

4) DEVELOPMENT OF MINISTRY IN THE GREATER DIDCOT GARDEN TOWN AREA, BOTH FINANCIALLY AND STRUCTURALLY

The SODC website states that, “Didcot was first designated as a growth area in 1979 and has been developing ever since. In 2015 the town was awarded Garden Town status ..”. Its population is expected to grow from 15,000 in 1981 to 62,000 in 2031.

This degree of growth requires special focus if we are to meet the needs of, potentially, very diverse demographic communities in the current and new areas of the wider Didcot.

In September 2019, Revd Dr Andy Lord was appointed as a Bishop’s Advisor on Mission to the area of the Designated Didcot Garden Town. His brief is to look at the wider issues and produce a report on the opportunities the Garden Town presents for mission and ministry.

This report has recently been produced as we look forward across Greater Didcot, following on from discussions with clergy and PCCs.

Next steps:

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- growing town over time on forms of partnership that might best enable creative mission and ministry across the growing town
 - plan sustainable finances for the future
 - nurture missional spirituality

WALLINGFORD DEANERY



This plan has been created by representatives of the parishes of:

- Aston Tirrold & Aston Upton
- Blewbury
- Brightwell cum Sotwell
- Chilton
- Cholesey
- Crowmarsh Gifford
- Didcot
- Hagbourne
- Harwell
- North Moreton
- Moulsoford
- South Moreton
- Wallingford
- Upton

We are additionally grateful for all who have widened our experiences and approaches.

AREA DEAN :

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WALLINGFORD DEANERY

Mission Action Plan 2021 - 2026



**BUILDING ON OUR
STRENGTHS**

*Help us to discern
all that you are calling
us to be and all that you
are calling us to do.*

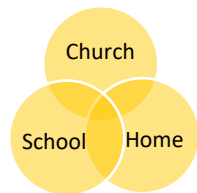
1) DEVELOPMENT OF MINISTRY TO CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE AND FAMILIES

We believe that:

- young people are an intrinsic part of our Deanery and parishes
- we need to provide ways of reaching the children & young people who have no 'direct' contact with the Christian faith or with our churches

We will:

- encourage and establish the Disciples Together initiative across the deanery, identifying and working with our "Partners of Peace"



- promote the work of the Greater Didcot Christian Children and Youth Work Trust and Wallingford Parenting for Faith course
- expand the network of Children & Families workers and Youth Ministry workers beyond the Trust to embrace others across the deanery to enable the sharing of information, ideas & resources

2) DEVELOPMENT OF APPROPRIATE PATTERNS OF WORSHIP

We believe that:

- individual churches are likely to worship in a way that suits the majority of their attendees the majority of the time
- the Deanery looks for ways to explore worship in different formats, including in-person and online
- existing venues could be used for less traditional purposes, in order to encourage others to explore/understand them.

We will:

- work out a sustainable way of praying regularly for each other in the deanery, as everything we do is underpinned by prayer and worship, enabling us to build relationships and links at a deeper level
- create a programme of Pilgrim Path walks throughout the Deanery, connecting churches within benefices, and beyond, each year, building in acts of worship
- consider the idea of a Deanery Eucharist or Deanery Evensong once per year, possibly preceded by bellringers from across the deanery
- create a network to learn from each other; to include experiences gained through online worship & study groups etc

3) DEVELOPING OUR OUTREACH TO NEW AND SETTLED COMMUNITIES

We believe that:

- we need to build relationships, including welcoming strangers
- we need to advertise the uniqueness of what we offer, particularly at key moments in community life;
- we need to increase the visibility of our buildings and organisations, and move across boundaries which cause difficulties for those who do not understand them

We will:

- set up a forum to capture existing and potential ways of welcoming newcomers and other 'strangers' to services and activities; in order to learn from each other and share resources
- work collaboratively across the deanery where possible and pray for other projects within the deanery
- promote the 'Pilgrim Paths' programme in order to reach the wider community or non-church-goers; first full programme of walks in 2022