

Minutes of Holy Trinity Church Project Meeting, 31/7/2024

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

Nick BB summarised our position following our meeting with Jennifer Leadbetter, Heritage and Conservation Officer at North Warwickshire Council, on 17th July. There was a consensus that we should address issues affecting the integrity of the building before taking action on the heating. The following were discussed.

Guttering and downpipes

It was agreed that the guttering and downpipes should be replaced with larger ones. The downpipes should be aluminium. **AP 1 raised**

Trees

Nick M. informed us that a tree survey was done recently and the only action required was to remove 1 dead branch from the tree at the front by the bench.

Windows

Secondary glazing should be considered for the inside.

Solar Panels

Solar panels could be fitted to the Community Centre roofs. The Community Centre building is leased by the Church to Hartshill Parish Plan Project Ltd on a 25 year lease. Permission would therefore need to be sought from Hartshill Parish Plan Project Ltd. We would also seek the consent of the Parish Council. **APs 2 and 3 raised.**

Vision Statement

The current Vision Statement is out of date. **AP 4 raised.**

Insulation

Jeff said he thought that the Diocese asked for the insulation to be removed because it had all blown to one end and had become entangled with debris. Jeff said that the access point to the loft space was very small and that the cost of insulation was likely to be in the region of £40,000.

Consultation Meetings

The following meetings need to be planned for in the order shown:

Meeting with PCC

Meeting with Congregation

Meeting with Parish Councillors and Ward Councillors when we have a plan

Community Involvement

Nick BB expressed that he was keen to involve the community. Ideas include a Community Garden in the space behind the conservatory. Stacy suggested that we look at the Garden of Hope at West Wood in Coventry

(<https://stjohnswestwood.org.uk/the-garden-of-hope>)

Nick also suggested a heritage group based at the Church.

Decoration

Having the Church decorated by professionals would be very expensive. A suggestion is that Church members decorate the Church with help from the community. We think there are a lot of people in the Community Church who love the Church building and so would be willing to help.

Last time the Church was decorated, it was done by NACRO. Could they do it again? **AP 5 raised**

Heating the People

Sue has investigated the cost of unheated pew cushions (<http://www.little-blue-boat.co.uk/churchproject/documents/pew%20cushions.pdf>) with the thought that they could be used in conjunction with pew heaters

However, Stacy mentioned that heated pew cushions were an alternative. **AP 6 raised**

Heating the Building

Jennifer Leadbetter suggested that the Church needed to be kept above 10 degrees centigrade. However, it hasn't been in the past and it does not seem achievable.

We have been discussing ways of heating the people but Nick M. said that he thinks we also need a system to heat the building. There is a problem with our current boiler and so we don't have that.

Grants and finance

Stacy has done some investigation into grants. We could also seek advice from Andy Duncan, the Diocesan Advisor on grants. **AP 7 raised**

Stacy suggested that we could seek donations via a "Gifts of Support" type scheme, where people buy a gift such as a pew cushion or a window.

Action Points

AP1 Nick M. guttering and downpipes

AP2 Nick BB to email to Hartshill Parish Plan Team

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>)

AP4 Sue to update Vision Statement

AP5 Jeff to approach NACRO

AP6 Stacy to investigate heated pew cushions

AP7 Stacy to investigate grants