Digital Connectivity – what permissions do you need?

Lots of churches are getting in touch to find out more about how to improve their digital connections and asking what permissions are needed for this.

Depending on what you want to do, you may need formal approval either from the Archdeacons, or even a faculty. However, not all works need approvals.

What you can do without any permission (List A)

- Install a WI-FI router
- Install portable AV equipment (i.e. not fixed to the church building)
- Install equipment for card payment systems.

What can Archdeacons approve (List B)?

- Sound system, and/or loop system
- A fixed Audio-visual system in an unlisted church.
- CCTV for security purposes.

Send in your application via the Online Faculty System

When is a faculty needed?

- A fixed Audio-visual system in a listed church.
- CCTV other than for security purposes.
- A fixed landline (and the faculty may also include a licence for the wire to pass over the Churchyard/Church grounds.)

Remember, to submit a List B or faculty application, you will need to register with the Online Faculty System https://facultyonline.churchofengland.org/ and submit your application online. We have guidance emails to help you with this process, or there are good “help” pages on the Online Faculty System https://facultyonline.churchofengland.org/help

You will need to include a brief explanation of what you need to do, and how you are going to do it (a Statement of Needs) as well as a quote from the contractor, and some photos of where things are going to go.

When a faculty is needed, our Diocesan Advisory Committee (DAC), is moving as fast as it can to turn these around, often with no more than an email consultation with the DAC required, rather than waiting for the next DAC meeting.

The Chancellor is also granting emergency approval for applications relating to digital connectivity whenever possible.

If you need more advice, please contact the DAC Secretary, Sarah Anderson on: sarah.anderson@rochester.anglican.org

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