

## **Vicar's Report for The Point AGM 22 October 2020**

### **Review of ministry/events since last AGM (April 2019)**

The last 18 months can be clearly divided into two halves: before and after Covid-19. Because of the pandemic our AGM has been delayed by 7 months and so much of our ministry has had to be "re-imagined". However, it has been a very creative and dynamic season (both before and after lockdown). This report will outline and summarize our activities and the impact that been made in many lives.

### **MISSION and EVANGELISM**

#### **Alpha**

5 Alpha courses have taken place since April 2019 with a total of 73 people attending, 29 of which have made a personal commitment to follow Jesus and join the church, many others have been challenged and encouraged to grow in their faith. Our Curate, Simon Shorey, has done an excellent job overseeing Alpha and the teams hosting and running the courses. The shift to running the course online went very smoothly with over 20 people completing the summer 2020 course on Zoom.

Plans for a course in Burgess Hill and a daytime course in Haywards Heath are on hold until Covid restrictions allow us to meet, but teams and locations are agreed.

#### **Baptisms**

It has been a great joy to celebrate the transforming work of the Holy Spirit in people's lives at 3 special Baptism services. All the candidates shared amazing testimonies of God's work in their lives and are continuing to grow in their faith and use their gifts in the life of The Point.

April 2019 - Sian Ackers, Hannah Styles, Phil Cross, Jasmine Patel

Oct 2019 – Josh, Lucy, Oscar, Ava Winter, Tina Gott

Sept 2020 – Alice Haynes, Kerie Benson-McLellan

#### **Kenya**

With Erin Butler, Simon also led the Kenya mission trip in August 2019. 16 people flew to Nairobi, Kenya to support the work of our Mission Partner, the Centre for Urban Mission and YWAM Athi River. The team were involved in serving on various projects in the informal settlements in Nairobi and working with YWAM doing practical maintenance and caring for those with disabilities. Here are some comments from team members:

Lucy Griffiths: "I saw God move amongst our team - we all faced some challenging moments and times where we were pushed further out of our comfort zones than we would have liked. But God strengthened us and the team encouraged one another to push on and continue with His work...Kenya was a life changing experience for me."

Margaret Kay: "While we were not able to change the circumstances of the people we visited, we were able to remind them of their value."

Simon Peter, CUM Director: "We were humbled by your visit and choosing to be with us for the few days that you were with us. On behalf of Mercy, Dan and Bishop Meshack, plus all the community leaders that you met, we are truly grateful that you chose to spend time with us."

#### **Children, Families, Youth and Schools**

The Point continues to be very active in evangelism and outreach among children, young people and families (see separate section on Youth and Kids). Liz Styles and Michael Holt head up these ministries (as well as our church groups) leading a strong team of volunteers, regularly visiting

local schools, running the Sanctuary parent and toddler group for over 90 local families and helping with local authority youth groups. Sian Ackers, our intern from September 2019 has also contributed a great deal.

### **The Melting Pot Café**

After a prolonged period where the Court Bushes Club building, on the Willow Way estate in Hurstpierpoint, was closed and under refurbishment, the Melting Pot reopened with a new team of volunteers from several local churches, co-ordinated by The Point, for the local community in August 2019. It was growing and attracting more people, working closely with our local charity Hope, until enforced closure in March 2020 due to Covid. We hope to reopen in 2021 as soon as restrictions allow.

### **Mission Partners**

The Kenya trip strengthened our links with the Centre for Urban Mission where we continue to fund vocational training placements for young people from the slum areas of Nairobi. We have also held regular updates and offerings for our other Mission Partners:

- Off The Fence, a number of Point members, including the Vicar! Took part in the Off The Fence sleepout in Brighton in November 2019.
- Hope, we continue to support Naomi McBain in various local projects and groups especially the new Hope drop in which recently opened at the Salt Works Café on the New England estate in Haywards Heath.
- Befriended, around 40 lonely and isolated people in Mid Sussex are now being visited by local Christians as part of the Befriended visiting scheme. A new telephone Befriending service was launched in lockdown. We have also been heavily involved in the Christmas Lunch, Silver Sunday Cream teas (which was delivered at a “cream tea in a box” during lockdown!) and the summer Befriended lunch.
- Hope House Haiti, Yvrose visited again in summer 2019. She was a great encouragement to us speaking at Sunday services and the Alpha Course. The school, church and community continues to flourish in Haiti but it has been a very challenging 18 months. Yvrose’s health has been very poor (she suffered a diabetic stroke in early 2020 and received treatment in the USA) and the political situation is very unstable and it has not been possible for any groups to visit Hope House from the UK.
- Sam Leighton, Sam’s ministry with Corouso (part of YWAM) in Germany and Brazil continues to develop. Sam has visited The Point 3 times since April 2019 and is maintaining a strong relationship with the church. Emily Taylor and his brother Ben attended the 4 week mission school Sam is involved with in Brazil in 2019 and 2020 respectively. A group from The Point joined Sam and Daniella for their wedding in Germany in August 2020.
- Abbie Barnes, Abbie recently had to return from South Korea due to visa restrictions/Covid but is continuing with YWAM and plans to return to Korea as soon as she is allowed.

