

The vision for: **St Peter's** **Bourne**

The vision for SPB is to develop into a strong intentional community that will, by partnering with others, become:

Vision Strand 1. A centre of prayer for North London.

SPB will be a place of prayer and worship that has a developed rhythm of life which the community facilitate and engage with. In addition to this, it would be a place of prayer and worship for the diocese and North London. As a result of its reputation it would be a place of pilgrimage for personal prayer and for groups and individuals who wish to pray for London, maybe in combination with hosted prayer events.

Vision Strand 2. A catalyst for developing meaningful social action amongst marginalized people.

This would be within the local community, the diocese and further afield often through existing but also newly-formed partnerships. This will be as a result of SPB responding to wider initiatives and SPB birthing new projects as an expression of their heartfelt compassion for those in need.

Vision Strand 3. A catalyst and training hub for pioneer missionaries in North London

SPB is ideally placed to become a hub within the diocesan vision for pioneer church-planting by providing a place for existing pioneers to meet, receive training and share their experiences. The house also provides the opportunity for those considering pioneer mission work to have a short-term placement with existing pioneers within the diocese and thereby gain experience and facilitate the cross-pollination of these experiences.

Building

The vision is dependent upon the generous provision of the fabric of SPB by the St Peters Bourne Trust. The building will continue to be a place of training and retreat and the development of these aims will enhance that. For example, developing a centre of prayer may include systematic prayers for all who use the building and developing a hub for local church planters may include training courses being run here. The Operations Lead (formerly Warden) will continue to oversee the building and its use.

Community

The vision is dependent upon a vibrant, committed and spiritually strong community of 10 people, plus 3 leaders, with a clear sense of intentionality. The core community would need to be stable enough to allow it to be a strong base. Core-community members would commit to a set period of time eg. 2 years (staggered so not all residents leave at once). There would also be rooms used for 3 other community members who would come for a shorter period of time (eg. 6 months). This may be for discipleship training or to focus on, learn about and engage with one of the 3 areas of intentionality (eg. Social action). These short-term community members would provide SPB with fresh energy and specialised interest. They may also, due to their short-term focus, be self-supporting and therefore able to be more involved on a daily basis than other community members who may be employed full-time.

Leadership

The Pioneer Lead, Pastoral Lead (formerly Prior) and Operations Lead will corporately form the Leadership Team for SPB, and a senior resident will represent the community to the SPB management. The Pioneer Lead will be provided housing in return for their work within SPB. In addition to the internal role of developing the community and its spiritual life, the Leadership Team will be responsible for developing the wider networking aspects of the vision – linking SPB within the London context of prayer, social action and pioneering mission. The SPB Leadership Team will be accountable to its directors.

Timing

It is not expected that we will establish all three of the vision strands immediately. They will only be possible through partnership with external bodies/sponsors. Once SPB is able to model these three strands successfully it would be hoped that it would become a mother house to other houses, maybe started by ex-residents, in the North London diocese, thereby, reproducing mission based, prayer energised, marginalised focused outreach across the region.