



# The Church in Binley Woods

## DRAFT Guidelines for the Staffing Consultative Group 2017

Thank you for being part our Staffing Consultative Group.

### **Background and composition**

The Church in Binley Woods is constituted as a single congregation Anglican-Baptist Local Ecumenical Partnership, located within the boundaries of the Church of England parish of St Bartholomew, Binley. Our Sponsoring Body is Churches Together in Coventry and Warwickshire (CTCW).

The Staffing Consultative Group consist of the following members:

- A member from the Church of England Coventry Diocese nominated by the Bishop of Coventry
- A member nominated by the Heart of England Baptist Association
- An Anglican or a Baptist representative, nominated by the Sponsoring Body, who may be one of the two denominational nominees
- The incumbent at the Parish Church
- The senior Minister from Meredith Road Baptist Church
- Three members from the LEP

The terms of appointment for the LEP's ministers is based on the usual practices of their denomination, including pension.

### **Appointment Process**

The LEP has gone through an internal process to create a Person Specification and Job Description which you will receive, identifying their understanding of God's priorities for the church and the community of Binley Woods.

The LEP pay their own minister. (There are now no funds or assistance available through the denominations.) The LEP can seek candidates through any route, and there is no constitutional restriction on the denomination or accreditation of the minister. However, in the first instance, the LEP goes through the normal denominational procedures for seeking candidates. You will see separate information on the background of the present candidate.

A Search Team consisting of the LEP Leadership Team and co-opted members chooses candidates for interview. As a result of the interview, the Leadership Team may ask a candidate if they wish to continue in the appointment process to become our next Minister.

The steps that follow are:

1. The candidate gains approval at an interview by the Staffing Consultative Group
2. The candidate "preaches with a view" at a main Sunday service, with further meeting with church members
3. A Church Members' Meeting makes the decision whether to call the candidate as their new Minister
4. The LEP makes the offer to the candidate.

The Staffing Consultative Group (SCG) is an 'extra' for single congregation LEPs, as compared with 'normal' church appointment processes. With your knowledge of the background and process, you are now ready to understand the special role of the SCG and the purpose of step 1 above.

### **The Role of the Staffing Consultative Group (SCG)**

In summary, the role of the SCG is to confirm the acceptability of the candidate to the two partner denominations and the two local partner churches. Will you accept this person as a shared partner in your organisations in the diocese or region?

Each member of the SCG has their own role on behalf of their nominating body, within this shared role:

**Bishop's nominee:** To confirm the candidate as acceptable from the point of view of Church of England's formal processes, such as licensing by the Bishop where appropriate. This is the one role with a formal responsibility, due to the nature of the organisation of the Church of England. It is essentially to commit the Bishop and Diocese to the appropriate formal recognitions required by the processes of the Church of England so there will be no issues with the appointment should the LEP decide to make an offer to the candidate.

**HEBA nominee:** To confirm the candidate as acceptable from a Baptist point of view and suitably open to Baptist values.

**CTCW nominee:** To accept the candidate's openness to the values of 'churches together'.

**Parish Church nominee:** To confirm the candidate as acceptable to work with the LEP as minister in the Binley Woods area of the parish according to agreed practice.

**Meredith Road nominee:** To confirm the candidate as acceptable as minister of a church with a long-standing relationship of friendship and support.

**LEP members:** *This section will briefly describe the three members chosen by the church. All will be able to give the non-LEP members insights into, and make the case for the LEP's vision for their new minister.*

The denominational nominees on the SCG have ongoing roles which include a pastoral relationship with clergy and ministers in their region, including the minister of the Church in Binley Woods. The other SCG members also have ongoing relationships with the church. Therefore all may have other valuable insights to give as a result of the interview, for the consideration of the church and candidate.