

Connected Building Project



The Time is Now

July 2023

Dear Friends,

They replied, 'Let us start rebuilding.' So they began this good work
Nehemiah 2:18

The new design details for our Connected Building Project show an accessible and modern church centre, connected to the church building, and equipping us with premises fit for the next generation. They achieve our vision for connected buildings that will be welcoming, hospitable and which speak to our community of a church that is alive and here for them.

The response from those of you who have commented on the new designs has been largely positive and constructive – and there has been a sense of *'When can we get on with it?'*

There is a sense of urgency about this now – the builders have capacity to begin early in 2024 and the Connected Committee and PCC have begun to make plans for the time when the church centre will not be available.

Holy Trinity members, past and present, have given to this vision over a number of years and we have around £1.9M in pledges and cash. This gives us a strong position from which to make a final 'push' for the finishing line! Inside this booklet you will read more about the new proposal, plus details of the financial position and encouragement to pledge financially.

In Nehemiah, the people of God worked together in unity under God to rebuild the walls of Jerusalem. They encountered trials, opposition and mockery, but under Nehemiah they laboured shoulder to shoulder to achieve something glorious for the Lord. Let us pray, act and give so that we too will soon be able to say *'Let us start rebuilding!'*

Your friend and Vicar

Mark.

The proposal

Encouraged by the diocese, we have investigated a new approach with a single company designing and building. A local firm with a strong record has developed a design which has met with positive responses from the church family. Its estimated cost is £2.4 - 2.6M, including a contingency allowance. Guided by expert advice, we believe the building will be VAT free and we are seeking certainty.

Design features, incorporating suggestions from the church family:

- Bigger than our present Centre, with a spacious foyer
- Large hall and four good-sized, flexible meeting rooms, with potential for later expansion
- A bigger, more modern kitchen
- Accessible to all, with ground floor at church level and a lift
- Current office block replaced by facilities within the Centre
- Hall overlooking the lawn, opening onto a secure lobby and a terrace
- Entrances from Carlton Road and London Road with a connection to the church



To see the plan drawings and other elevations, please visit the Connected page of the church website—look for the April 2023 proposal and the FAQs which followed in May.

The financial position

Many people have given generously to the financial appeal to build a Connected Church Centre with 21st century facilities to serve the people of our parish in this generation and the next. This new design seems to the PCC to fulfil the purpose of the appeal originally launched in 2012, and we are taking legal advice to assure ourselves that this is the case.

The amount currently in the bank is £1.7M, mostly invested to earn interest. In addition, there are outstanding pledges amounting to £0.2M, some to be realised when a construction contract begins. This brings the funds in hand to £1.9M.

Based on an estimated cost of £2.6M, the total gap to bridge is £700,000.



Bridging the gap

When the project has the go-ahead and planning permission is granted, we will be able to apply for grants, which could help us forward significantly—hopefully £50,000 or more.

To bridge the majority of the gap of £700,000, however, we need to find out what our church family and wider friends can contribute.

We are not seeking money at this point, but pledges which will express commitment and clarify the financial position.

Gratitude and generosity

Mick writes:

We have so many reasons to be grateful to God! At the very minimum you have life and your heart is beating (I trust)... you are also able to read this booklet... take a moment to look up and around at what God has given to you.

Material blessings are one thing, but we also know the spiritual blessings that God has poured out on us through Jesus who *'Even though he was rich, for our sake he became poor so that we, though his poverty, might become rich'*.

Previous generations at Holy Trinity have received this salvation of God and it has turned them to respond with grateful hearts and generous giving of time and resources.

'Generosity is about more than money, but it's not about less than money, because money is really a liquid form of God's good and generous gift to us in creation.'

(*'The Generosity Project'*, Matthias Media)

The Connected Building Project is an opportunity for the latest generation of HT members – everyone who now calls Holy Trinity their spiritual home – to give generously to a vision of a building that will serve the proclamation of the gospel into the next generation. Help us make the most of our prominent main road site. Help us to connect worship and witness and offer 21st century standards of welcome to all in our parish.

This is also an opportunity for more longstanding HT members. Some may not have felt able to contribute in the past, but may decide that this is the time to do so. Others who have already contributed generously may find they can offer more in the present situation. For some, a loan may be the way to help—so we can make a start sooner, and repay the sum later.

Please pledge

The form below gives us the opportunity to make a financial pledge towards the completion of the project. Whatever response we are able to make, every pledge of whatever size really matters. There is an electronic and a paper version, whichever is more convenient. The sooner pledges are received, the more confidence the PCC can have in making the next important decisions about the future of the project. Please pray and pledge without delay!

Other ways to help

There are other ways to help the project forward:

- Some of us may have time, skill or energy to offer. The committee is looking for extra support with the many tasks which lie ahead,
- It would be great to widen the sources of income through events - sponsored or otherwise - which reach out into the community. Look out for more information and ideas soon.
- For all of us, whatever else we offer, we can set aside time to pray for the project—for God's way forward, through the gifts he has given his people.

To request regular prayer pointers or offer any form of practical help, please get in touch—see below.



To communicate with the Connected Committee,
please use the email address
connected@htredhill.com
or contact the Church Office.

Members are Cynthia Buchan, David Buchan, Lesley-Anne Clegg,
Sarah Dyer, David Heppenstall, David Keiller,
Tim Menary and Paul Taylor

Pledge form

An online version of this form can be completed by [clicking here](#)

Name/s _____

Postal address _____

Email _____ Telephone _____

Several ways to pledge are listed below. If you would like more information on how to make your pledge most effective, a document has been produced and is available in the foyer (or via [this link](#)).

To give the PCC confidence to decide on the future of the Connected project, I / we pledge as follows:

- A one-off gift of £ _____
- A regular monthly gift of £ _____ for _____ months
- Gift Aid (if applicable) on the above gift
- An interest-free loan of £ _____ for _____ years
- Reconsideration of my response if my circumstances change

If the PCC raises more money than is needed for the planned new Centre, or if insufficient funds are raised, donations will be used for the improvement of Holy Trinity's buildings.

Signed _____ Date _____

Paper copies of this form may be returned to The Treasurer, Holy Trinity Church, Carlton Road Redhill, RH1 2BX or via the red box in the church foyer. Members of the Treasurer's team will be involved in the confidential receiving and recording of pledges.

Holy Trinity Redhill PCC, Charity number 1130733

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