

Northleach Church Meeting

October 2026

One-Year Later



We are:

- Grateful, but not complacent.
- Open, but cautious about new ideas.
- Desire to grow:
  - Expand the Numbers
  - Expand the Diversity
  - Expand the Impact

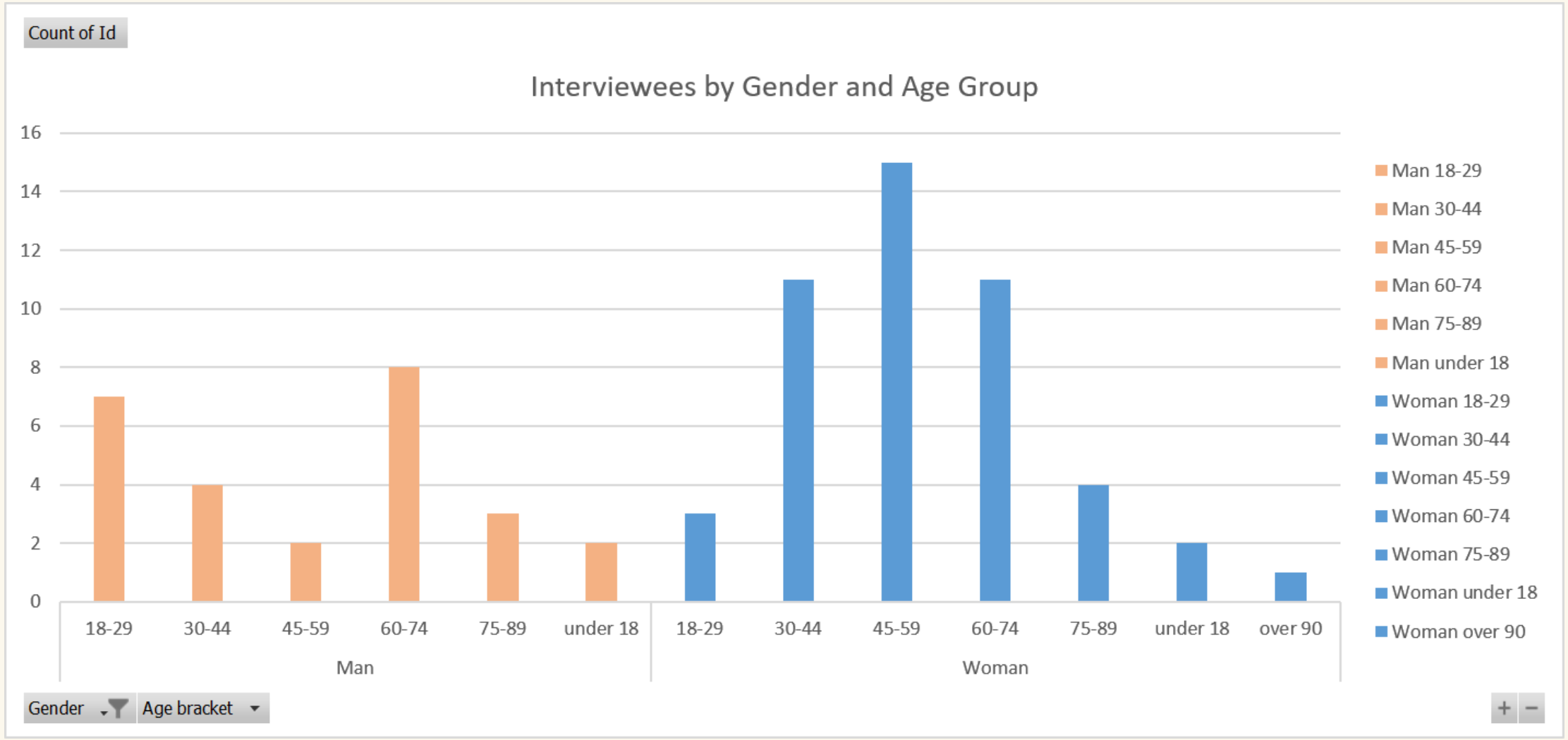
Understanding Our Community

Mark Tennant

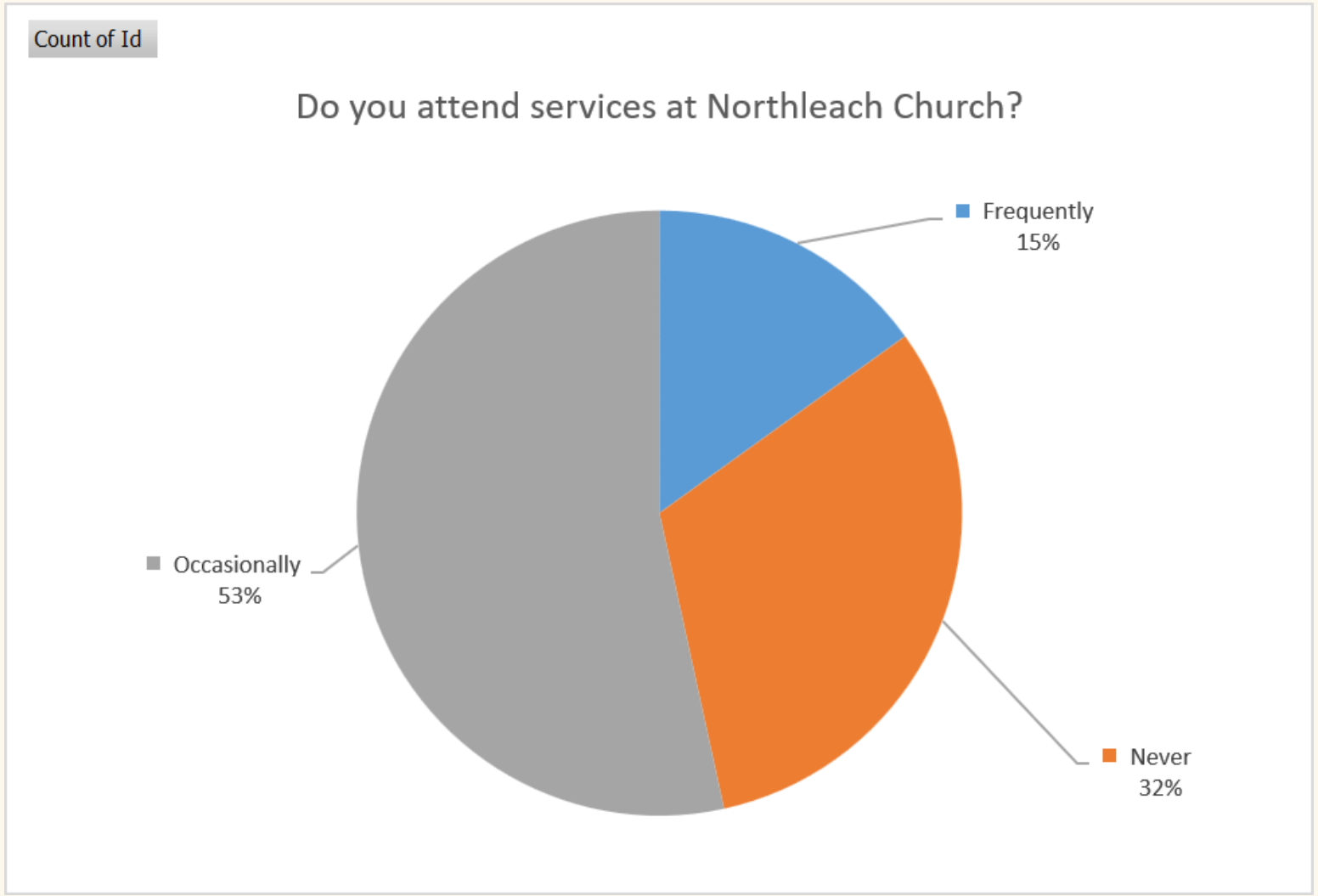
Scope

- **Group 1 – Understanding the Community**, sets out to build deeper understanding of Northleach residents' needs, challenges and suggestions for improvement.
- The methodology to capture this data is to interview locals **face to face** (10-15 mins)
- Interviewers record the data (via a digital form) to a central file
- **73 interviews** recorded between 22-Apr and 1-Jun 2026
- **Cross section of community** with spectrum of interviewees by age, gender, family status and Northleach location.
- **Caveat**: ideas suggested need to consider existing activities already in place within the community.

