

SPAB Faith in Maintenance

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DVD Discussion Questions

Once you have watched the Faith in Maintenance DVD you might like to work in small groups to think about these questions and any other ideas prompted by the topics covered in the DVD. Remember, if you need further help and advice you can contact the Faith in Maintenance Technical Helpline. Our helpline is staffed by David John, an architect who specialises in the conservation of historic buildings, and is available on Fridays between 9.30am and 3.30pm on 0207 456 0916. You can also find further guidance and sources of information on the Faith in Maintenance website at www.spabfm.org.uk.

Maintenance

- Can you identify the materials used to construct your place of worship?
- Are the materials hardwearing and robust or more delicate and fragile?
- What implications does this have for the maintenance of your building?
- What do you think are the three most important things to think about when it comes to maintaining a place of worship?
- What was the most useful maintenance tip in the DVD?

Working with your professional advisers

- What do you see as the role of your professional adviser (usually an architect or building surveyor)?
- What use do you make of your Quinquennial Inspection Reports or any other regular condition reports prepared by your professional adviser?
- Can you think of any ways of working more effectively with your professional adviser?

Health and safety

- What are the benefits of carrying out a risk assessment in relation to maintaining your place of worship safely?
- Are you aware of any particular problems regarding safe access and if so, what steps have you taken to address them?
- Are you aware of any particular issues concerning hazardous materials such as bird droppings or broken glass and if so, what steps have you taken to address them?

Planning and recording

- How do you currently organise your maintenance plan or programme?
- What existing skills do you have in your parish or local area and how could these best be used to look after your building better?
- Can you think of any simple cleaning and/or maintenance tasks such as oiling locks and clearing condensation channels that could be tackled by a working party on a regular basis?
- What benefits might there be in setting an annual maintenance budget for your place of worship?
- Can you think of ways to improve your record keeping to ensure that future volunteers have a full understanding of what works have been done in the past?