

# ASSOCIATION OF FESTIVAL CHURCHES



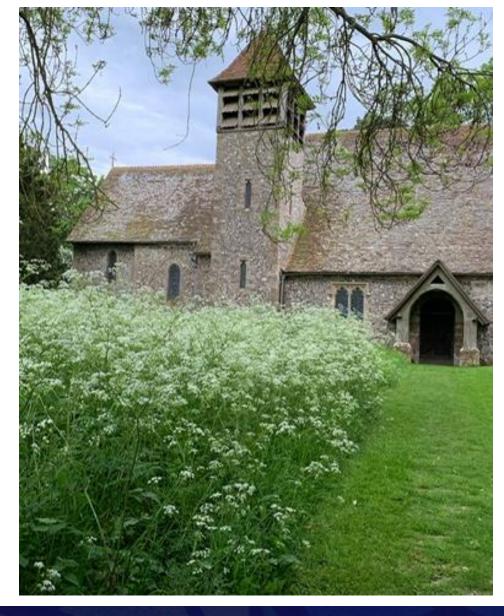
# Festival Churches

Nigel Mills



### **Aims**

- Say Hello!
- Give you some food for thought
- Introduce the Association
- Stimulate the difficult questions
- Remind you of some resources



## What is a Festival Church?

- Church Building Review 2015
- Recommended in the Taylor Review
- Amendments to Canons BII, BI4 and B39
- Church of England's vision of a mixed ecology
- Not an official "designation"



# A way of "Doing Church"

 Doing less formal worship - but doing it better

• Enabling more people to be actively involved in the management of the church





### **Characteristics**

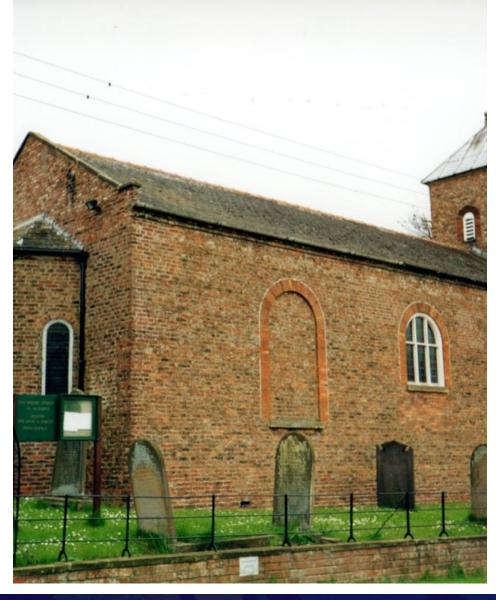
- Festival Churches are local
- Festival Churches are a positive choice
- Festival Churches are creative
- Festival Churches are part of growth





# St Mary, East Cottingwith

- Awarded Festival Status in 2021
- Managed by Joint Council
- Festivals well attended
- More people looking after the building
- Income increased
- Better placed to tackle the issues





# St Mary, Longsleddale

- Small Church in a dead end valley
- Existing PCC wanted to close the church
- 12 month fallow period
- Joint PCC
- Friends Group
- Financially sustainable





### The Process

- Discuss in your PCC and with Archdeacon
- Consult with the community
- Pass a PCC resolution
- Inform the Bishop and/or DAC
- Celebrate, implement change and be creative!



# **Summary of Benefits**

- Wider responsibility for the building
- Still visibly operates as a church
- Remains open for "life events"
- Focuses on fewer special events
- Still eligible for public funding





# The Association

- Promoting the Festival Church Model
- Producing resources and case studies
- Providing direct support
- Organising and delivering training
- Anything else you can think of!





### **General Information**

#### The Association of Festival Churches

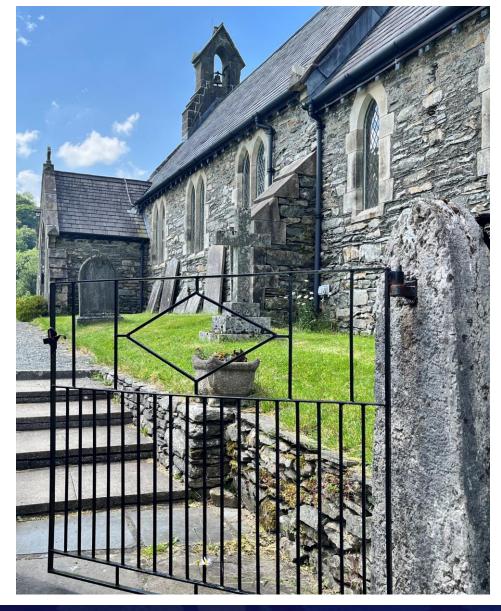
www.festivalchurches.org.uk

#### The Church of England

https://www.churchofengland.org/resources/diocesan-resources/strategic-planning-church-buildings/festival-churches

#### The Diocese of Ely

https://www.elydiocese.org/outcomes-and-documentation.php









### Resources

#### The National Churches Trust

https://www.nationalchurchestrust.org/get-support/grants

#### The Benefact Trust

https://benefacttrust.co.uk/

#### The National Lottery Heritage Fund

https://www.heritagefund.org.uk/

#### **Crossing The Threshold**

<u>https://www.hereford.anglican.org/parish-support/community-partnership/crossing-the-threshold-toolkit/</u>









# **Keep in Touch!**

### **Nigel Mills**

Festival Churches Development Officer

E: nigel.mills@festivalchurches.org.uk

T: 0740 5919376

W: www.festivalchurches.org.uk

I'm also around all day!