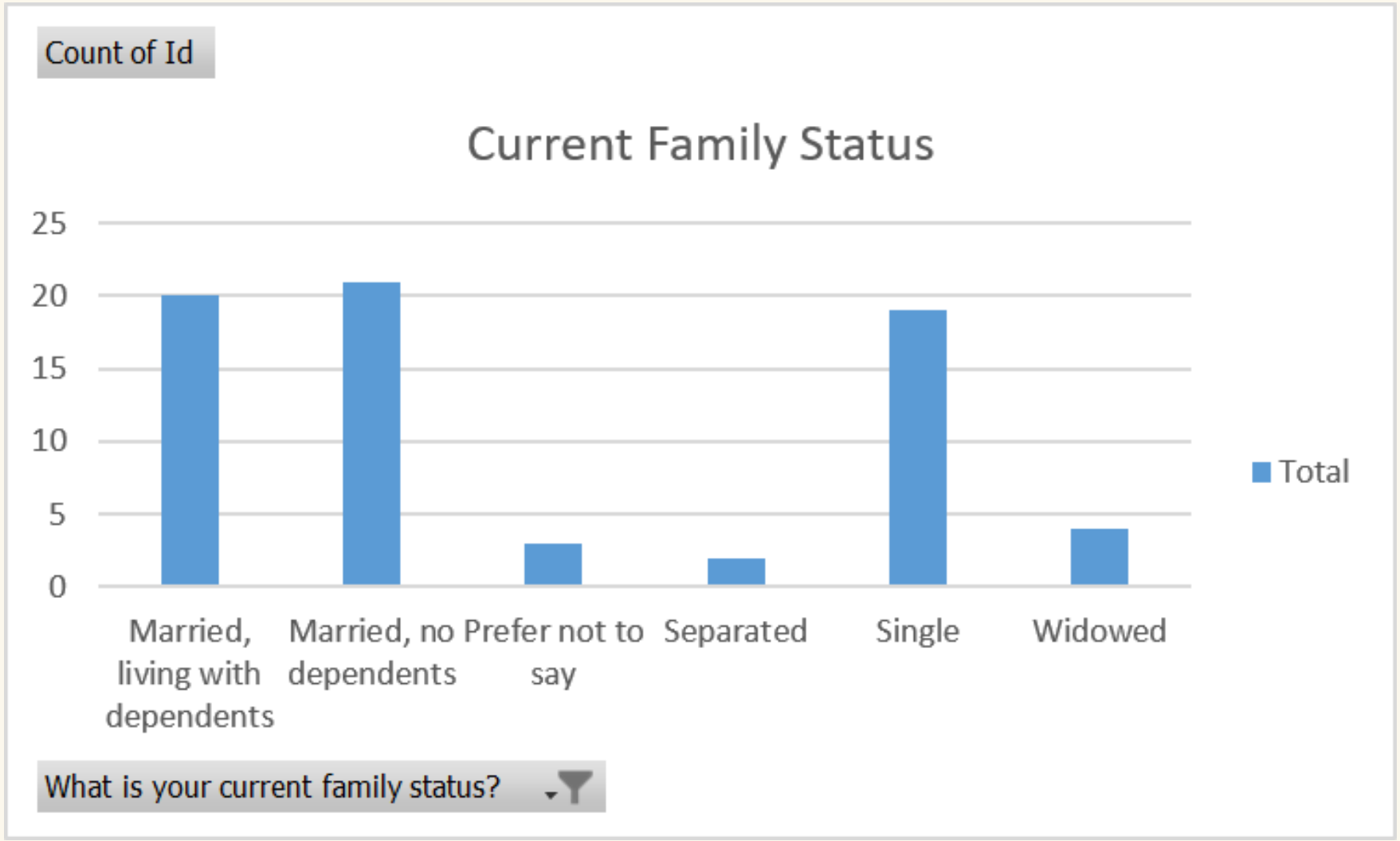
Interviewee Profiles



Interviewee Profiles

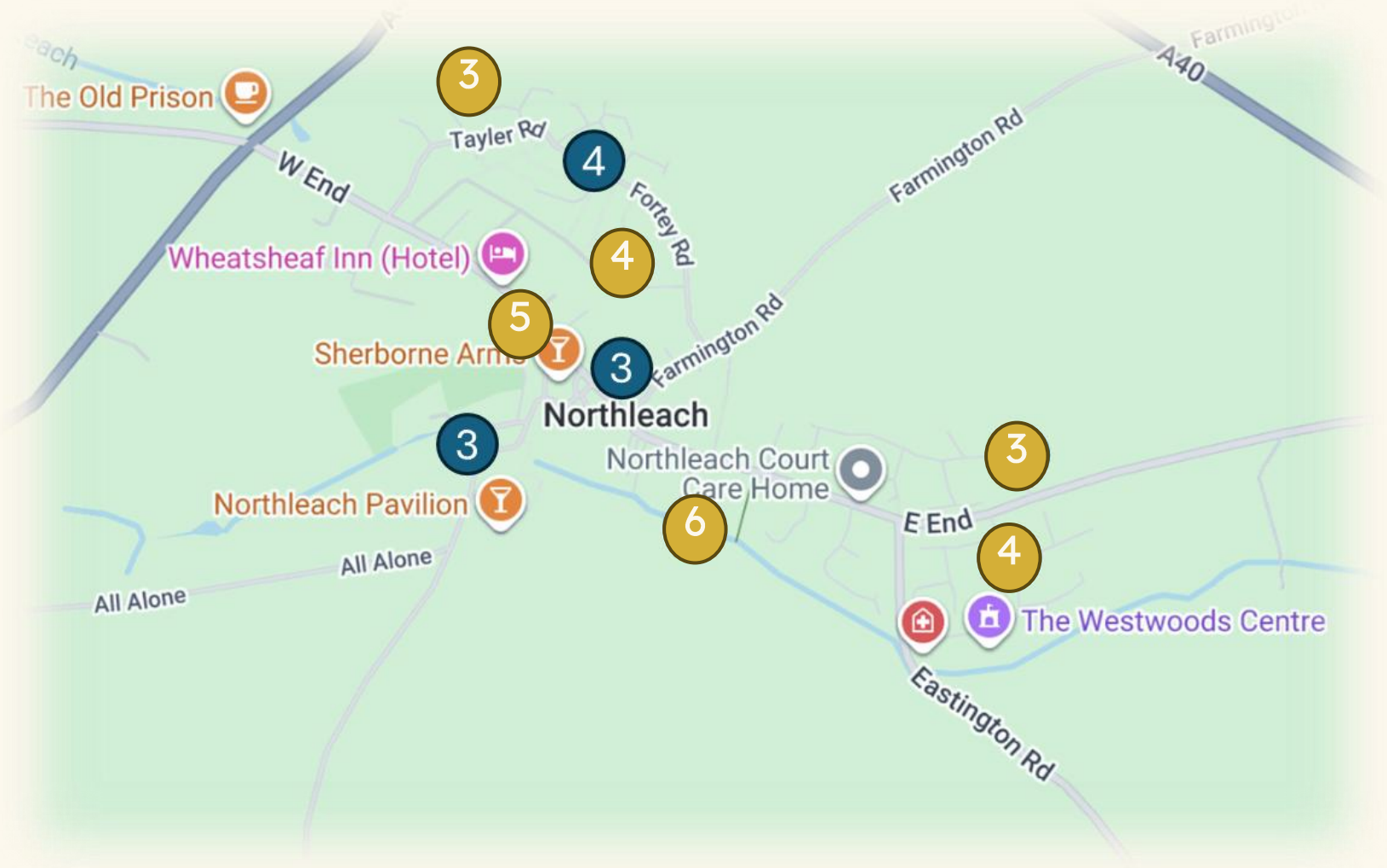


Interviewee Profiles

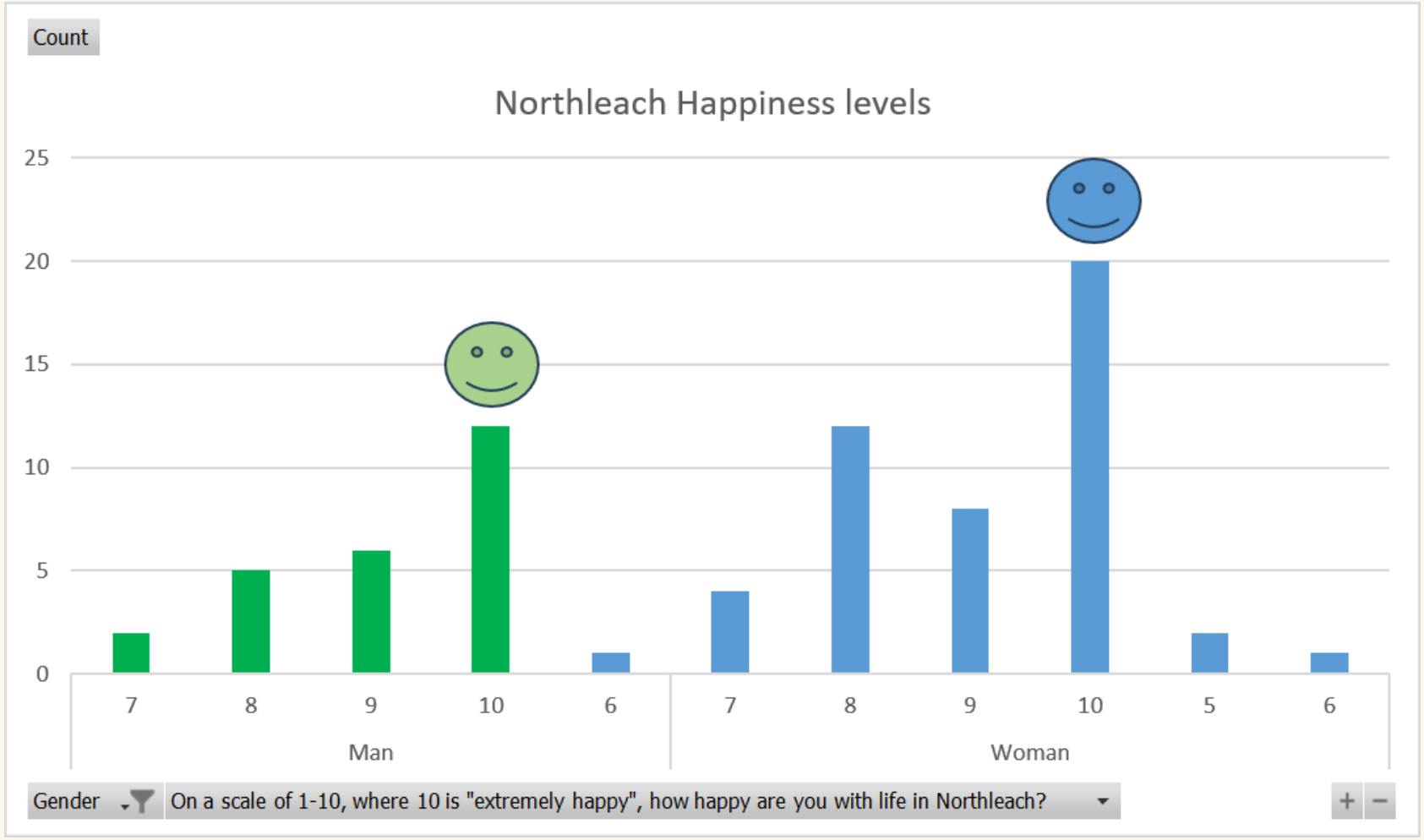


Location of interviewees

Location	Count
Crail View	6
Market Place	5
Fallows Road	4
Fortey Road	4
Midwinter Road	3
Nostle Road	3
Mill End	3
MacArthur Road	3
Farmington Road	3
Graveney Road	3
Short hedges close	2
Antelope Paddock	2
Slys Close	2
Grace Drive	2
Bassett Road	2
Mays Crescent	2
Ward Road	2
West End	2
The Green	1
Rixon Road	1
Old A40 / Cirencester Road	1
Bicknell Close	1
Back Lane	1
Farmington Rise	1
Wheelrights	1
Bridle Close	1
Potter Way	1
Brook Close	1
Shepherds Way	1
Meadow Court	1
Dutton Leys	1
Fosseway	1
The Peep	1
Glebe House	1
Coalyard Farm	1
Guggle Lane	1
High Street	1
Jessop Drive	1



Interviewee Profiles



Average score: 8.85

What do you value most about Northleach?

- The content highlights a strong sense of community characterized by **friendliness, safety, and mutual support**. Residents value the close-knit atmosphere where people greet each other, offer help, and maintain friendships.
- Amenities such as shops, pubs, a post office, pharmacy, surgery, and social groups contribute to communal life.
- The town's small size, rural setting, and peaceful environment enable easy walking and foster a safe space for children to roam freely.
- Community spirit is reinforced through church involvement, recreational facilities, and social gatherings like quizzes and wine bars.
- Overall, the community is cherished for its **warmth, support, and balance of countryside living with essential services.**

What do you think of Northleach Church?

