

PARISH CENTRE PROJECT NEWSLETTER

How you can help.

The most compelling message from other parishes was that for success to be achieved all parishioners must get involved and contribute.

We need people with experience in:

- Fund raising
- Organising social functions or other fund raising events
- Experience of dealing with charitable trusts
- Arranging publicity
- Designing posters
- Accessing corporate contributions to charitable projects

The proposed financial challenge is formidable at £ 500,000 however with customary generosity we have received pledges of £ 40,000 to date. In respect of contributions **no amount is too small.**

Over the last year fundraising for the new centre has properly had to take second place to essential repair work to the church itself, financed through the Church Restoration Fund. This essential work has proved more extensive than first envisaged and has yet to be completed.

Have you considered?

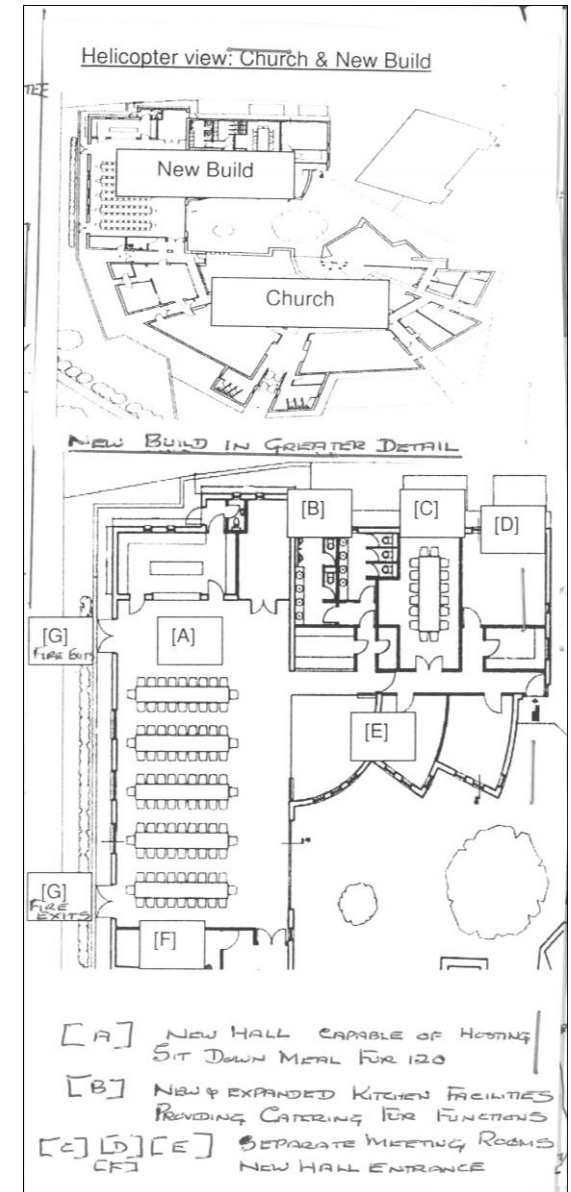
- Joining the 200 club for only £5 a month.
- Gift aiding your contributions to the church collections
- Including the church fund in any sponsored sporting challenges such as the marathon run
- A one – off donation of any amount
- A loan to the parish repayable in 10 years
- A legacy as part of your will

If you wish to discuss either making a financial contribution of any sort or feel that you have skills that may be of assistance please feel free to call any of the committee members listed on the previous pages.

Issue 1

MESSAGE FROM FATHER VICTOR

I am delighted to introduce this first parish newsletter on the exciting new Parish Centre project. A year has passed since the Parish Consultative meeting at which we first shared with you the intended shape of the development. The agreed plans below show how the centre will provide much improved facilities for all Parish groups enabling us to host a wider range of social activities and events so strengthening the sense of community and fellowship at Holy Innocents'. This inaugural newsletter explains where we stand at the moment and what success is likely to require from all of us. The Parish survey provided a very clear mandate to proceed with the project. I ask for your continuing prayers for its success.



The people involved so far:-

New Parish Centre Committee

Father Victor Vella (Tel: 01689 817537)

David Nooney (Tel: 01689 838639)

Brendan Fogarty (Tel: (01689 826154)

Sister Esther (Tel: 01689 832999)

Kevin Burke (Tel: 01689 896882)

Ian Inlsey (Tel: 01959 576251)

Eric Holbourn (Tel: 01689 831210)

Mary Quinn (Tel: 01689 870320)

Elda Dew (Tel: 01689 836600)

Vincent Keappock (Tel: 020 8249 1784)

Charles Brown (Tel: 01689 873604)

How the Committee Works.

David's job as Chairman is to ensure effective co-ordination of each strand of the project with particular emphasis on achieving the agreed strategy for successfully meeting the planning and financial challenges of the project. All aspects of planning and construction are the direct responsibility of Vincent and Charles who provide the necessary qualified professional advice. Brendan has lead responsibility for finance and the development of a credible business plan and Sister Esther similar responsibility for the implementation of a co-ordinated fund raising programme. David, Brendan and Sister Esther act as a sub-group on these issues. Eric, Kevin, Mary and Elda operate as a second sub-group directly responsible for all aspects of communication and publicity including the proposed newsletters while Ian provides advice across the piece on legal issues. That said, the Committee works very closely together to ensure transparency and consistency with Father Victor ensuring that the pastoral purpose of the project underpins all activity.

Timetable of events

- **Jun 2009** Parish consultative meeting given initial approval
- **Sep 2009** Diocesan approval granted
- **Sep 2009** Changes made to plans following consultative meeting
- **Dec 2009** Parish questionnaire results in overwhelming support (80%) for new parish centre - 20% also commit to making a financial contribution
- **Mar 2010** Committee visits other parishes who have undertaken similar projects
- **Mar 2010** Successful Irish night
- **May 2010** Fund raising strategy revised in light of visits
- **Summer 2010** Successful fund raising events undertaken included -- Disco – World cup draw – Shawfields Tea

Future events

- Craft fair 2nd / 3rd October
- Pasta Night 15th October
- Table sale November
- Christmas dance November
- Cake sale 13th / 14th December