

Present: Ian Hunt, Frank Nuttall, Alan Scouller, Father Jimmy, Cliff Marshall, David Legg.

Apologies: Ian Allot

also attending were Colin Smart (Architect) and Chris Fanning (Diocesan Surveyor)

The meeting was held to discuss the feasibility of constructing an annexe to the Church in order to provide an additional meeting room for parish use having regard to the building element of the Growing in Faith (GIF) campaign. Alan Scouller agreed to chair the meeting.

1. **Why do we need a separate additional building?**

It was agreed that there was a need for an additional space for various activities in the life of the Parish. Various activities were discussed including children's liturgy, catechists and training. It is necessary to look ahead and consider growth of the community and the Church now and in years to come. This facility would be associated with the liturgy and the Church. The provision of an office within the Parish House was necessary and useful but it did not provide space to meet the needs of the Parish. Fortescue Hall was suitable for social and other events but would need to be converted at substantial cost to meet the needs of the parish and then become less suitable for its present purposes. Any addition to the Church must be designed and constructed with proper regard to style and substance and would require approval from the Diocese, the District Council and the Heritage Foundation.

2. **Feasibility**

It was agreed that we are now at the feasibility stage of a future project for the Parish. Colin Smart discussed 3 options with the meeting and showed preliminary drawings to indicate the scope and scale of any construction. It was agreed that any addition building attached to the Church must be designed and constructed with regard to the style and substance of the existing building. The committee consider that Option 3 (an annexe to the NE of the Church, together with necessary alterations to the existing sacristy) would provide the necessary additional space in an appropriate way. Another desirable project that might be considered was to deal with the unsatisfactory location of the Choir by constructing a loft above the nave at the west door.

The committee recognised that it will be several years before any project would proceed. Notwithstanding this it was agreed that substantial additional funding, over and above the contribution from the parish project component of Growing in Faith would be required. To achieve both projects would require additional funding of some £150k. It was agreed with the Architect that he will not progress further unless requested.

The committee recognise that there is an immediate need to increase weekly income to the both through gift aid and collections to the parish and this matter would need to be resolved prior to proceeding.

3 **Recommendations:**

That the Parish Priest and Chairman discuss the needs of the liturgy group over the next few years.

That the finance committee agree to proceed with this feasibility stage but that the matter is considered again in April 2015.

That The Parish Pastoral Council is informed of the proposal at the next meeting with a view to progressing options from next April.

4. The committee agreed to meet again at 8pm on 17th February 2015