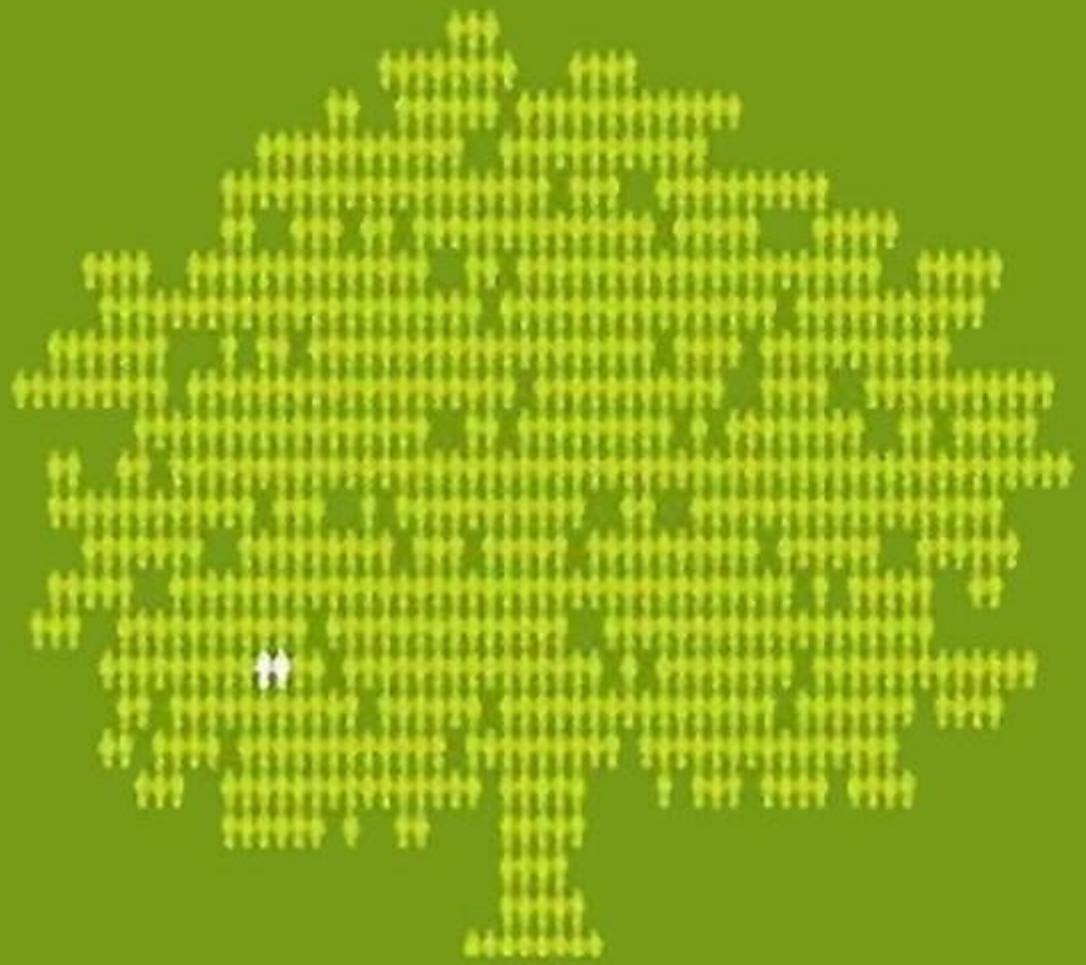
- The content reflects a community's strong connection to a historic, beautiful church that serves as a **status symbol and gathering place**.
- Key themes include **peace, community, friendship, hospitality, and the comforting presence of bells**.
- The church is described as grand, ancient, picturesque, and welcoming, with valued clergy and meaningful services.
- Some note **feelings of exclusion or cliquey attitudes**, while others emphasize safety, cultural events, and the church's role in **local identity and tourism**.

Ideas for Further Investigation

- **0–18-year-old activities**: Youth clubs, Guides, Scouts, outdoor clubs, movies, Lego club, play area in church, support over holidays, junior choir, Minecraft-NL800
- **Community Support:** Death Café (and follow up), transport help, food exchange/bank, fruit and veg exchange (sow and share), family hubs, café space, toy/book exchange, toddler+seniors meets
- **Skills:** Gardening, basic PC skills, woodworking, art (various age groups), Beauty and Hair, Dancing
- **Community Events**: Board Game nights, quiz nights, bake-off
- **Church/Religious:** Forum to ask the big questions, bring back online services
- **Outside scope feedback:** Transport, health and housing feedback shared with Town Council

