

Church House  
5500 Daresbury Park  
Daresbury  
Warrington  
WA4 4GE

T: 01928 718834  
E: [George.colville@chester.anglican.org](mailto:George.colville@chester.anglican.org)  
Date: 29 August 2019

Dear Residents

Thank you for your email and for raising with us the concerns you have regarding the proposed sale of land on Rectory Road, West Kirby.

We can confirm that after careful consideration a sale in principle has been agreed. The Diocese of Chester has taken and followed professional advice from a suitably qualified chartered surveyor in respect of marketing and valuing the property. It has also taken and followed the professional advice of a charity lawyer in respect of the relevant legal matters.

The sale is subject to the buyer receiving all the satisfactory permissions from the local authority. A planning application will consider how the land will be used and whether the proposed development is in accordance with restrictions placed on the land due to any conservation status it may benefit from.

Whilst we note your disappointment, the land is an investment, the sale of which will enable us to carry out our primary function: to serve people and be a Christian presence in every community across the diocese.

There are more than 270 parishes, 340 church buildings, and 115 church schools and academies, serving 1.6m people in the Diocese of Chester. We receive no direct funding from the Government and very little from the national church. The responsibility for funding parish ministry rests solely with us as a collective of parishes and worshipping communities.

Our income comes from investments, fees, grants and donations. The sale of the land on Rectory Road, West Kirby, is one such investment. The money raised from the proposed sale will help us to continue to be a Christian presence in communities right across our diocese, including West Kirby, as well as parishes very different from your own.

We have noted your disappointment but having taken all professional advice, we believe the proposed transaction is the best that can be reasonably obtained for the Diocese of Chester as a whole.

I hope you will understand that we will not be entering into detailed discussion with third parties concerning the precise details of the actual transaction, however I hope this will partially address your questions and concerns.

George Colville  
Diocesan Secretary