### **GENEROSITY**

We have held several appeals for our mission partners over the last year, all of which have been very generously supported. At the beginning of lockdown we appealed for financial support for those in financial need because of the pandemic. We raised over £14,000 – an amazing response. Nearly all this money has now been distributed to families in need. (See the Finance Report and/or the Church Accounts for full information on finances).

### **SUNDAY SERVICES**

Our 10.30am Sunday gathering continues to be our main gathering with a stable attendance of around 200-250. Our preaching themes have covered our identity as a church and disciples of Christ (in the build up to our 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary weekend in October 2019), Paul’s Letter to the Philippians, the person and work of the Holy Spirit, How to Pray (Lent 2020), Heroes of the Faith (Summer 2020) and John Mark Comer’s book on spiritual disciplines, The Ruthless Elimination of

Hurry (Autumn 2020). Our Youth and Children's ministry continues to thrive under the leadership of Michael Holt and Liz Styles respectively (Michael took over from Ben Leighton at Youth Pastor in September 2019. Ben is now training to be a Vicar). (See separate section on Kids and Youth).

### **Church Re-imagined**

When the country went into "lockdown" at the end of March 2020 due to Covid-19, we, like every other church, had to rethink everything we do, especially Sunday services. After experimenting with Facebook Live for a week or two, we purchased the Wirecast software package and moved to presenting a "Livestream YouTube" service every Sunday since 29 March 2019. The software allows the service to be hosted live usually by one of our ordained members of staff at home with our wives. Each element (songs, preaching, interviews, Faith at a Distance, Raccoon Man! etc) has been pre-recorded and the hosts can introduce and link each section and lead prayer ministry/response time as appropriate. It has worked well, in large part thanks to our superb tech team of Matt Freestone, Mark Steel and Cameron McBain, who have "directed" our services and created much of the video material that has been such an encouragement to our church family. We now have 297 subscribers to our Youtube channel, a good number of people invite friends to watch the service with them on a Sunday morning. Our typical peak viewing numbers on a Sunday morning are between 80-90 and a good number watch the service on YouTube later in the week. We are also

Since September 2019 we have been holding a weekly service of Holy Communion in the chapel at St Paul's with a small but consistent congregation. This has proved an excellent place to encourage and develop new preachers. Through the summer of 2020 we held a Wednesday midday Zoom Communion.

Our evening service, "The Point at Six" at the Emmanuel Centre in Ditchling, provides a much more intimate and unhurried space for worship, teaching and Holy Spirit ministry. The preaching has followed these themes:

Summer 2019 - Strong Foundations

Autumn 2019 - Tools for the Trade (Alpha Course)

Spring 2020 - Proverbs: Wisdom for the Whole of Life

The team reduced significantly during Spring 2020, for good reasons, and new people stepped up to join the team and the service continued to attract about 20 people. TP6 stopped when lockdown started to encourage all members to join 10:30 Livestream together. We hope to restart in 2021 when restrictions allow.

Church in a Pub continued at The Woolpack in Burgess Hill. We held 5 services during 2019/20 before lockdown.

Our worship team continue to lead us wonderfully well. Stuart Barbour, our Worship Pastor writes: "Lockdown has very much changed what the worship team does. Before lockdown there were 38 people involved in some way or other in the team, playing, singing, operating the pa, running the computer etc so it was a big team with a lot of interaction. Lockdown has made it difficult for us all to keep connected but we are gradually working out ways of trying to get people involved again. Producing the recordings and videos every week has been a steep learning curve but something we are really enjoying and trying to evolve bit by bit. One highlight was our first choir song together - He Is Lord - which took forever to both record the audio and then edit the video. Of course, now we are doing this regularly (and quicker) but that was a good moment. I'm not sure what church is going to look like in 2021, I am very much appreciating our online service and feel very committed to that. The next step is how to facilitate real interaction with one another which will probably mean thinking outside of the box and praying for wisdom. I don't know what's ahead but I know it's not a surprise to God!"