Everybody Welcome

Colin Kelsall



everybody welcome

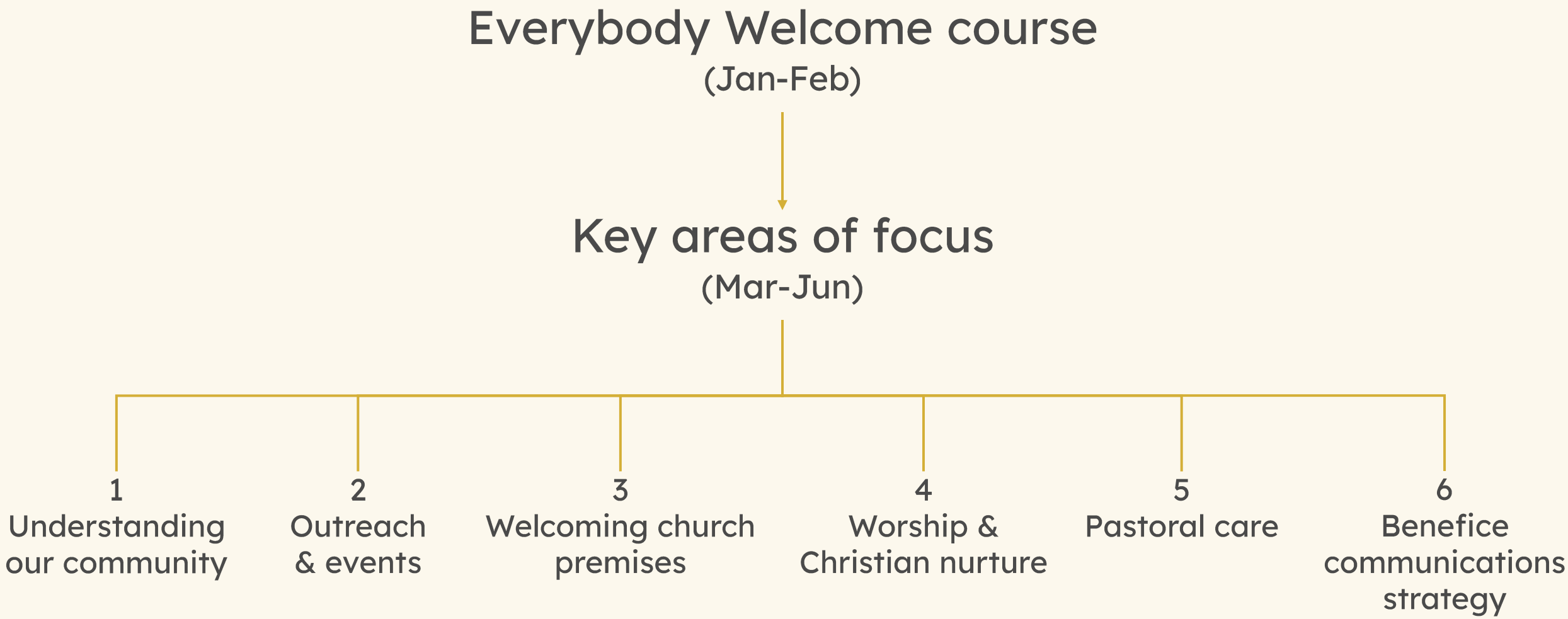
the course where everybody helps grow their church

What are we trying to do?

Understand how we might enable more and more people to feel truly welcome and comfortable in their engagement with ‘church’ both within and beyond this building.

Share God’s love, teach His word, grow His church.

What we've done



What we've done

1. Understanding our community	Face to face interviews across the community.
2. Outreach & events	Events team and strategy formed; Events scheduled.
3. Welcoming church premises	Church Rooms; Signage; Comfort (seating, heating, sound, visual); Hospitality; Children; Disabled access, Prayer space, Use of North Chapel.
4. Worship & Christian nurture	Valuing existing services and exploring opportunities for different forms of worship that might 'open the doors' for more people, whilst also considering developments in Christian nurture.
5. Pastoral care	Review of existing pastoral care needs and resources; Consideration of potential to develop further.
6. Benefice communications Strategy	Holistic view of benefice communications, exploring branding and various avenues and resources for effective communications.

Plans & Ideas

Charlie Styles

Plans

Ministry Activities

- Continuing
- Developing
- Beginning
- Dreaming & Planning

Physical Resources

- Maintaining
- Improving
- Upgrading
- Dreaming


Building on Foundations

Ministry Activities: **Developing**

- Saturday Bible Study
- Lent Courses
- Choral Evensong
- Global Church Sunday



Ministry Ideas:
Beginning

- Little Flock
- Fireflies
- Cotswold Praise
- Youth Group
- Enquirers' Courses: 321, Alpha



Ministry Ideas: **Dreaming & Planning**

- New Afternoon Service
- Weekly Bible Studies
- Sunday Activities for Children
- Specific Pastoral Groups (dementia, bereavement…)

We love our building

But:

- Not all feel welcome.
- It can be cold.
- Some can’t hear.
- Some are uncomfortable



Practical Projects: **Improving**

- Welcome Space
- Children’s Area
- North Chapel
- Prayer Space in South Chapel
- Disabled Access


St PETER
EVELYN
Cars & Car Mat
Baby Toys
Magnets
Crayons, Drawing Pads & Books
1939 - 1945
DONATE HERE


TEE OF ENGAGEMENT

North Chapel

- Carpeted Soft Area
- Soft Seating for Conversation
- Improved Exhibition Space


Schuhe & Giants



AI Impression

Practical Projects: **Upgrading**

- Church Rooms
  - Additional Toilets
  - Upgrade Main Room
  - New Kitchen
- Audio-Visual in Church
  - Projector & Screen
  - Upgraded Audio System
- Refreshments Area

Practical Projects: Dreaming

- The Whole Church Roof
- New Heating Throughout
- Full Servery in Church

Upgrading: **Church Rooms**

- 2 additional Toilets
- Redecorated Accessible Toilet
- Move kitchen to end of Main Room
- New flooring and heating throughout main room.

