

# Planning for Mission in New Housing Areas

By the staff of the Strategy and Development Unit, Archbishops' Council and Church Commissioners

# Introduction

The Archbishops' Council and Church Commissioners made £7.25 million available in 2008-10 to support the Church's mission in new housing and other development areas. The funding was shared between 15 dioceses.

One of the projects supported by the funding programme is the post of Community Link Worker on the Cheswick Village new housing development in the parish of St Michael, Stoke Gifford (Bristol diocese). The Community Link Worker is on the staff team of St Michael's church and plays a key role in the church's outreach to Cheswick Village.

# **Vision**

St Michael's church's vision for its ministry to Cheswick Village is to form '...a new congregation of St Michael's Church on Cheswick by making disciples, sharing the good news of Jesus and demonstrating God's love by serving the local community.'

The church's aim is to plant a congregation in the new school which is at the heart of the Cheswick Village development.

# **Planning**

St Michael's church has found it helpful to plan out the key steps that it needs to take to turn its vision into reality.

The Revd Jimmy Rocks, Pioneer Minister at Michael's, says that putting the plan together has strengthened the congregation's ownership of the church's vision to serve Cheswick Village and has helped to release people's energies and gifts.

The church has kindly agreed to share its plan with Bulletin readers<sup>2</sup> - please see overleaf. It is hoped that others who are seeking to engage with new housing development areas will find the plan helpful as a stimulus to their own thinking and planning.

# **Further information**

For further information, please contact the Revd Jimmy Rocks, Pioneer Minister at St Michael's church, Stoke Gifford (<a href="mailto:jimmy@stmichaelsbristol.org">jimmy@stmichaelsbristol.org</a>).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The plan is based on a template provided by St Mellitus College on its church planting course <a href="http://www.stmellitus.org/church-planting-course">http://www.stmellitus.org/church-planting-course</a>



The findings of an external evaluation of the use of date of this funding programme can be found at <a href="http://www.churchgrowthrd.org.uk/news/30">http://www.churchgrowthrd.org.uk/news/30</a>

VISION: 'forming a new congregation of St Michael's Church on Cheswick by making disciples, sharing the good news of Jesus and demonstrating God's love by serving the local community.'

Making Disciples

Outreach

Serving the Community

Commit to following Jesus' way of life and mission

Share the good news of Christ making more disciples

Demonstrate the love of God in practical ways

# **CHALLENGES**

- Not over committing St Michael's Gathering enough team and having the right
  - gifts and skills having the space
  - Good relationship with residents
  - Not promising roles too much in advance

# **MITIGATION**

O Stress that we are still very much part of St Michael's Church and it's vision

Create a good case for planting

O Share vision

 Maintain good relationships and communication with community partners (Local Council, school, Care Home, Residents groups)

Vision Casting

Community

·Vision refresh in Sept

•Gear up for students

leader-led Initiatives

Increase presence at

community space

We will grow numerically by

community space, cafe, pubs

etc when they are delivered.

•Engage with Council about

# Preparation



# Jan - September 2014

Prayer

launch

Research

**Finance** 

•Resume prayer walking

.Continue you to research

·Needs in the community

Agree costs of building hire

Agree budget stream with St

•Keep the Diocese informed

·Play our part in wider church

·Agree block booking and start

planting conversation in the

about developments

date with the school

•Train in prayer ministry

habits of residents

with the school

Build a budget

Michael's

Diocese

Diocese

Training

Venue

·Apply for grants

·Focused prayer meetings for

# Team

Establish Team priorities 1.Families / children / School 2.Worship Leader

3.Organiser/administrator/finan

Form Leadership 3-5 people

### Outreach ·Establish missional habits

•Plan Mum's & Toddlers + Crafts - Recruit team and

launch. ·More social events for residents to build relationships Consider door to door

# (community survey) Initiate & multiply simple

church groups ·simple church/life group

### Run an Alpha

 Day time course for mums and toddlers grp

### Vision Casting & Publicity

•Pitch to St Michael's

•Make a video

·Call for planters ·Plans available to

congregation

•Invites to Monthly Bring and

Share

·Vision night open to St Michael's. Pitch to student group

# Welcoming Evangelism **Team Retreat day**

# **Publicity & Marketing**

Create logo

prayer on site

·Make a Facebook page and

·Get some banners done

Rehearsal & Dry run and

# Launch

# October 2014

**Publicity** ·Leaflet drop the estate and Stoke Park (neighbouring estate) 2 weeks before and just before. (professionally done)

 Make a Facebook event ·Launch Cheswick page on St Michael's Website

 Local press re "church plant" ·Alpha at the school Community event barn dance at the school

## Steps to growth

•Build momentum with monthly gatherings and simple

Personal invite to all those on the database

# Parent/Sending Church

 Sunday commissioning · Profile and share testimonies

Regular email updates

# **New Congregation**

· Purchase PA equipment

**Food and Drink** 

# Follow up Welcome back/form

# Music in the background

Children's work provision

Set up Team (agree installation of PA system with school)

### First 100 Days Years 1 & 2



# October 2014 - Xmas 2014

·For me to set tone and vision and model our churches values

Administrative support

 Dedicated worship leader •Train up Life Group leaders, preachers and

congregation leaders ·Work with successor

### Finance

·Appeal for regular giving to the Cheswick budget via St Michael's general fund.

# Leadership team

•First meeting - review and plan ahead

### Services

 Contemporary worship service with children's provision

·Serve refreshments (coffee, donuts, melon) at the beginning and end of the service ·Have regular bring and share lunches

### Praver

•Pray for Cheswick in St Michael's mid-week prayer meetings

# Encourage people to play their part •Gifts/talents survey of congregation

# Discipleship

·Stress the importance of life groups encourage people to join one

### Building

· Maintain good communication with the school & other community players

# We will grow numerically by being missional and attractional

 Running Community events Train congregation in evangelism

·Encourage a missional life style •Run Alpha courses (train leaders)

·Ensure high quality worship, children's work and teaching)

Continue community outreach events



# Jan 2015- 2017

### Develop leadership team •Develop children's work team

 Develop worship teams •Develop Leaders (tie in with

local growing leaders course) •Take on an intern

### Services Community Carol Service

Finance

 Setting budgets for building and on going cost with St Michael's DCC.

Staff

Staff ·Hand over to new congregation leader/curate

Youth ·Establish youth team and

weekly youth meeting •Weekly event for non-church youth

•Recruit curate who wants to plant

# Sept 2017-2019

### Plant again •2016

We will grow numerically by improving quality of programmes and missionary mentality from congregation

Plant again on Harry Stoke ·Form a team with St Michael's Church 2016

Years 1 & 2







Launch







