**Futures Group - Questions to congregations**

**Who are we?**

We are a small, lay group from across the Parish, who were asked by the PCC to make recommendations for the future of POTR as we emerge from the pandemic.

We have prayed, thought, discussed and sought outside expertise.

We have also kept in mind the Parish vision – Proclaiming the Risen Jesus, Steadfast in Faith, Active in Service.

Our thinking is focussed on recommendations that are sustainable in terms of the environment, people and finances.

Our time with you today is intended to be an opportunity to capture your thoughts and feedback on our current thinking, which is set out below.

We should emphasise that the summary points below are not recommendations, but are interim thoughts in our development of recommendations, which will be considered by the PCC in the coming weeks - hence the importance of gathering your feedback to help shape the final recommendations.

**Question 1 – POTR in 2025**

**Thinking about who we are and what we do, how would Jesus like to see the community of POTR in 2025?**

**Question 2 - Sunday services & building the church community**

**2a. What sort of worship benefits you in drawing closer to God?**

We are thinking:

1. that POTR will be a welcoming community who know God and who want to share God’s love with each other and our town and villages
2. of POTR as one community, which happens to worship across a number of church buildings
3. that POTR will have a rhythm of service styles & cycles to integrate all members of our POTR church family
4. that there will be a variety of worship styles on Sunday, with the default style being contemporary (accessible language, no robes etc.) but not to the exclusion of the traditional
5. that there will be at least one communion service every Sunday somewhere in the Parish, but there will not be communion in every church building every Sunday
6. that online services across the week will be available
7. leading of services will be a mix of clergy & lay
8. there will be a youth/ family/ children focus within at least one service in the Parish every Sunday

**2b. From the summary above, what encourages you and what concerns you?**

**Question 3 - Weekday offering/ “home” groups**

**3a. Please let us have your thoughts on the following**

We are thinking that:

1. POTR will develop and support a network of groups and activities outside of Sunday worship
2. POTR will encourage the culture of every member of POTR having a “home” group
3. each “home” group is likely to have a different focus but they will all be God-centred

**3b. How else can POTR help you grow in your faith outside Sunday services?**

**Question 4 - Serving the wider community**

**4a. Please let us have your thoughts on the following**

We are thinking that POTR will:

1. encourage our church family to be active in service in the local community
2. create a Community & Outreach Group whose role it will be to develop and publicise a calendar/ programme of activities and events, where desirable in conjunction with other churches.
3. expand its ecumenical partnership with other local churches
4. optimise internal and external information sharing, communication and publicity

**4b. What else should POTR be doing to reach the wider community?**

**Question 5 -** **Is there anything else you would like us to take away from today’s conversation?**