

Church Project Agenda 13th October 2025

Attendees: Nick Blamire Brown, Jeff Robinson, Nick Miles, Simon Pearson, Kevin Essex, Sue Foster (minutes).

Apologies: Katie Hobley

Welcome to Kevin Essex who has agreed to lead the community garden initiative.

Prior to the meeting, Nick BB circulated the following documents

Jeff's Notes for this meeting (see item 2)

<https://www.little-blue-boat.co.uk/churchproject/documents/Notes%20for%20Project%20Meeting%2013th%20October%202025.pdf>

<https://www.little-blue-boat.co.uk/churchproject/documents/Project%20Programme.pdf>

<https://www.little-blue-boat.co.uk/churchproject/documents/Phonecall%20with%20Jo%20Hands.pdf>

<https://www.little-blue-boat.co.uk/churchproject/documents/Heating%20Resilience%20Plan.pdf>

<https://www.little-blue-boat.co.uk/churchproject/documents/Young%20People.pdf>

<https://www.little-blue-boat.co.uk/churchproject/documents/Notes%20on%20Disability%20Audit.pdf>

<https://www.little-blue-boat.co.uk/churchproject/documents/Draft%20Funding%20Strategy.pdf>

<https://www.little-blue-boat.co.uk/churchproject/documents/Statement%20of%20Need%20for%20project%20Rev%20204.pdf>

1. Action points from 1st September meeting

Nick BB. circulated the following updates from the action points prior to this meeting.

Quick Update on Action Points from last meeting.

AP1. Simon to explore sending an email to those people who provided their email addresses seeking permission to use their email addresses to keep them informed- **done**

Only 9 people have said that they want to be kept in touch via email.

AP2. Jeff and Nick B.B. To write briefing note for Colin Angus, , Net Zero Carbon Project Officer- **done**

AP3. Permission to be sought from PCC to submit faculty application for phase1.- **done**

AP4. Jeff is going to see the Nuneaton branch of Men and Women in Sheds to see if they are willing to assist in setting up a group in our church grounds- **done**

AP5. Nick B.B. And Jeff to talk to Andy Duncan about updating his spreadsheet, including the identification of grants- **done**

AP6. Nick B.B. To organise a meeting with Jennifer Leadbetter, Heritage and Conservation Officer at North Warwickshire Council, to update her on the project and seek advice on whether Historic England should be consulted.- **ongoing**

AP7. Nick B.B. To check date of next meeting with Katie and Mick M- **done**

2. Jeff's notes for this meeting. Previously circulated.

There were no particular comments relating to this document, although not everybody had seen it.

Jeff said that the big crack at the front right of the church is due to the sycamore roots and that the likely solution is a root barrier. Jeff approached a company in Coventry who said that they would usually do work like this following an insurance claim. It was mentioned in the Quinquennial inspection

AP1. Nick M. to approach our insurance company a.s.a.p. to determine whether to submit an insurance claim. (5th November is the deadline for a possible grant identified by Jeff.)

3. Heating Resilience Plan. Previously circulated.

No major comments.

AP2. Nick M. to present the Heating Resilience Plan to the PCC before the DAC site visit on 5/11/2025. The next planned PCC meeting is after this date and so an Extraordinary PCC meeting will have to be convened.

4. Community Garden Group.

Welcome to Kevin Essex who has agreed to lead the community garden initiative.

Kevin gave an account of his work career background and his experience as treasurer of the Allotment Association and described his initial thoughts on the community garden, which included raised beds, a sensory bed, low maintenance border, rockery and a memorial garden. He commented that a vegetable plot may not be feasible.

A discussion followed with regard to there being a limited amount of work that can be done until we have Diocesan faculty. However, maintenance can be done without a faculty.

Nick M. said that we should link bio diversity and the Community Garden for the purposes of funding.

There was a discussion about setting up a facebook group to encourage community involvement. Although Sue Foster could set up a facebook group, it would need to be administered by people on the community garden project and it would actually be better if they set it up themselves. There are plenty of YouTube videos on how to do it.

AP3. Kevin to talk to his wife about setting up a facebook group for the Community Garden.

5. Other community initiatives

Heritage Group

There are several people interested in involvement with the Heritage Group but nobody yet who has expressed the desire to lead the project.

AP4. Sue to approach a couple of friends, also known to Nick BB. who might possibly be interested and who have a historic association with the Family History Group.

Hartshill Academy

Nick M. and Nick BB met with the Ami Radcliffe, Director of music and performing arts at Hartshill Academy. It was a very successful meeting and Ami is already planning a carol concert here on 17th December. Ami and 2 colleagues are meeting with Michelle Pearson on Friday 17th October at 3.30pm in Church to look at the facility.

6. Consultation actions- meeting with Parish Council?

It was decided that we are not yet ready to meet with the Parish Council again.

7. Funding Strategy-

see <https://www.little-blue-boat.co.uk/churchproject/documents/Draft%20Funding%20Strategy.pdf>

and

<https://www.little-blue-boat.co.uk/churchproject/documents/Phonecall%20with%20Jo%20Hands.pdf>

Nick said that it would be useful for funding applications if everybody wrote 50 to 100 words about themselves and their position in the project (AI CoPilot can be very helpful in polishing the description.)

AP5. All. Write 50 to 100 words describing yourself and your position in the project.

Andy Duncan is apparently looking at funding opportunities on 14th October.

AP6. Nick BB. To send Funding Strategy to Andy Duncan on 13th October

Jeff has already filled in the form for the Net Zero grant for the heated seat pads.

8. Any other business and date of next meeting.

Due to lack of time, the other input documents were not discussed in detail.

AP7. All. Consider who would be appropriate to conduct the 360° accessibility audit.

Date of next meeting. November 3rd 2025 at 7pm. (Sue is away and so will attend via facetime)