What's it all about?

A long road to where we are now.....

The idea of a Mission House Project initially came out of the Children and Youth Work Committee around 2015, later being taken on by Mission Development Group (MDG) in 2017 with a view to serving the Poole area. This proposal was brought to Wessex Synod who agreed to the principle and asked for it to be explored further. MDG reported to Synod in March 2020 that the plans were progressing. COVID hit and changed the plan.

The Vision remained the same, the scope had changed.

The vision was to run a Pilot Mission House to provide individuals with a structured experience of ministry as well as providing churches with the extra support and drive needed to develop. We would source a property in a logical location in the Synod which is in good travelling distance to a church who fits into the above criteria. This property would provide the accommodation for a group of up to three workers, either looking to start training, or looking to test their calling in this area of work with a view to embark on training whilst gaining experience.

The Synod offers a great deal of support for the many practical issues our local churches face in the form of its training and development teams, property officers and legal and financial support, but they are, at best, fleeting – short term injections of expertise and encouragement when what many churches need is dedicated, and committed, personnel to help develop their many mission opportunities. Young adults can often have this desire to be involved, to take responsibility, to work as agents of change but, all too often, the systems are not in place to support them.

This project is an attempt by the Synod to partner with willing young adults and with appropriate churches to enable both to flourish and grow as well as the chance to explore fresh expressions of church.

A seed tray for a Grow Your Own culture

The Ginger Group, although long gone, continues to bear fruit across the URC through the lives of those whose faith was deepened and vocations nurtured as a result of being part of that programme. Similarly, an experience of living in community for a young person is a formational, seminal experience as a young Christian.

The Synod is committed to engaging with churches who wish to revitalise their mission and investing in local mission and evangelism.

Broadstone URC have a clear vision and a strategic plan for mission, the Mission House will provide them with the opportunity to invest in mission for a minimum of 3 years.