

St James' Christleton

New Beginnings



The parish church should be
*"The foundations of welfare, community
and spiritual belonging in England"*



Looking back, we can see a memorial to Lionel Garnett (Rector, 1869 - 1911) who oversaw a great advancement in the church's compassionate care, and the flourishing of church and community.

Today, with the rise of secularism, St James despite strong connections and commitment to the parish has arguably lost much of its connection with the communities it serves. Yet, the building remains pivotal to the 'chocolate box' nature of the village and the Heritage of our nation as the only church (grade 2*) in Cheshire designed by the renowned Victorian architect William Butterfield. Today, we are excited and

thankful, for the community discerns - the Lord is about to do a new thing here in this place.

Looking forward, we remember the community and its building exists simply to love God, neighbour, and self - to share in God's mission which places compassionate care at the heart of its being and doing. This is why we are proposing to develop the church building to place it at the service and centre of the communities for their flourishing. To increase its social value through the provision of community services and by increasing the wellbeing of those who volunteer and use said services. These changes, detailed in what follows, will be essential to create a sustainable future for your Heritage site to serve not only this generation but future generations to come - to take the next great advancement in the flourishing of the parish communities.

We humbly request your generous support to make this vision a reality.

With love,

Stefan



So what's new?

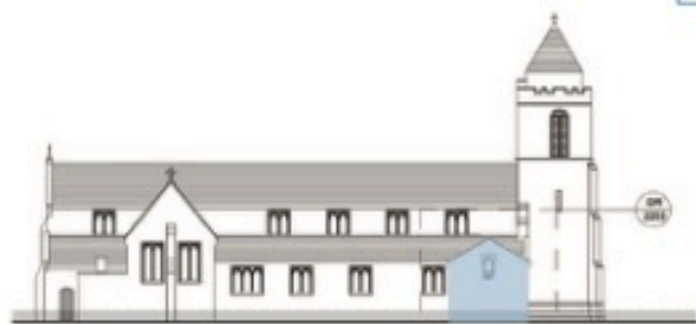
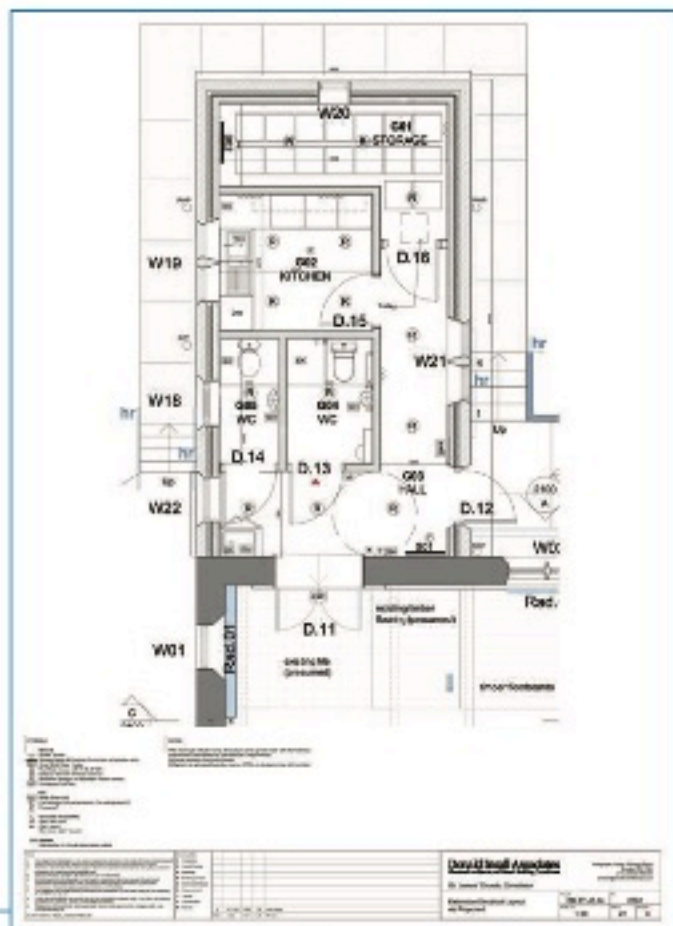
AN EXTENSION TO THE CHURCH

The development plan comprises an extension to the North West corner of the church including storage, a kitchen, and toilets with disabled facilities.

See to the right the architect's detailed floor plan, showing access to the extension through the doors at D11.

A display board of plans will be available at the back of church.

See also below the architect's drawings of the external impact of the extension.



North Elevation
1:100 @ A1



East Elevation
1:100 @ A1



South Elevation
1:100 @ A1



West Elevation
1:100 @ A1

<p>Legend</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Existing Church 2. Proposed Extension 3. Proposed Access 4. Proposed Windows 5. Proposed Doors 6. Proposed Stairs 7. Proposed Toilets 8. Proposed Kitchen 9. Proposed Storage 10. Proposed Hall 	<p>Donald Inzell Associates 21 James Street, Christchurch Architects & Planners Ray Hooper</p> <p>PROJECT NO: 2000 DATE: 11/01/04</p>	<p>Donald Inzell Associates 21 James Street, Christchurch Architects & Planners Ray Hooper</p> <p>PROJECT NO: 2000 DATE: 11/01/04</p>
--	--	--

So what's new ?

