Good Practice for Developing Online Material and Resources

See the 10 commandments of producing effective e-learning resources in the BLTG interim report:
https://bltgreport.wordpress.com/developing-digital-discipleship/

Where is this already happening in the URC? (beyond inventive congregations)

1. E-learnDesign could create a much more user-friendly and interactive version of URCLE, if we commissioned them to do so.

2. *Reform* magazine is available online, for general learning. The magazine also offer study materials (written by Steve Tomkins) based on selected articles each month. http://www.reform-magazine.co.uk/study-materials/

3. The BLTG's work on redesigning TLS-LITE for online delivery (David Salsbury) is worth revisiting: http://moodle.urc.org.uk/course/view.php?id=122

4. The URC website has a range of online resources of variable interactivity. Some use images, others are text documents made easy to download. See:

    http://www.urc.org.uk/what-is-the-urc
    http://www.urc.org.uk/resourcing-our-elders-8-areas-for-development.html
    videos: http://www.urc.org.uk/discipleship/education-and-learning/training-for-learning-and-serving.html and http://www.urc.org.uk/discipleship/education-and-learning.html
    podcasts: http://www.urc.org.uk/podcasts.html

5. An example of using images ,sound and video with some interactivity and participation is the Windermere Online Festival http://windermereurc.org.uk/windermere-online-nw/

6. A speedy survey of the Synod websites suggests that they vary in their visual impact, and are not used for online learning. Not all of them make it easy to find information about learning events. Many of them have been helped through ichurch training provided by the Windermere Centre. Some have moving images http://urc-northernsynod.org/ http://www.urc-eastern.org.uk/ or embedded videos http://www.nwsynod.org.uk/always-reforming http://urcthamesnorth.org.uk/children-youth-pilots/ or a clear, colourful front page http://www.urcwales.org.uk/ http://urcthamesnorth.org.uk/ http://southernsynodurc.org.uk/ or clearly signposted resources http://www.urc-eastern.org.uk/ or a current news feed clearly signposting events and happenings http://wessexsynodurc.org.uk/

7. The URC Communications team are able to offer support to people within the URC (i.e. mainly Assembly Committee staff) preparing online material. Advice on how to write for the web is available from Gill Nichol whilst Graphics can help with design. The outcome is expected to comply with URC house style if it's intended to be uploaded to the URC website. This is all within the time constraints of the Communications team.

8. The online learning manager job description devised in July 2015 offers one route to increasing the URC's capacity for designing online learning resources. See the separate updated version and commentary.