



## **Organisation and procedures**

Walton Local Ecumenical Project – known as Walton Churches Partnership or WCP – currently has four churches/congregations serving a large area in South East Milton Keynes: Christ the King Community Church in Kents Hill, All Saints Church in Milton Keynes Village, St Mary’s Church in Wavendon and Church Without Walls in Broughton & Brooklands. The Partnership was formed in 1985, originally comprising All Saints and St. Mary’s. Christ the King was established as a new congregation for the developing Kents Hill area in the early 1990s and Church Without Walls began in 2013.

WCP employs ministers (either directly or arranges appointments through each denomination) and also arranges housing for them – with WCP owning the Manse at Twinflower and arranging other housing for its ministers through the Anglican Oxford Diocese.

WCP is also responsible for the church ‘Sharing Agreements’, which set the framework allowing the various church buildings to be used by congregations representing the four founding denominations: Church of England, Baptist, Methodist and United Reformed Church. This is required because All Saints’ and St Mary’s churches are wholly owned by the Anglican Church, and The Church of Christ the King is majority owned by the Roman Catholic Church. The Agreements enable us to share ministry and meet as one Christian community. Church Without Walls doesn’t have its own building, but uses other public spaces such as local schools and community centres. It also has occasional use of the closed church building of St. Lawrence on Broughton.

Each congregation (including the Catholic congregation at Kents Hill) participates in the decision making of WCP through the two representatives it elects to the WCP Council. The WCP Council consists of these elected representatives plus the clergy ministry team and treasurer as ex officio members. It is the responsibility of the congregational WCP representatives to bring to their stewards and congregations any relevant WCP business for note or approval, and vice versa.

Officers for WCP – Chair and Secretary – are appointed from among members of the Council following an AGM. This mirrors a trust structure and WCP is soon to form a trust with elected trustees.

There also exists a Walton PCC which meets rarely and is for purely Anglican business (largely relating to the Anglican churches and churchyards in the parish area). This is required by English law.