



Christ Church
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Making an entrance...

Phase 2 of our refurbishment project

Building a community of believers

Giving thanks for Phase 1

One of the highlights of Phase 1 of the refurbishment project was the Thanksgiving Service to mark the completion of the internal work in October 2009. It was wonderful celebrating the completion of Phase 1 after three years of planning and nearly two years of work but there was a deeper joy: seeing just how many old friends, who had been involved at Christ Church in the past, wanted to come back and share this celebration with us.

These memories emphasise how the building work has never really been about bricks and mortar but about the building of a community of believers. The effort those old friends made to get to the service showed just how much the church family at Christ Church meant to them.

Our prayer continues to be that God will build us into a church of living stones who will bring glory to him. (1 Corinthians 3:9; 1 Peter 2:5). These plans for the further development of the building are designed to serve that end.

What is Phase 2?

Phase 1 of the building refurbishment involved redesigning the internal space. As well as much needed updating – heating, decorations and a new kitchen – we also added extra rooms and made it possible to access the lift and toilets without going via the hall. These design changes had always been planned alongside the refurbishment of the entrance.

Phase 2, then, involves removing the current front porch, which is in very poor repair, and constructing a new and welcoming entrance to the church building. This large lobby will have rooms either side of it for staff offices and children's work. There will also be two new folding partitions in the hall to create three soundproofed areas for Sunday Club and other groups.

Why is this further work needed?

There are three main reasons for the work:

1. **To provide a welcoming entrance that invites people to come in.** Currently the combination of the railings and the poor condition of the porch make the front of the building look uninviting. Visitors are regularly surprised at the excellent internal spaces and range of activities taking place at Christ Church. We want to have an entrance that more accurately reflects what lies inside the building.

You may be wondering...

Is now the right time to be spending so much money on our building?

Building a new front entrance has always been the plan since we first thought about refurbishing the church. It is an uncertain time in the economy of our nation and therefore for many of us. However, we are convinced of the need for this work and trust that, if it is God's will for Phase 2 to go ahead, he will move us to give what we can. Leaving the work until the economy strengthens may mean a long wait and there is a clear need to press forward now.

Could this money be more usefully spent overseas?

We want to be generous with the resources God has given us, including our money, and the church council plans to increase the amount we give away, above our current 10 per cent. The Mission Support Group directs these gifts to overseas work and poorer churches in the UK. However, God has also made us stewards of this building and placed us in this community and it is right to take these responsibilities seriously too.

How can I start giving regularly to Christ Church?

Our 'Giving at Christ Church' booklet has all the information you need to start giving to our general funds, as well as a useful summary of what the Bible says about giving.



Why are you asking for details of pledges?

Before we take a loan from the diocese we need to make sure we will be able to repay it by 2015. Information about giving will be treated as confidential, kept securely and seen only by one or two people dealing with the administration of gifts.

What happens if we don't raise enough money?

Until we have funds (or pledges) for the remaining cost, we will not be able to start the proposed work. If not enough funds are raised then the PCC will need to prayerfully consider whether to put the plans on hold or change them considerably.

What happens if we raise too much money?

Having praised God for pouring out his blessings on us £50k could be returned to the general funds; the PCC would then need to decide how to allocate any further money.

How can I find out more information about the project and plans?

For more information, please contact Ian White or Martin Frost via office@christchurchcambridge.org.uk

Gift Aid declaration

Full name (CAPITALS)

Address (CAPITALS)

..... Postcode

I would like St Andrew the Less Building and Restorations Fund to reclaim tax on all my gifts until further notice.

I am a taxpayer and I understand that I must pay Income or Capital Gains Tax equal to the tax deducted from my donations.

I am willing for the above information to be stored on computer.

Signature Date



2. To properly care for those who use the building during the week.

At the moment, apart from on Sundays, the side door acts as our main entrance. Its position makes it hard to find, hard to keep secure, and visitors have to walk through the hall (and whatever activity is happening there) to get to the main office.

We want an entrance in the obvious place (at the front!) and offices situated so that staff and visitors do not need to disrupt events being held in the hall. Creating an administrative hub with all the staff offices close to one another will also help the church staff to welcome visitors and work together more efficiently.

3. To allow the crèche and each Sunday Club group to have their own room.

God has blessed us with lots of children at Christ Church and we have fantastic teams of helpers and leaders caring for them and teaching them about Jesus. However, many of the groups are currently meeting in sections of the hall where they are distracted by noise from other groups. We want to have dedicated rooms for each age group and an expanded area for our overflowing crèche. These rooms will also be used mid-week by church groups and others who hire our facilities.

How is the work going to be funded?

The budget for the project is £275k. No central Church of England funds are available so all the money must be raised by us. The appeal for Phase 1 raised over £588k, which means we have a surplus of £48k to carry forward to Phase 2. In addition, the PCC has been able to put aside £50k from general funds towards the work. That means the appeal target is £177k including Gift Aid (£142k before Gift Aid). This is a large amount of money for a church of our size and will mean sacrificial giving. We want to encourage every regular member of Christ Church to contribute to the appeal, even if the amount they can give is small. We think it is vital that we have a shared sense of responsibility for this project. We hope the whole church will feel they are joining in a commitment to pray and give.