## **SAFEGUARDING (see separate Safeguarding Report)**

Safeguarding continues to be a priority at The Point. We are very grateful to Sarah Emmanuel as she continues to do an excellent job as our Safeguarding Officer. Sarah leads our Safeguarding Team comprising herself, the Vicar, Associate Vicar, Katy Trigg (Safeguarding Trustee), Liz Styles (Children's Pastor), Michael Holt (Youth Pastor) and Ellie Zaragoza. This team ensures that our training, safer recruitment, record keeping, policies and procedures are all up to date. Sarah is introduced to the church regularly as the person to contact with any concerns (or anyone else on the team), and her details are clearly displayed on our Welcome Desk and the church website. We held our annual NSPCC P.A.N.T.S presentation (helping children to keep themselves safe) on Sunday mornings in May 2019 and June 2020. The Vicar and the Associate Vicar recently completed the Church of England level C2 Safeguarding training with the diocese.

## **MID-WEEK COURSES AND SMALL GROUPS**

As well as Alpha, there have been several other excellent mid-week courses this year:

Under the leadership of Simon and Kim Poole (and more recently Simon Shorey) The Bible Course has been run 3 times since April 2019. This is an 8-week course written by The Bible Society to help people grow in knowledge and confidence with the Bible. It has been used as a follow-up after Alpha (which is open to others) for the last few years:

Autumn Term 2019 - 10 people completed the course

Spring Term 2020 - 8 people completed the course

With lockdown and social restrictions, we decided to encourage church members to join the Autumn Term 2020 course online using Zoom. This course is currently in progress (15th Sept - 3rd Nov 2020) with 78 people across the church completing the course with very positive feedback. Not only are people growing in their understanding of the Bible, but using the Zoom platform has helped people feel connected with people across the church which the country has been moving back into lockdown.

John Naude ran the Emotionally Healthy Spirituality course, Summer 2019, for a group of about 12 people. This is aimed at going deeper and helping people grow in emotional maturity and faith. It was challenging but very well received and we hope to run the course again in 2021.

Liz Styles ran the Parenting for Faith course in Autumn 2019 for a group of parents helping them to grow in sharing their own relationship with God with their children. Feedback for this course was excellent and we aim to run it again in 2021.

We held 4 Leadership Evenings in the Spring of 2020 (the last of which had to be postponed due to lockdown) led by Will Kemp, Archie Coates, Mike Pilavachi and Jim and Dom Partridge. This series was aimed at reinvigorating our mid week small groups. The sessions were well attended and a good sense of fresh vision for groups that grow and multiply was shared. However, lockdown has made it difficult to follow through on this. In April 2020 we worked hard to ensure that everyone who wanted to be was connected with a Small Group for support and connection while we cannot meet together on Sundays. Two new small groups were formed making a total of 12. This worked well and over 90% of the adult membership of the church are now connected to a small group. But it has been hard to keep the momentum going with groups having to meet on Zoom or in max of 6 people. Some groups are too large and attendance is poor. One group has closed. There are plans to multiply at least one group at the beginning of 2021.

We have also strengthened the Pastoral Care team since lockdown. John Naude formed a team of 8 people who have contacted those considered vulnerable or isolated throughout lockdown. John, with the help of James Allen, has also coordinated the prayer team offering zoom prayer after online services or telephone appointments.

## **PRAYER**

Thy Kingdom Come 24/7 prayer week and Pentecost gathering took place in May 2019 and 2020 (online/at home). Musicians from The Point led worship for the 2019 Pentecost Celebration at the Brighton Dome Thy Kingdom Come flagship event.

Sadly, the South Downs Awakening prayer event planned for June 2020 had to be greatly restricted, but a few groups did still prayer walk sections of the Downs.

We launched Point People's Prayer at the start of Covid-19 lockdown. 60 Point people wrote prayers that were sent to all church members every day, except Sundays. We applied the teaching from Lent 2020 to structure our prayers: Pause, Rejoice, Ask, Yield. PPP ran for 138 days, from Monday 23rd March to Wednesday 2nd September, and encouraged many people during the opening months of Covid-19.

