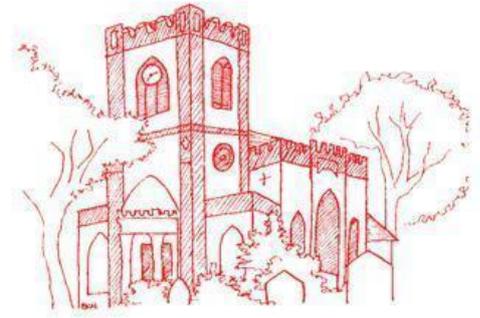


# DPC News

*Dagenham Parish Church*

**May 2014**



Dear Friends,

Is a healthy church more like a bus journey or an orchestra?

'Bus journey churches' are places where people come and sit while the driver takes them on a journey. The driver shows those on the bus some interesting things. Usually those on the journey are proud of their 'bus'. They like good 'driving' and can spot bad 'driving' a mile off. Often some people have been 'on the bus' for years. They may help clean the 'bus', or welcome others onto the 'bus'. But if you take away a few rotas the driver and maybe a few assistants do almost everything for the majority of people who simply sit on the bus, often in the same seats!

In 'orchestra churches' a group of people come together to make the beautiful music of the gospel a reality in their lives. They're all involved, each playing their part according to the same score – the great message about Jesus in the Bible. The 'conductor' seeks to help people play their part more fully. He guides the orchestra through the piece to bring out what the composer has written.

Unless they all play, the music is never as beautiful as it should be. But when the whole orchestra plays together, following a conductor who is working hard to make sure the composer's intention is carried out, this orchestra makes a wonderful noise, honouring to God and attractive to others.

God's interregnum vision is for DPC is to increasingly become an 'orchestra church' (as described in Ephesians 4v7-16). During this time and beyond, DPC can thrive because Christ has given all Christians gifts, especially the Bible and Bible teachers (v7-11).

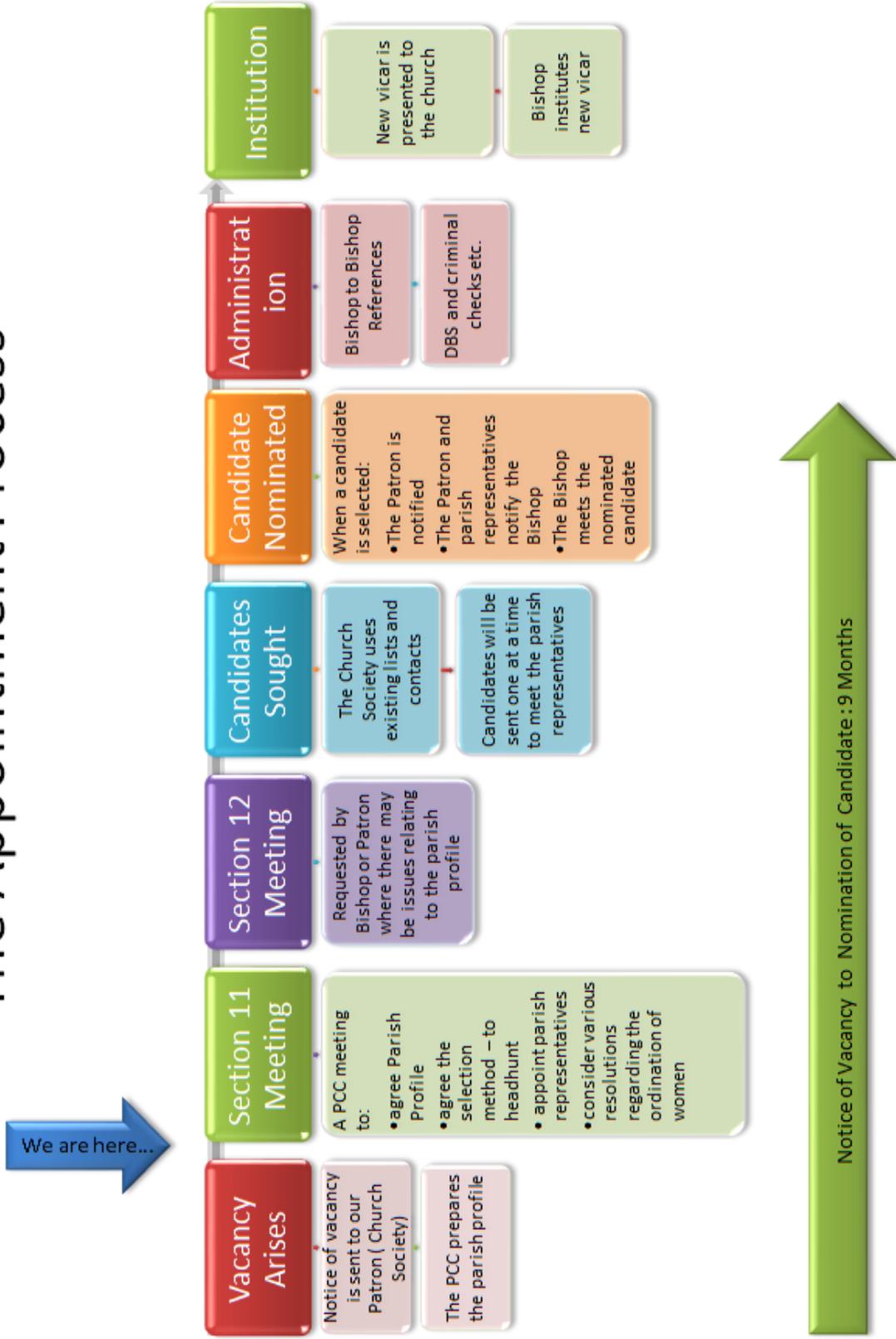
DPC will thrive when Bible teachers equip all Christians for works of service (v12). Over the next few months we're planning to do this through our sermon series in Ephesians, through training Christians to read the Bible 1-2-1 with others, through training new 'home-grown' preachers and actively seeking to equip everyone for works of service.