CHANGES TO THE NAVE

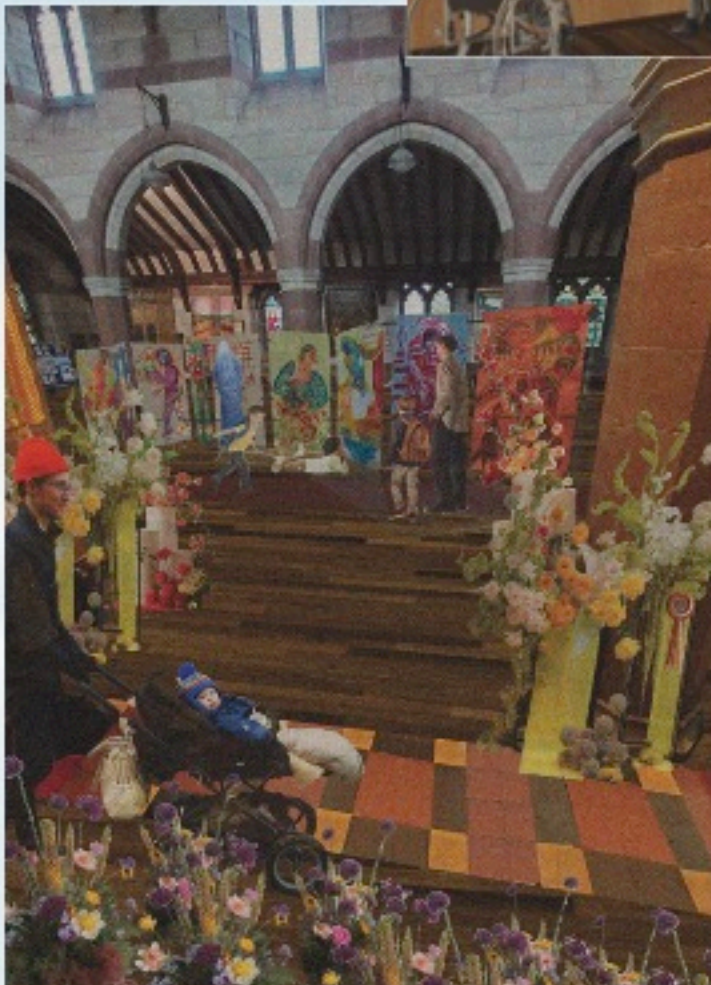
Whilst we honour the historic beauty of the church, in line with our grade 2* listing, fundamental change is required.

The pews with some exceptions (primarily the pews in the choir) will be removed and replaced with individual chairs. The chairs selected are Icon 40 which are used in the Cathedral. This will open up the space and provide flexible seating for all types of church and community events including much enhanced disabled access and fellowship opportunities.



So what's new ? **COMMUNITY SPACE**

This will facilitate hospitality for up to 200 people, enabling a wide range of clubs and organisations to meet the interests of the community, promoting social interaction and reducing isolation for both young and old.



PROGRESS TO DATE

The scheme was first seriously considered over 6 years ago.

Stefan Collier has worked intensively with a small team to bring the project to its current position.

Donald Insall Associates (Architects) were appointed and have drawn up these detailed plans.

Covid caused delays and there have been hurdles to clear but we now have planning permission, Church of England approval and are in a position to progress.

The cost is estimated to be c£600,000. There are a number of grants that we can apply for. The sums available vary from funder to funder but the majority offer in the region of £10,000 to £30,000 maximum. A select few can potentially offer support in excess of £100,000 however this is a very competitive market. All prospective funders require "self funding" up front. Levels also vary but we are working on the basis that this will be 50% of the grant requested. Our total self funding target does therefore need to be c£300,000.

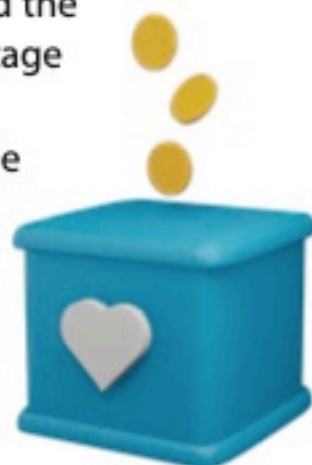
In anticipation of receiving the various permissions to proceed, St James has built up a reserve for this purpose of c£100,000.

We now need to start in earnest to raise the balance of £200,000. This will be a stretch and we are now appealing to you as members of the wider community for financial support so that working side by side we can bring this exciting development to fruition.

A common response to church fundraising is "The Church of England has significant funds so why can't they be used for this purpose?"

The point is well made. The Church of England endowment funds total c£10billion. However, the underlying position is more problematic. Covid dealt a body blow to church attendances which have not recovered and the "business" is losing money. There are 12,500 churches with heritage status in England which are the responsibility of the Church of England. There is much love for these churches but precious little financial support.

Consequently, there will be no help for St James from either the diocese or the centre.



Will you help us to fund this development?

We have set up a **restricted fund** for exactly this purpose and no other.

Payments can be made in 4 ways

1. Bank transfer (please fill in gift aid form if appropriate)
2. Website donation (gift aid facility available)
3. QR code (gift aid facility available)
4. Cheque to the account below



Account Name: Christleton Parochial Church Council
Sort Code: 09-01-52
Account Number: 98319705

GIFT AID DECLARATION Parish of St James, Christleton

Full Name: _____

Address: _____

(Postcode) _____

Date: _____

Signature: _____

I would like St James Parish Church, Christleton, to reclaim tax on all donations I make from the date of this declaration until I notify you otherwise. I am a UK taxpayer and I note that I must have paid an amount of tax that at least equals the tax deducted from my donations. (Subject to the standard rate of income tax in force at the time of the donation).

Please return to:
The Treasurer, C/O The Rector,
The Rectory, Birch Heath Lane, Christleton, Chester, CH3 7AP
or treasurer@stjameschristleton.org.uk

Thank You

New Beginnings




The House of God

Join us for this exciting development!

The House of Good

<https://www.stjameschristleton.org.uk>

 www.facebook.com/stjameschristleton/