Point People's Prayer Day: "If My People . . ." took place on Sunday 20 September and comprised morning and evening zoom prayer meetings, and an excellent outdoor, Covid secure, walk through prayer experience for all the family in the afternoon. This took place in a field near Ditchling kindly lent to us by the Turner family – it was an excellent event, there was much prayer and really good connection by those who had been separated due to Covid for many weeks.

## **THE POINT WEEKEND AWAY 2019**

TPWA 2019, in October 2019, was a huge highlight as it also became our 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations. We welcomed Mark and Lindsay Melliush as our guest speakers for the adults. Many old friends of The Point joined us on the Friday night with Bill Ding and the Skyscrapers for a big celebration. We enjoyed "15 Word Testimonies", messages of encouragement from many of those whom we have sent out into leadership roles over the years and a full youth and kids programme for the whole weekend. It was fitting to hold a baptism service in the middle of the weekend and witness how lives are still being transformed by Jesus through the ministry of The Point.

## **YOUTH, KIDS, FAMILIES AND SCHOOLS**

We have continued to run a full youth and kids programme every Sunday morning for ages 0-18. Before lockdown this was delivered in person as part of our Sunday morning gathering (including a fabulous full Youth and Kids programme at The Point Weekend Away in October 2019). Since April 2020 the full programme has moved online but continued to be very effective (Youth on Zoom with Michael and the team, Kids have had a special weekly youtube video specifically created for Point Kids by Liz Styles and her team). Before lockdown Michael and Liz were visiting several local schools for lessons, assemblies and lunchtime clubs on a regular basis. Although school visits have had to stop, we are still supporting schools through video ministry, contact with head teachers and mentoring young people where possible.

Highlights from Point Kids over the last 18 months include:

- 'bring a friend' outreaches as part of our Sunday ministry.
- kids growing in faith through our Sunday morning church services and kids sessions.
- The Sanctuary parent and toddler group seeing over 90 families involved of whom 95% are non-Christian/non-church families and through this reaching out beyond the church family into our wider community. Since lockdown, The Sanctuary has moved Online - Almost immediately we started running an online song & story time to continue our outreach to families with young children. It's been lovely to keep connected with families inner wider community. The team are available to chat with parents & carers during these live sessions. We took a break for the summer holidays, but these sessions have restarted for the new term. We also ran the Sanctuary walk through event in October which attracted over 30 families and was for many the only event they had attended since lockdown.

- It's been incredible to see new families coming to faith and discovering Jesus over the last 18 months
- Schools ministry growing in impact in 4 local schools reaching over 450 children regularly with Assemblies, Bible stories and RE lessons (our prayer spaces were postponed due to Covid!).

Since lockdown, Sunday Kids Online has been a big challenge but one we have risen to. We have produced over 25 online Sunday sessions for kids as well as special videos for Thy Kingdom Come and other special events. It's a very different style of ministry, but the same truth - Jesus is our Saviour we are loved by the Father. We can know God and be filled by the Holy Spirit to live His way!

Schools Ministry - Primary - Our schools ministry was very quiet for the last term, but the new school year (Autumn 2020) has created some interesting new opportunities. We are producing online content for schools to use in assemblies and lessons. This year 4 local schools asked for Harvest Festival assemblies they could show in school!

Pre-Schoolers - Our pre-school packs, which have been sent out to every family each month during lockdown, have been incredibly popular. Each pack contains a Bible story, crafts, activities and are themed around say, play, pray, hurray!

One of the kids shared a testimony just before lockdown. A younger one (only 4 or 5 years old) shared with all the primary kids that they'd woken up in the night and thought someone was in the room, they were really scared and they remembered that Jesus was always with them and he could help, so rather shouting for mummy or daddy to come, she sat there and prayed, as she did God showed her that what she had thought was a person, was just a toy. She then went straight back to sleep.

During lockdown one parent emailed to say, "We love hearing our son singing praise and worship to God at the top of his lungs as we are watching church and he is doing kids in his room."

Liz Styles, our Children's Pastor writes: "It's tricky to know exactly what the new year will look like, but I know as we listen to God's leading incredible opportunities will open before us. We do not need to 'break through doors' to take hold of opportunities, but doors will gently open as we follow His voice."

The Point Youth enjoyed the last ever Soul Survivor summer youth festival in August 2019. Soul Survivor has played such a significant role in the lives of 1000s of young people over the last 20 years and many of our youth have been deeply impacted. It was great to be there for the grand finale.