A vision for the future

This work is, in many ways, a completion of the project begun back in the 1970s when the building was divided horizontally by installing a floor at the level of the original balcony. It will create a building able to serve the gospel ministry at Christ Church long into the future. God has blessed us with considerable growth over the past seven years and we pray that this next period in the life of Christ Church will bring glory to him.

Steve Midgley, Ian White, James Diver

Getting started



The appeal process

Unlike Phase 1 this work will be completed in one go. That means we need to have the finances in place before we start work. The PCC is, therefore, ready to take a loan from the diocese, provided it is underwritten by pledges from the church family. For this reason we are asking for both one-off gifts and also pledges of further giving spread over the next three years. These can either be further lump sums or a commitment to regular giving.

The planning process

We require planning consent from the City Council and a faculty from the Church of England before we can begin work. We have started the application process and hope the permissions will be in place to allow the project to begin in summer 2012. It will take about six months to complete the work and during that time the only entrance to the building will be by the side door.

Achieving our target

Allowing for Gift Aid, we could achieve our target with:

- 10 one-off gifts of £3,000
- and 35 gifts of £1,500
- and 50 gifts of £200

plus

- 10 pledges of £40 per month for 3 years
- and 35 of £20 per month for 3 years
- and 50 of £6 per month for 3 years



Giving to the building project

To help us plan the project finances please indicate how you aim to give and, if you are a tax payer, please complete the Gift Aid form on the reverse so that we can reclaim an additional 25p on every £1 you give.

Name

I wish to make an immediate gift of £..... and/or I pledge to give a total of £..... in the future in the form of lump sums of £..... on(dates) or regular gift(s) of £..... monthly / quarterly / annually from until(dates)

Please make cheques payable to **St Andrew the Less Building & Restorations Fund**.

To make regular gifts, please fill in the Standing Order form below and return both parts of this form to the Bookkeeper at Christ Church.

Standing Order

To the Manager, Bank plc

Address
 Postcode

Please pay to St Andrew the Less Building & Restorations Fund at Barclays Bank, 28 Chesterton Road, Cambridge CB4 3AZ Bank Sort Code 20-17-19, Account No. 60800279, the sum of:

£ (figures) (words)

on the day of 20

and on the same day in each succeeding month / quarter / year

for a total of payments.

This order cancels any previous instruction in favour of St Andrew the Less Building & Restorations Fund.

My Account No. My Bank Sort Code - -

Signature Date

Address

..... Postcode

Inside the new plans

A Raising our profile

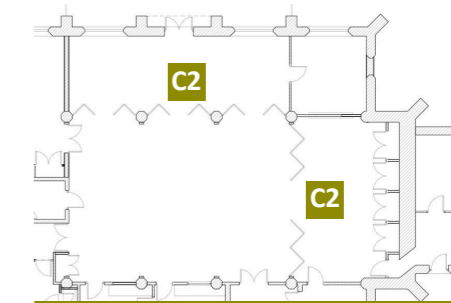
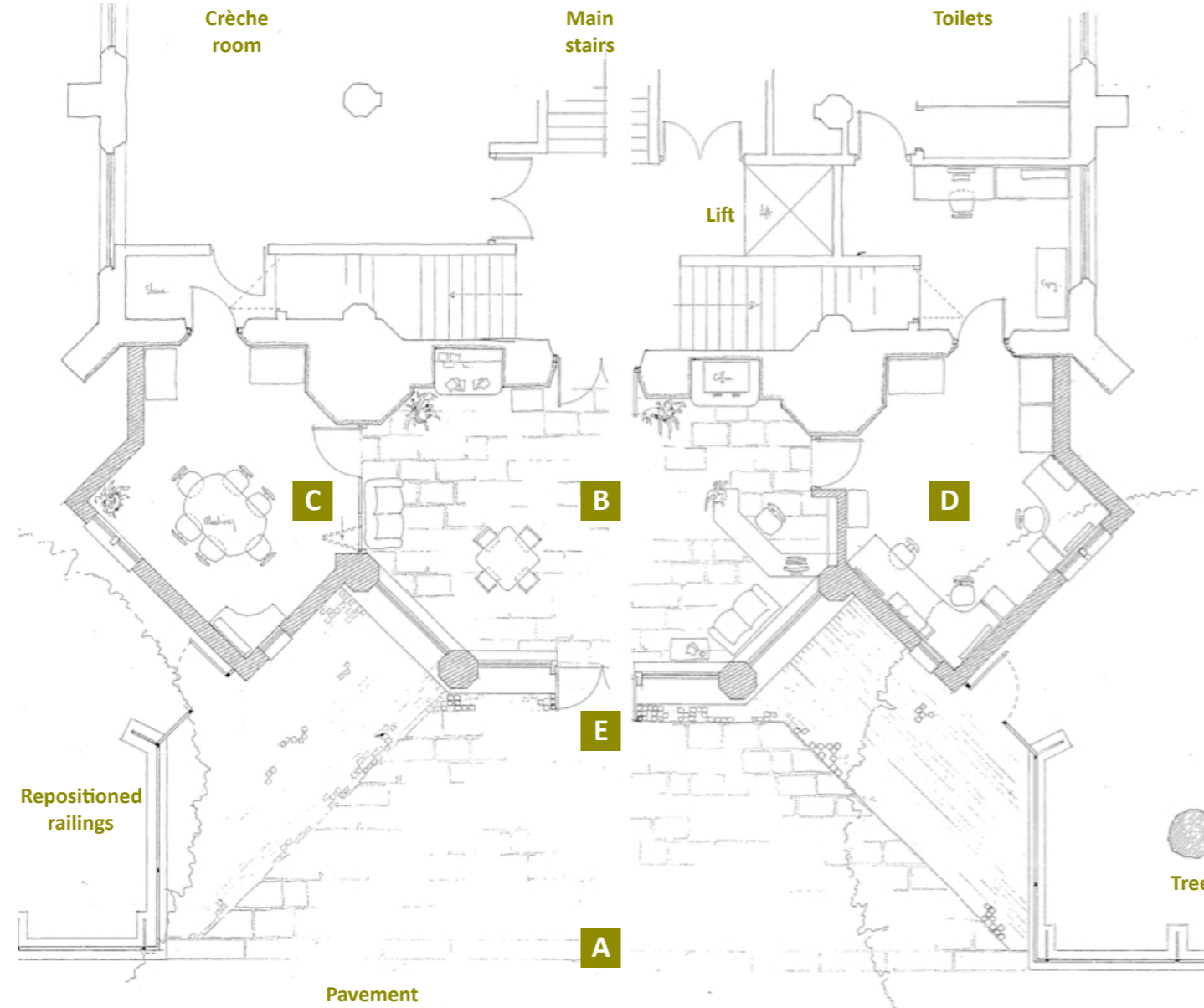
Even those familiar with this area of Cambridge often have no idea where Christ Church is. They may have passed by many times without really noticing the building, despite its size! Perhaps one of the reasons is that the railings form a barrier which looks as though it's meant to keep people out.

