



Formal and Informal Church Activity Policy

Introduction

In modern day English the word 'church' is used in three different ways:

- We speak of it as a place — “The church is on the corner of the next street.”
- We speak of it as the meeting itself — “We’ll have a lunch after church.”
- We speak of it as a people — “We cannot thank the church enough for your prayers and support.”

In the Bible the word 'church' always relates to the people who meet together. The other two have come about because of common use. In the Bible when we see the word church it is referring to the people nothing else.

In the legal documents relating to The King's Church there is a similar issue. These documents refer to 'The King's Church' but what are they referring to? These documents do not refer to all the activity of all the people who attend The King's Church.

They are referring to the resources owned by the legal entity called The King's Church and the actions and activities of those people employed by, volunteering for or legally leading The King's Church whilst they are carrying out officially sanctioned King's Church activities.

This is all very complicated. To make things clearer the leaders of The King's Church have written this policy so people will know when something is an official King's Church activity or something unofficial that is done by people who happen to be part of The King's Church.

Policy

At least two of the church Overseers or the church Trustees, who are not part of the same family, must give their formal approval for any:

- Activity
- Policy
- Volunteer or Employee
- Or purchase and use of any resource



If these conditions are met the activity etc. is formally part of The King's Church. As such these will be undertaken responsibly with appropriate care and consideration as expected under charity law.

Anything else is not formally The King's Church. It might be things done by people who are part of The King's Church, but it is not a formal or sanctioned activity of 'The King's Church'. These activities will be referred to as **informal activities**.

If an informal activity is advertised on the church website, on the notice email / sheet or verbally in a church meeting, it will be made explicitly clear that this is an 'informal activity'.

Examples

Formal

- Sunday services.
- Trips organised by the church.
- Small meetings in people's houses authorized by the leaders.
- Purchasing equipment for the church.
- Volunteers appointed by the church for a specific activity.

Informal

- People having meals together as friends.
- People going on holiday together as friends.
- People praying together as friends.
- People visiting each other at home as friends.
- People giving advice to each other as friends.
- Giving a friend a lift to church.