

Appendix 3 Aims of the Research Dissertation submitted in the Proposal

Aim

The aim of this dissertation is to explore how current examples of Church of England 'new forms of being church' are being authentically church and Anglican. This exploration will highlight the implications of findings in dialogue with published material and consider the implications of being church in our current cultural context.

Methodology

I propose to explore the stories of four Anglican examples of 'new forms of being church' drawing on my own experiences and participatory action research. I am aware that there are pitfalls to this sort of research and will explore relevant literature, and as a corrective will dialogue findings with key texts. I propose to gather data through recorded interviews structured along the lines of 'Needs, Aims, Outcomes, Methods, Implementation, Evaluation, Values and Church involvement' [of the NAOMIE process]. From results I will explore how the projects compare with traditional understandings of the 'marks of being Church' and 'Christ's presence in the Church'. I shall further explore how the case examples compare with the expectations of the report on the Pastoral Measure, which will by implication raise questions about whether the review has given the Church a succinct ecclesiological language and conceptualisation for being authentically Anglican.