

submission of further information before the petition would be considered further. [Alexander McGregor]

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### **Re All Saints, Alrewas**

Lichfield Consistory Court: Eyre Ch, April 2012

*Font – relocation*

The petitioners sought a faculty for a modern extension to a mediaeval church with internal re-ordering of the nave, creating a glass-walled meeting room. The changes were to accommodate the Sunday school, which was meeting in the Methodist church, to create more flexible space for meetings, hospitality and youth activities and to improve toilet and kitchen facilities. Relocation of the font was necessitated by the works but would also make the font more visible. In considering the relocation of the font, the chancellor addressed both the *Bishopsgate* questions and the principles applicable to the positioning of fonts. It was not adequate for there to be a positive outcome from the *Bishopsgate* questions alone. The faculty was granted in full on the basis that, although the works would have an adverse impact on the church architecture, this was outweighed by the pressing need for the changes to facilitate mission and to provide space for children's activities. Relocation of the font was granted as part of the wider works, but the need for greater visibility generally within the church and to enhance visibility during baptisms would have justified the change as a stand-alone application. [Catherine Shelley]

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### **Re All Saints, Herstmonceux**

Chichester Consistory Court: Hill Ch, April 2012

*Churchyard – headstone – regulations – Celtic cross*

The petitioner sought a faculty for the erection of a headstone over the grave of her mother. The headstone fell outside the Churchyard Regulations in that it was surmounted by a carved Celtic cross. The PCC objected to the headstone on the basis that it was out of keeping with nearby headstones and it risked the floodgates opening in relation to other applications. In granting the faculty, the chancellor observed that the stone was not of a design or material that was wholly inappropriate. The Celtic cross spoke of the deceased's Welsh heritage and the Christian faith. The purpose of the Regulations was not to promote uniformity and homogeneity. The chancellor confirmed that this judgment was made on the particular facts of this case and should not be seen as opening the floodgates for such headstones. [RA]

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