, etc are for the building of God’s Kingdom and the mission they have been charged with - not for the building of just their own congregation alone). Lightwave Hubs will work together with bishop, diocese and local churches of all denominations and streams, seeking to work in ways which are complementary to them. (For example, they might support local Messy Church ministries which thrive in small villages and complement them by joining them up with opportunities for weekly exploration of discipleship between Messy Church gatherings.)
- **Audacity** – Lightwave Hubs will need a big vision to capture the imagination of people outside our current congregations and a bold reliance on God to be good news to rural areas and the people who live there
- **Humility** – Lightwave Hubs need to be thoroughly grounded in their local context, committed to listening to others, admitting mistakes, learning as they go and serving.

### **What will a Lightwave Hub provide?**

There is no template for how a Lightwave Hub will operate – each one will be different and will develop their mission through prayer and listening to the Lightwave Groups they are seeking to support, to the local community and to local churches and church leaders. They will provide opportunities for corporate worship, service, and supporting the work of both Lightwave Groups and local churches. For example, they might support local Messy Church ministries which thrive in small villages and complement them by joining them up with opportunities for weekly exploration of discipleship between Messy Church gatherings.

### **Are Lightwave Hub members expected to give to their group?**

One of the objectives of the project is to become self-sustaining over the life of the project (i.e. by end 2024) so that both Lightwave Groups and Lightwave Hubs can continue after that date with funding coming from the group and Lightwave Hub members. The Bishop’s Mission Order enables giving in a tax efficient way with Gift Aid being reclaimed by the BMO adding an extra 25p for every £1 that’s given.

As they develop and grow, Lightwave Hubs will want to raise some of their own funding for ongoing operational costs – but costs for Lightwave Hub lead ministers are covered in their entirety by the central project until the end of 2024. Funding for a curate for each Lightwave Hub is available and centrally funded for a period of 3 years from their appointment. Our hope and prayer is that as Lightwave Hub membership grows and as members start to give each Lightwave Hub will become self-sustaining from the end of 2024.

Lightwave Group costs are likely to be small and it’s intended that any ongoing costs can be met by members or in some cases grants from third party organisation – although funding for Rural Outreach Pioneers and Small Mission Initiatives is available from central project funding.

### **How can people give to a Lightwave Group or Lightwave Hub?**

People can give to Lightwave in just the same way as a Parish Church, through Standing Order, cheque as a one-off gift, through the Parish Giving Scheme and on-line giving at [www.light-wave.org/giving](http://www.light-wave.org/giving). A Guide to Giving to Lightwave is available from the Lightwave Website.

### **Will Lightwave Hubs be expected to contribute Parish Share?**

Over the lifetime of the project (to end 2024) there is no requirement that Lightwave Hubs will contribute to parish share. The model for how the project will be self-sustaining after that date is under active development, and it is anticipated that Lightwave Hubs will be working towards paying an equivalent to parish share.

## Lightwave and Local Benefices

### **How will small, traditional church groups relate to the new Lightwave initiatives?**

Many Lightwave members are also very active members of another church and find that being part of a Lightwave group helps them with the everyday putting faith into practice, while they continue to enter fully into the existing life of their local church. Some Lightwave groups were existing missional groups or fresh expressions of church already operating within their Benefice, which have found the Lightwave ABCDE values and the support Lightwave can offer helpful in developing and living out their missional vision.

### **How do Lightwave groups relate to their local PCCs?**

Lightwave groups can choose whether to relate to a local PCC if operating predominantly in a single Parish or Benefice and many may choose to do that. They can continue to use their existing name and can continue under the jurisdiction of an existing PCC and use existing PCC finance, insurance, safeguarding policies if that's how they operate today – there is no need for any change. All groups gain the benefit of a coach (through Inspiring Ipswich if in Ipswich) and access to Lightwave training. If such groups are rural (< 10,000 population) then they can also access Small Mission Initiative Funding and Rural Outreach Pioneer Funding.

Where a Lightwave group comes under the jurisdiction of the BMO (for example where it facilitates them to operate across several parishes) we would strongly encourage the group and its members to stay involved in their local churches if they already attend, and in all cases to develop good relations with the existing churches in their area and seek to complement the work they are doing.

### **What is being done to ensure genuine growth through new Christians rather than apparent growth through “church transplant”?**

The Strategic Development Funding bid has very specific targets around growing NEW disciples – defined as faith explorers / disciples not engaging in church regularly in 2018 now participating in some form of church at least monthly. This could be a parish church, an fxC or Lightwave Hub. The project is therefore focussed on making NEW disciples and not attracting people from existing churches, and that's the growth we will be very specific in measuring and reporting.

### **How can we promote unity among Christians at a local level?**

There are different ways of doing church – equally valid. This more informal model will appeal to younger generations and others who relate less well to parish churches. Unity is created when all the different ways love, respect and value each other as complementary ways of doing church and mission, each playing their part.

### **Is there a roadmap that pulls plans together along with follow-up phases projects to ensure completion?**

There is a detailed project plan for Lightwave charting the evolution of the project over the next 6 years. Work is already being undertaken to plan for the project and the associated Lightwave Hubs and Lightwave Groups to be self-sustaining by the end of the project at the end of 2024.

### **Will giving to Lightwave divert money away from existing Parish Churches?**

The whole focus of the Lightwave project is to see new disciples come to faith, people who perhaps once were churchgoers and are no longer, or people who have never attended any church. It's also to encourage more active discipleship from existing church members by encouraging them to get involved in mission.

We will seek to encourage these new Christians to give to Lightwave as part of their discipleship. Where existing church members start to get involved in Lightwave, we would encourage giving to Lightwave to be over and above their existing commitment to their Parish Church. Experience suggests that being involved in pioneering mission inspires increased giving.



**Can the Lightwave BMO “override” the PCC if, for example, the PCC disagree with something set-up under the governance of the BMO but located/operating in their parish.**

The BMO Board will make every effort to ensure that such an eventuality never arises through extensive consultation before any decisions are made with respect to a Lightwave Hub, and through discussions with local Incumbents and other church ministers in the case of Lightwave Groups. Overriding a PCC would be a serious matter involving consultation with one of the bishops.

**If Lightwave set up a group/initiative which is funded by the project and comes under the governance of the BMO, at the end of the project when the SDF money ceases, who is then responsible for that initiative – both governance and funding?**

Sustainability is a key focus for the project, so that over the lifetime of the project, giving to the Lightwave Groups and especially to the Lightwave Hubs increases so that central funding is no longer needed. In the second half of the project work will be undertaken around legal and financial frameworks to allow the work of the Bishop’s Mission Order to continue without putting any additional burden on local parishes.

**Can someone be on the electoral roll of both the BMO and the local Parish?**

Yes.