Our youth had a particularly special time at The Point Weekend Away in October 2019. Our mission partner and guest speaker was Sam Leighton. Many young people were inspired by as they listened to him share testimonies of God's redemptive power and both witnessed and participated in words of knowledge, prophecies and physical healings.

Since lockdown we have continued running our youth programme both in mid-week groups and on Sunday mornings. All our sessions have been online via zoom and for the majority of the summer had high attendance and engagement from the young people. One of the ways we kept the young people entertained during lockdown was by setting weekly Quarantine Challenges such as 're-enacting a scene from a movie' & 'Lip-sync challenges' – they were hilarious. We are now meeting in-person for our mid-week groups which is a great deal better for our young people and team.

One Sunday morning in youth we spent some time waiting on God to hear his voice ready to write down what we heard with pens and journals. After our time of silence one of the girls came up to me at the end really excited that she heard God speak to her for the first time. She had been thinking about getting baptised and this experience led her to deciding it was what she wanted.

During lockdown we had 3 older youth join our mid-week group who became key members to our youth group. All of them were Year 13s who by the end of the year became really close friends and all graduated youth with really strong relationships with God.

One of the guys who joined our youth group during lockdown hadn't come from a Christian background and was atheist/agnostic. He was doing the Alpha course during lockdown and was receiving input both there and in youth. In one of our youth sessions we gave people the opportunity to make a decision to follow Jesus, he raised his hand along with 7 others to make that decision.

Our Youth Pastor Michael Holt writes: "I am excited about going back into schools as doors are opening to run Alpha courses, lead assemblies and be very open about our faith with non-Christian students and teachers. I am also excited for our new mentoring programme. We have 8 young people who are being met on a regular basis this term and I'm looking forward to the impact that will have and to see that number grow. I also can't wait for our youth to transition back to in-person meetings as I believe the youth will be a lot stronger because of what we've been through together."

#### **OTHER EVENTS since April 2019**

- Celebrate Sunday June 2019 in St John's Park led by Point musicians for the Burgess Hill Churches
- New Church office – we relocated to the Martlets in the centre of Burgess Hill June 2019
- The Mark Drama September 2019 performed at St Andrew's Church by a cast from both churches
- Live Music and Arts Café September 2019 (Stu Roberts Jazz and Orson Wedgwood on Science and Faith)
- Gift Days November 2019 – our best ever response – over £30,000 raised!
- Carol Service December 2020 at the brand new Hurst College Theatre
- Church Drive Thru September 2020 - 133 people attended, 57 cars, 23 different give away items for adults, youth and kids, everyone prayed for. A great way to kick off the new term after summer holidays.
- SHINE! – planned for November 2020 - Our first whole-church Covid-secure altogether service/gathering since lockdown at The Macs Farm in Ditchling

#### **PEOPLE**

We said farewell to two staff members in June 2019. After several years of faithful service to The Point first as members of the church and then joining the staff team as Youth Pastor and Mission Pastor, Ben Leighton and Erin Butler left to start training for ordination at theological college in Bristol. We were delighted to welcome Michael Holt, ex-member of The Point youth himself and recently graduated from London School of Theology, as our new Youth Pastor in September 2019.

We also sadly said farewell to Chris Norris and Ian Corbett who died in 2020. Two faithful brothers and core members of our church family who have gone ahead of us – their funerals were each wonderful occasions of thanksgiving and hope, we shall see them again very soon.

Over the last 18 months we have celebrated 5 "Point" weddings. It has been a joy to see these wonderful couples tie the knot: Phil and Jo Cross, Rebecca and Jonah Haines, Mike and Joelle White, Jake and Sarah Hollebon, Sam and Daniela Leighton.

## **TRUSTEES (see separate Trustees Report and Finance Report)**

Our Trustees team has continued to meet twice monthly, once for prayer and once for business. We are very grateful to the team for steering us through the current crisis. The trustees have kept a watchful eye on all aspects of church life, but have given a huge amount of time to supporting our staff team and the annual staff review process, the church finances, and looking to the future with discernment. Special thanks go to Paul Haines, Bob Brewer, Chris Walsh and James Allen who have completed their 3 year term and will be stepping down at the AGM on 22 October 2020. Dale Marklew, Lee Barnes, Dave Emmanuel and Josh Winter will be joining the team in their place.