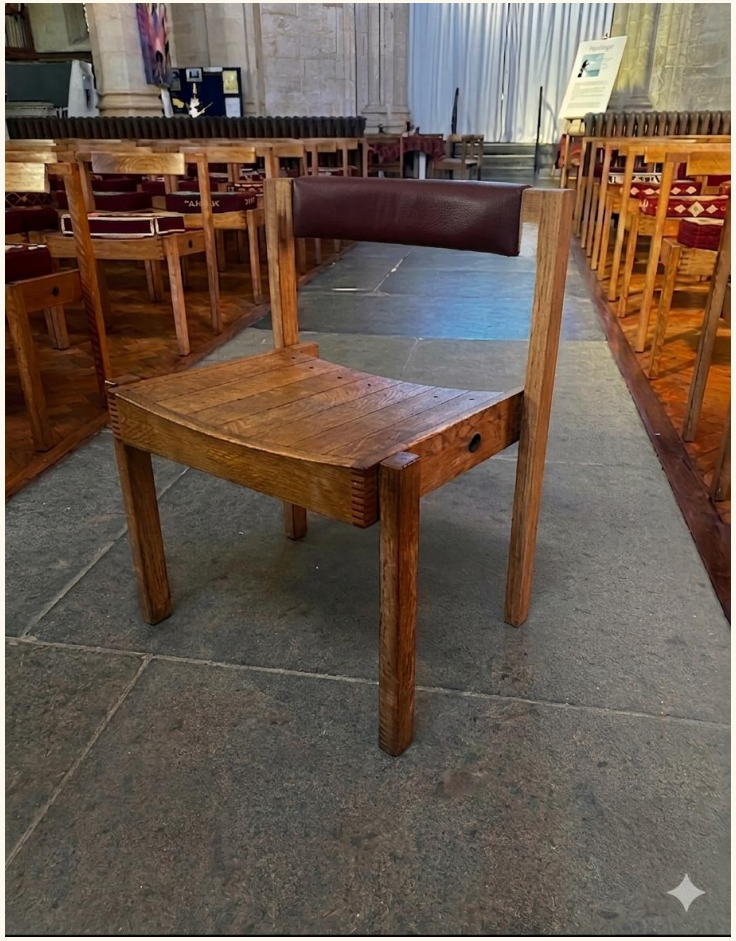


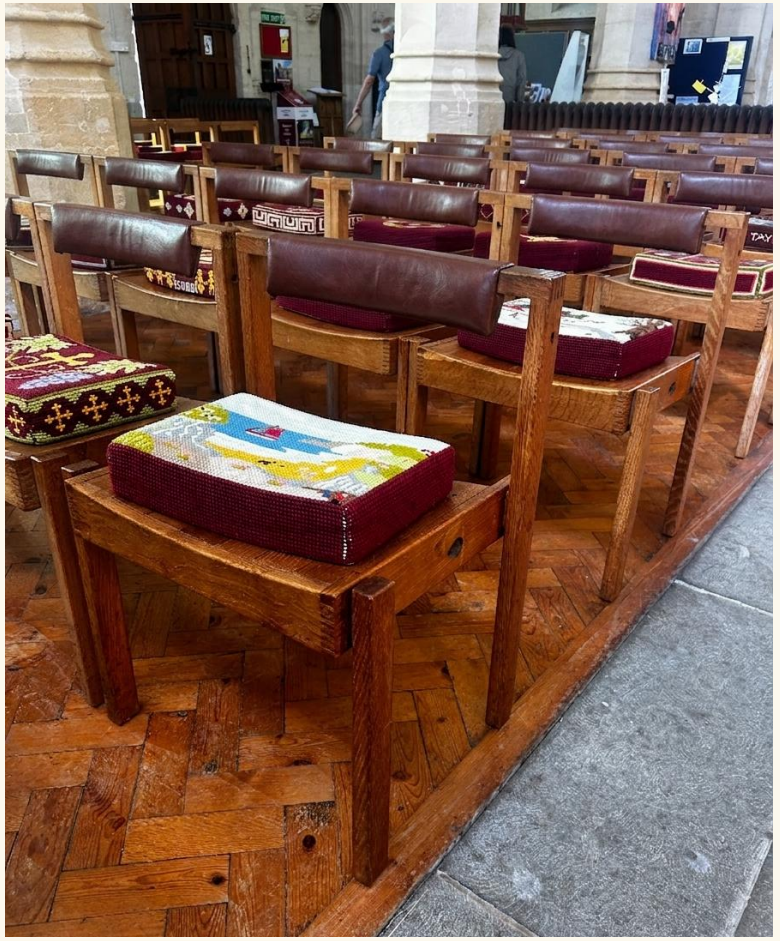

AI Impression


THANK YOU
SUNDAY SERVICES
a safer church
HOLY COMMUNION


AI Impression



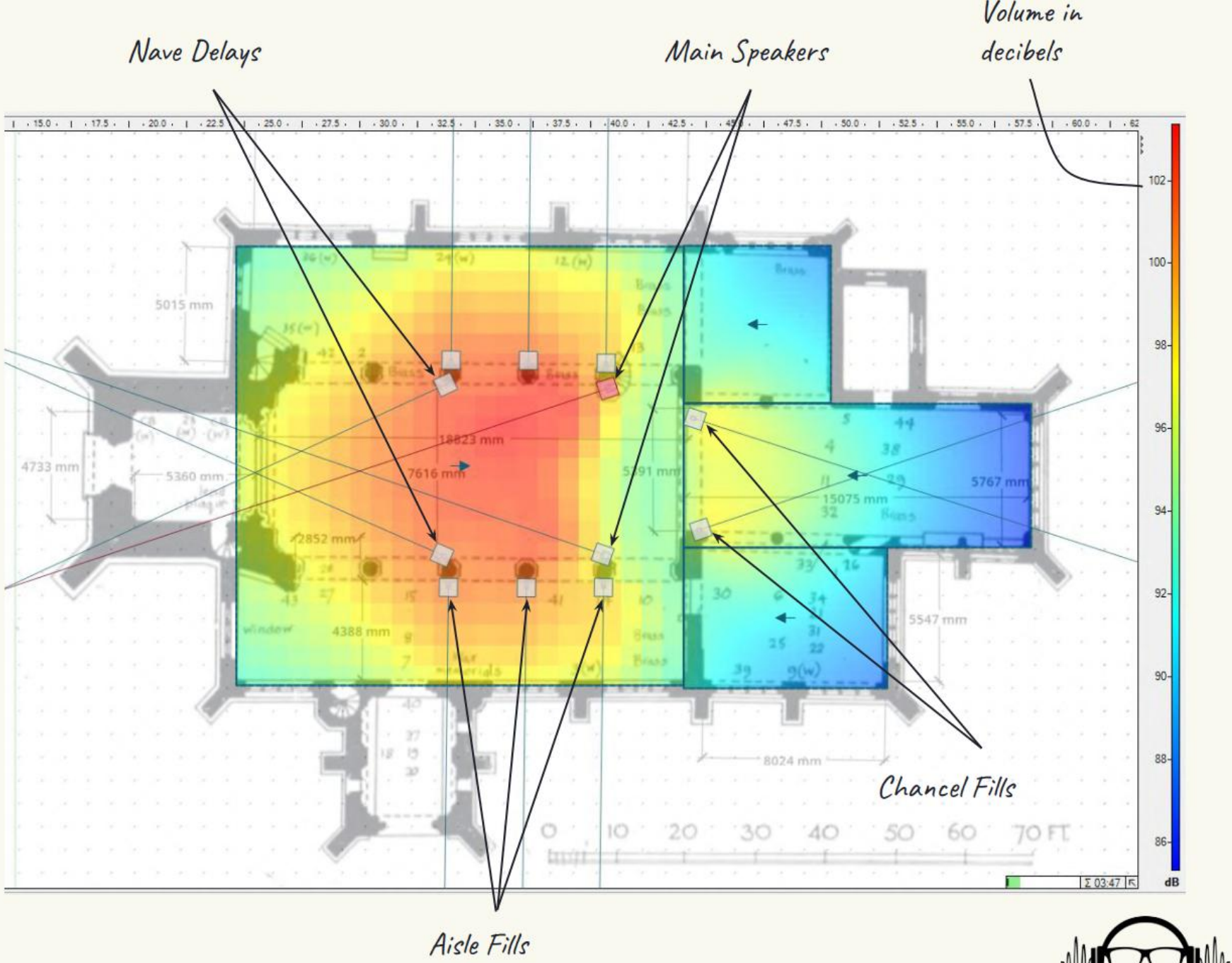




Ideas Explored: New Seating in Church

Upgrading: **Audio-Visual System**

- Many new speakers throughout the Nave
- High-powered projector at back of church.
- Double-drop Screen in the Chancel Arch
- New Sound Desk at the back of the church


Nave Delays
Main Speakers
Volume in decibels
5015 mm
18823 mm
7616 mm
5391 mm
4733 mm
5360 mm
2852 mm
4388 mm
15075 mm
5767 mm
5547 mm
8024 mm
Chancel Fills
Aisle Fills
0 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 FT
102
100
98
96
94
92
90
88
86
dB


AI Impression

Summary.

We love our building

But:

- Not all feel welcome.
- It can be cold.
- Some can’t hear.
- Some are uncomfortable



Practical Projects: **Improving**

- Welcome Space
- Children’s Area
- North Chapel
- Prayer Space in South Chapel
- Disabled Access

Practical Projects: **Upgrading**

- Church Rooms
  - Additional Toilets
  - Upgrade Main Room
  - New Kitchen
- Audio-Visual in Church
  - Projector & Screen
  - Upgraded Audio System
- Refreshments Area

Ministry Ideas: **Dreaming & Planning**

- New Afternoon Service
- Weekly Bible Studies
- Sunday Activities for Children
- Specific Pastoral Groups (dementia, bereavement…)

This will require commitment from the whole church family.

Prayer, both private and public. **Is there someone you can meet with to pray?**

Volunteer Time and Effort: **Is there a particular project that excites you?**

Generosity and Fundraising: **Can you contribute towards the total cost of £100,000**

Next Steps

- Everyone on the Electoral Roll will receive a letter in the next fortnight with more detail.
- **Pray** and submit our plans to God.
- Consider where you might **serve**.
- Contribute **financially**.
- There will be further announcements in November.