We plan to reposition the railings to give open access from the pavement to the front door of the church building, while still securely enclosing the churchyard area. A new notice board will also help communicate with visitors and people passing by.

B A welcoming foyer

Visitors to Christ Church are often surprised at the contrast between the current rather dismal front porch area and the fresh, modern facilities inside the building.

The new foyer is designed to be spacious, light and welcoming, with a large amount of glass at the front to encourage people to look in and come inside. It will be a functional reception area large enough to host 30–40 people for drinks before a meal, or to serve as a comfortable waiting area for parents collecting children from Pathfinders or Holiday Club.



C More space for children's activities

One of the key aims of the new plans is to provide additional rooms in which we can care for and teach the growing numbers of babies, children and young people joining the church family.

There will be a new room which could be used as an additional crèche or Sunday Club space, and as a lounge area during the week. A movable wall and door will enable this area to be incorporated into the foyer, forming a large multipurpose space for events.

C2 There will also be two new folding partitions in the hall creating new rooms, primarily for Sunday Club but also for 20TWENTY, Summer Wednesdays, or other activities when required.

D A new admin hub

Creating a new administration area at the front of the building will help the church staff to work together more efficiently, as well as making it easier to welcome visitors and keep the building secure.

E Better access and security

A new doorway at the front of the church in use each day will be more welcoming and easier to find. This arrangement will also mean that the community will see that the building is in full use throughout the week.

Welcoming in

Views from the church family

Views from the church family

Opening up...



'Having partitions in the church hall will make a big difference to Summer Wednesdays. We had three groups in the hall this summer, making it hard to focus on your study when you could hear the other groups reading and discussing. We will be able to meet together in one place for socialising, but also create smaller rooms when we need to get down to work.'

Ben & Charis Murton, Summer Wednesday leaders

'It will be lovely to have a light, welcoming environment in which to register the 100 or so children and adults for Holiday Club. At the moment we struggle in a cramped and dark hallway, with people having to queue outside – not much fun if it's raining!'

Fiona Smail, Holiday Club Committee

'As a local resident, I know how many people walk past the building with little idea of how much life there is going on inside, because externally the church appears "closed for business". I'm excited that the plans for the front extension will help us reach out to our local community, which is expanding quickly with the development in the Cambridge Riverside area.'

Martin Frost, Christ Church treasurer

'The new foyer will be a large comfy space for parents to meet their children after Pathfinders, giving them an opportunity to see what else goes on at Christ Church while they wait.'

Ant Ng, Pathfinder leader

'Moving the admin office to the front of the building will allow us to work more effectively and we'll be the first point of contact for visitors and deliveries during the week. With everything we need in one place rather than scattered around the building we won't need to disturb those using the hall with all our comings and goings.'

Scott Furey, 9:38 apprentice

'It will be great to have an open, inviting entrance, so that people can see more easily who we are and what we do. The space will offer a lovely reception area for outreach events, as well as for all our daily activities and weekly services.'

Mary Rose Gavin, Outreach Committee

