

CHURCH and COMMUNITY SURVEY 2011 – Elstow Abbey

Every few years it is important for the PCC to reassess where we are as a church and our vision for the future. To do this effectively we want to harvest the thoughts and opinions of everyone involved in the life of our church. This questionnaire is a way for you to help us in this process and to have your say about the way forward. Please take a few minutes to answer each section. There are no 'right' and 'wrong' answers. **What will help us most will be your honest opinion.** The survey can be completely anonymous, if you would prefer. Thank you, Elstow Abbey Parochial Church Council.

Please return in an envelope addressed to Philip Bettles, 5 Bayham Close, Abbeyfields, Elstow

Please tick boxes as appropriate **Gender:** Male Female

Age: 0-10 yrs 11-18 18-30 31-45 46-60 61-70 71+

Nationality: Ethnicity: White Black/Black British Mixed Asian/Asian British Other

First Language(s): English other

Marital Status: Single Engaged Married Divorced Widowed Remarried

Do you have children? Yes No How many are under 18?

Do you consider Elstow Abbey to be your home church? Yes No

If YES how often do you come to services at Elstow?

3+ times a month 1-2 times a month few times a year 1-2 times a year

Which service(s) do you usually attend? (Tick 1 or more)

10.00am (Sun) 11.15am (Sun) 6.30 pm (Sun) Other _____

How many years have you been attending Elstow? <1 1-2 yrs 3-5yrs 6-10 yrs 11-20 yrs >20 yrs **If NO Is this your first visit?** Yes No _____

How would you describe your faith?

Committed Christian Exploring Christianity Atheist Other

If you consider yourself a committed Christian, how long have you been one?

Less than 1 Year 1-2 yrs 3-5 yrs 6-10 yrs 11-20 yrs 20+ years

What was your first contact with Elstow Abbey? (Tick only 1 box)

Sunday Service Alpha Youth/Children's Group Toddler group Outreach Other; _____

What keeps you coming to Elstow? (Place in priority 1-10, where 1= most important)

Style of Worship Friendship Pastoral Care Youth/Children's Work Prayer Ministry

Sermons Home Groups Closeness to home Opportunity for Outreach Other _____

For all the questions in this section, place in priority 1, 2, 3 etc., where 1= most important.

What has helped you grow in your faith? Prayer (on your own) Prayer (with others)

Bible Reading Bible Teaching Home Group Conferences/Retreats Books

Courses (e.g. Alpha) Helping in church Sharing your faith Other (please state) _____

In what areas of your Christian life do you feel you need to grow? Praying for Others

Listening to God Bible Reading Giving Telling others about your faith Other _____

Helping others grow in faith Serving Answering non-believer's questions re: Christianity

How does your Christian faith impact upon those around you? (E.g. work colleagues, family, and friends) By speaking about God By serving & caring for them By answers to prayers for them By my character By doing my job well Other _____

Do you attend any small church groups? Yes No **If YES, how often** Almost always Most times Occasionally **If NO, Would you like to join one?** Yes No

Which day and what time would suit you best? (Tick only 1 day & 1 time)

Day: Mon Tues Wed Thursday Friday Sat Sun Any day

Time: 8am – 10am 10am–12pm 12-2 pm 2-4 pm 4-6 pm 6-8pm 8-10 pm

Have you made friends at Elstow Abbey? Yes No **If YES, can you describe them?**

Many close friends A few close friends Many acquaintances A few acquaintances

Are there groups or age groups that are not well catered for at Elstow? If YES, which? _____

What is the purpose of church? (Place in order of priority 1-7, where 1 = most important.)

Spiritual Growth Make friendships Improve society Worship God Help others

A better quality of life Other _____

Is there anything that you would like to see happen or change at Elstow especially when the new Church Hall goes ahead? Yes No **If YES, what?** _____

1. How long have you lived in Elstow or the area? _____ **How long in this house?** _____

2. What do you like about living here? 3. How well do you know your neighbours? [E.g. wave to, talk to, know name, socialise with] Know all, well Know some well Know a few by name Don't know any

LOCAL ISSUES: 4. Which areas do you feel are concerns for the local community? Crime Loneliness Drugs Debt Unemployment Housing Health provision Poor Transport Lack of activities/Facilities for: Elderly Toddlers & Young Disabled Other: _

5. What THREE things would you most like to see happen or change in Elstow?

1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____

6. Would you like to know more about the activities at Elstow Abbey? Yes No

If YES, please complete below: a: What would be the best way for you to receive news about events? (i) Notice boards, (ii) website, (iii) Leaflet through door, (iv) phone call, (v) email

Contact details: NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE NUMBER: **EMAIL ADDRESS:**

Parenting Support course Yes No Marriage Enrichment Course Yes No

•Language support Yes No Help with handling money or debt. Yes No

•Social contact and visiting Yes No Other _____

7. How involved should Elstow Abbey Church be in the local community? _____

8. If the local church could bring one change to this area, what would you want it to be?

9. Are there any specific issues that the Church should speak out about in Elstow and surrounding areas? _____

Thank you so much for completing this survey.