

Minutes from Holy Trinity Church, Hartshill, Church Project Meeting, 29th April 2024

These are the notes from the Holy Trinity Church, Hartshill, Church Project Meeting of 29th April which was held in Hartshill Community Centre. It was attended by Nick Miles (chair), Nick Blamire Brown, Rev'd Stacy Nelson (scribe) and Sue Foster.

The notes were produced by Stacy to be used by Nick M. to feedback to the PCC at the next PCC meeting.

1. Review of period of praying and listening to God

- a. It was useful to step back and pray and that resulted in a bit of a shift of perspective for some of the team.
- b. Perhaps not using the model of the community centre but asking what does the church offer that is different from the community centre? Feedback included - feels like a church, peaceful place, occasional offices in a space that is what is expected. One comment was, what I'd really like is for the church to be warm and decorated. And it was highlighted that the most significant element at the moment is heating.
- c. We were reminded that our current running costs are exceeding our income which means that not having income from community use is an issue. A discussion followed around what community use would be different from what is already available and how much community use would be needed to make a financial difference? There was an expressed concern that the community centre really handles the needs so there may not be enough demand.

2. Discussion moved to how we use the church hall in the community centre which led to 2 questions for further exploration,

- a. Can we use it for services to reduce costs in the winter?

Action: Stacy to contact the archdeacon's team about legalities of hall and what we are allowed to do in the hall to feed into the discussion.

Nick to look at if there are any barriers in relation to the project committee legal position.

- b. Is there an appetite for expanding use of the hall for outreach or growth in other forms?

3. For bringing to the PCC, based on the discussion,

- Recommendation - prioritise a heating solution and the environment of the church as a space & leverage the flexibility of having the church hall at our disposal on Sundays.
- Heating - a quick heat solution would be a better fit than a full time heating solution for a context of occasional offices, services, one-off concert bookings and the like. The project team would like to re-engage with the diocesan heating advisor based on this plan for use.
- Environment - the project team would like to proceed with planning to refresh the interior decorating of the church.