DPC will also thrive when the whole church family speaks truth in love to one another (v15-16). Churches mature and grow when everyone is involved in this. Can I urge you not to get on board a bus, but to seek to play your part in God's DPC orchestra?

**Kieran Bush**

# Interregnum update

## The Appointment Process



The process for appointing a new minister can be summarised in four steps:

- The PCC specifies the post and the person they are seeking.
- Our Patron, the Church Society, nominates a candidate.
- The Parish Representatives decide whether to accept the candidate.
- The Bishop ratifies the candidate (unless there are good grounds not to)

The process begins with a vacant post. Within 4 weeks of Mike leaving the PCC must hold “a Section 11 meeting” to agree the items outlined in the chart above. In that meeting the PCC must appoint the Parish representatives. They are two people from the PCC that will ultimately choose the new minister. After this meeting, the Church Society will then present potential candidates for the parish representatives to see.

The parish representatives will meet candidates, one at a time, and when they are persuaded that a particular candidate is God’s man for DPC, they will notify the Church Society, who will in turn notify the bishop. Upon receiving the relevant references and checks, the bishop will then ratify the nominated candidate as the new vicar of DPC. Following this, the parish representatives will then present the new minister to DPC.

## Please pray...

And thank God because He already knows who our next vicar will be!

That the process for finding the right man is followed wisely.

And ask God to show you ways that you can serve Him during this time. That we will be devoted to loving God and loving each other.

For the PCC who are making important and difficult decisions. That during this busy time they will welcome Pauline, Jay and David who are new PCC members.

For the section 11 meeting to agree our parish profile and choose parish representatives.

For the parish representatives; that they seek God’s guidance, that we will trust them and that we will enable them to focus on meeting candidates and in wisely considering whether they are right for DPC.

That God will guide us and that we choose the right man!

**Mark Mensah Twumasi**

# Farewell fun!

We had a leaving 'do' to remember with curry, funny sketches and music!



We prayed for Becontree church...



We had fun and games at the Dawson Centre!



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