

# Minutes of Holy Trinity Church Project Meeting, 14/10/2024

Attendees Nick Blamire Brown, Stacy Nelson, Nick Miles, Jeff Robinson, Sue Foster (scribe)

## Existing heating

Nick Miles updated us on the situation with the current heating system. The boiler is currently working (We held the meeting in Church as it was nice and warm.) The leaking pipe by the organ is to be replaced with a copper pipe. The plumber will service the convector radiators at the back of the Church. The left one isn't working and the right one squeaks.

The heating is currently being turned on 3.5 hours before a service and turned off half an hour before the service end as the residual heat is sufficient.

We went through the action points from our last meeting on 31/7/2024.

## Action Points from meeting of 31/7/2024

**AP1** Nick M. guttering and downpipes

No progress so far. Nick M. will talk to the roofer to get a quote for bigger gutters and aluminium downpipes.

**AP2** Nick BB to email to Hartshill Parish Plan Team.

Nick sent this email "Hi John, Nick, Howard and Glenys.

I think you are aware of our church project to seek improvements to the Church Building, particularly a new heating system.

We are keen to try to meet the Church of England's target for 'all parts of the church to work to become carbon 'net zero' by 2030'.

So we are exploring various heating options. We have so far met with the Diocese Heating Advisor and more recently with the Conservation Officer at North Warwickshire Borough Council who was extremely knowledgeable and helpful.

She advised us that it is unlikely that we would be able to fit solar panels on the Church roof due to its steep pitch but she then looked at the Community Centre roofs and she thought that solar panels on those would be feasible.

There is one solar panel for hot water on the roof but it does look as if there is good scope to put solar panels to generate electricity. Although the aspect is not ideal due to the Church Building creating a shadow we think there is enough light to make this feasible. This could have a benefit to the Parish Council in reducing energy costs for the centre and the Church especially as the peak times of the use of the buildings do not conflict often.

At the last project meeting we agreed to write to the directors of the HPPP to see if the directors would have any objection to us pursuing this further.

The Church will underwrite the cost of any installation but the HPPP may be able to attract grants towards the cost which the Church and the Parish Council may not be eligible to go for- as was the case in the Big Lottery grant.

We would welcome any comments on this proposal and if there are no fundamental objections we will then report to the PCC next month and then seek a meeting with representatives of the Parish Council and maybe the Hartshill Borough Councillors to brief them on how our project has moved forward.

Thanks and best wishes, Nick B-B"

Positive responses were received from John, Nick and Howard.

Nick Miles expressed concern as to whether the potential solar panel project came under the remit of the Church Project team as most of the potential benefit appeared to be for the Community Centre. The Church has a separate power supply and the logistics of connecting to both the community centre and the church power supply could be difficult.

**AP3** Nick BB to get ball park figures for solar panels. Perhaps ask All Saints, Bedworth how much theirs cost. (There is some information in <http://www.little-blue-boat.co.uk/churchproject/documents/Bedworth%20solar%20panels.pdf>

Nick BB. Has made contact with Bedworth Church but no response has been received so far.

**AP4** Sue to update Vision Statement

Version 3 has been added to the website (<http://www.little-blue-boat.co.uk/churchproject/documents/Church%20Vision%20Statement%20V3.pdf>). We didn't get the chance to review it at the meeting.

**AP5** Jeff to approach NACRO

Jeff and Sharon had a very positive meeting with the Probation Service on 20<sup>th</sup> October 2024. I've copied Jeff's email to

<http://www.little-blue-boat.co.uk/churchproject/documents/Probation%20service%20meeting%20October%202024.pdf>

If we have to use lime wash paint, we will not be able to use NACRO. Jeff has prepared a document on the problems of using lime wash paint, including its very high cost, see <http://www.little-blue-boat.co.uk/churchproject/documents/Paint.pdf>

Nick M. said that he thinks painting with the same paint in the same colour would be a list B faculty. List B faculties require permission from the Archdeacon and so an application would have to be submitted.

**AP6** Stacy to investigate heated pew cushions

Stacy circulated the following documents on heated pew cushions.

<http://www.little-blue-boat.co.uk/churchproject/documents/marown-case-study.pdf>

<http://www.little-blue-boat.co.uk/churchproject/documents/heatedseatcushions.pdf>

We had a discussion on whether people could take them home to charge them. Jeff also highlighted that there were cheaper options available which were camping cushions at £25 per person.

**AP7** Stacy to investigate grants

Stacy circulated this article on lottery funding

<http://www.little-blue-boat.co.uk/churchproject/documents/lottery%20funding%20church%20times%20sep%202024.pdf>

Stacy also told us that Coventry Diocese will match fund everything on the way to net 0.

AP8 Nick M. to brief the PCC using the briefing note written by Nick BB. (<http://www.little-blue-boat.co.uk/churchproject/documents/Update%20for%20PCC%20Sep%202024.pdf>)

Response from Nick. M

“The PCC meeting went well and I used the document you kindly prepared to provide an update and discuss The Project Teams ongoing activities.

I did not seek any further resolutions as previous support from the PCC covered exploring options, seeking solutions, meeting with other 3rd parties and finding out about grants. I believe PCC consent will be required once we have firm proposals from the work that is ongoing.

I did ask the PCC members to consider the idea of using the Hall when the temperature drops in preparation for possible future discussion/decisions”.

## Jeff's Idea

Jeff explained his new idea.

As the focal point of our Church is the altar etc. at the front of the Church, we could install a theatrical curtain as seen in the South Scarle case study. We could also install fans with long extensions to direct the heat downwards. There is a lot of wasted space at the front of the Church as the choir stalls are no longer used and so it could be reconfigured to make better use of the space and accommodate a congregation of up to 60 at the front. The heating system should then be designed to heat the front, as opposed to our current system which heats mainly the back of the church.



Example curtain and fan

## New Action Points

**AP1.** Nick M. to talk to the roofer to get a quote for bigger gutters and aluminium downpipes.

**AP2.** Nick BB. To arrange meeting with Parish Council to discuss feasibility study for solar panels.

**AP3.** Nick M. Is lime based paint a show stopper?

**AP4.** Nick BB. And Jeff to create plan of works

**AP5.** Nick M. To talk to PCC about Jeff's curtain idea