

# DIOCESAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE

for the Care of Churches

## MISSION STATEMENT

1. The purpose of the DAC is to act as an advisory body in accordance with the current Care of Churches and Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction Measure on matters affecting places of worship in the diocese, and in particular to give advice when requested relating to:
  - a. the grant of faculties;
  - b. the architecture, archaeology, art and history of places of worship;
  - c. the use, care, planning, design, and redundancy of places of worship;
  - d. the use and care of the contents of such places;
  - e. the use and care of churchyards and burial grounds.
2. Church Buildings are:
  - a. a timeless witness to the Church's faith, and influence 'communities' as well as 'congregations';
  - b. a local centre for worship and mission.
3. The care and conservation of Church Buildings are often a challenge: the DAC is to support the local carers in all possible ways by:
  - a. assisting in meeting the needs of the worshipping community;
  - b. being mindful of conservation issues;
  - c. offering ideas to develop the use of the buildings and their use for worship and mission;
  - d. assisting congregations to build contacts with the local community in the use of church buildings;
  - e. exploring the use of church buildings by other Christian Churches;
  - f. encouraging the appreciation and care of churchyards and burial grounds and the care of contents of churches.
4. The DAC is / should be a channel for information and advice on technical matters, best practice, etc and to these ends is:
  - a. to offer training and briefing to church officers, and all those concerned with the care and conservation of church buildings;
  - b. to maintain regular contact with all diocesan bodies and agencies, as appropriate, in particular the Church Buildings Strategy Committee and to provide regular reports to the Bishop's Council, the Diocesan Synod and the Diocese at large;
  - c. to foster links with relevant professional bodies (by regular conferences and seminars) and with local planning authorities and national amenity bodies;
  - d. to continually keep under review its methods of working and use of resources to seek best efficiency and economy.
5. The provisions of this Statement should be reviewed during the life of each Diocesan Synod.

24 March 2010