Extra thanks must go to James Allen who has served as Secretary and Treasurer and does a huge amount to keep both the finances and many areas of church life running smoothly. He has been monitoring the income and expenditure especially carefully during the pandemic, as well as the finances for the Emmanuel Centre project, the Melting Pot Café, fundraising for our children's youth and schools ministry and working with each staff member on departmental budgets.

## **VISION – LOOKING FORWARD TO 2021 AND BEYOND: THE NORTHERN ARC**

Our vision is “to be a transforming presence throughout Mid Sussex”. We have always been a gathered church, a network of people living across the towns and villages of Mid Sussex. We seek to see the Kingdom of God come in every community, so reach out with the good news of Jesus, to serve the community wherever we live and work, to be mission-shaped church for this area. Our review of mission and ministry over the last 18 months shows that this is happening in so many ways: we are working with children and families; in local schools; running the Alpha Course in different locations; holding regular services and youth groups in the Emmanuel Centre in Ditchling; opening the Melting Pot Community Café in Hurstpierpoint; joining with our mission partners Hope, Befriended and Off the Fence; and our regular small groups are meeting in people's homes every week throughout Mid Sussex.

However, while continuing with all that is already happening, the new Northern Arc Development is now presenting us with a wonderful new opportunity to focus our attention on this one new community in a fresh way.

The Point has been meeting in Burgess Hill for about 15 years on Sunday mornings at St Paul's Catholic College, a secondary school located at the northern boundary of the town. The Northern Arc is the planned construction of 3,500 homes, 3 new schools, and a new community of over 10,000 people who are coming to Mid Sussex over the next 15 years. This will all be taking place right next to St Paul's Catholic College – where The Point has been meeting and worshipping on Sunday mornings for the last 15 years! It really feels that God has put us in this place at this time for this purpose: to be his witnesses, to demonstrate his love, to serve this new community.

The work has already started. The people are coming to us!

(The construction of the new major access road on the western side of the site, from the A23 into Burgess Hill, is well underway, due to be completed in the second half of 2021. Work has started at the eastern end of the site between Sheddingdean and Isaac's lane (along Freeks Lane) and the first 300 houses are due to be completed by the end of next year.)

About 250 homes are due to be built every year for the next 15 years. Two new schools, one primary and one secondary, are due to be opened in September 2023.

It is our dream to find a permanent home for The Point in the Northern Arc. We have partnered with Chichester Diocese and Hurstpierpoint College to bid for the new Secondary School to be a

Church of England School and for The Point to be the church for this school (this bidding process is due to take place in April/May 2021. Our vision is to see a new facility that would be a church, school and community centre all on one site; to serve the community of the Northern Arc and beyond as we continue to fulfil our vision “to be a transforming presence throughout Mid Sussex.”

For this vision to become reality we need a whole series of miracles!

We are praying for:

- Our bid to be successful for a new Church of England school;
- The Diocese to back The Point as the church for this new school;
- Permission from the County Council/Education Authority for a partnership/shared premises between church and school;
- Planning permission from Mid Sussex District Council and backing from Burgess Hill Town Council and the Northern Arc developers (Homes England) for the new facility that we are seeking to build;
- Provision of finances for this ambitious project;
- New staff and volunteers to lead amazing mission and ministry for all sections of the new community from this new mission centre/church facility (we pray too for a new residential community, living in community in the new housing development).

Clearly this is a large project and there are multiple authorities and agencies that would need to give us their support. Strategic decisions are already being made and we are feeling a real sense of urgency to engage in the process and share concrete proposals with decision makers as soon as possible. We understand that many key decisions will be taken in the next 6-12 months. Therefore, we have started to share this vision with our church family, and our trustees have taken the decision to recruit a Head of Operations to be the Project Manager for this project, to help us work strategically in the coming months to realise our vision for The Point and the Northern Arc. Even if we are unsuccessful in the bid for a new Church of England School that we can partner with, we are still committed to seeking permanent premises in the Northern Arc for The Point. The new Head of Operations will not only work towards this exciting new opportunity but also help our current staff team to work more strategically and effectively towards the vision that God has given us in our existing mission and ministry throughout Mid Sussex.

So, let's pray in unity to see God open the doors and give generously so we can make this new appointment and see the vision become reality. This new post and our vision for the Northern Arc will be the focus of our Gift Days in November 2020.

Rev Will Kemp, Vicar, October 2020