

IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

Original Project summary and rationale Published February 2011

1. Erection of a new front porch incorporating disabled access with a linking ramp (this will be subject to Planning permission – the building is situated in a Conservation Area)
2. Refurbishment of the Worship area to provide improved access, greater flexibility of use and more attractive appearance
3. Replacing the existing solid screen between the Worship area and the Meeting room with a new sliding folding glazed screen
4. Installation of new underfloor heating throughout the porch, Worship area and Meeting room

The project proposals will support the spiritual development of our church as follows:

1. Changes to the entrance will:

- facilitate access by those with wheelchairs and push chairs, so giving us greater opportunity to attract parents with young families to join our services (at present access is both severely restricted and laborious and is also frequently disruptive)
- enhance the external appearance of the premises, the emphasis on glass providing greater visibility of the interior

2. Changes to the worship area will:

- enable more flexible use of the space, e.g. in support of new ways of worship
- enable those with wheelchairs and push chairs to participate without feeling exposed or uncomfortable
- provide a quiet, comfortable venue for prayer meetings, talks and discussion groups, giving new opportunities to share and develop our faith

3. Replacement of the existing solid partition between Meeting Room and Worship area with a folding glass partition will:

- promote an almost seamless link between the two rooms, both physically and in terms of message
- remove the mystery of “the room beyond that door” which is the impression gained by many of those who only visit the Meeting Room
- provide a ready opportunity to talk about worship with those using the Meeting Room
- spread light from room to room, so making both more attractive to use

4. The completed changes will create a building which offers opportunity for different forms of worship, which is welcoming, attractive and comfortable to use and which is highly accessible. It is already used regularly by a number of community groups and these changes will extend the potential for community use. In particular, it provides scope for occasional exhibitions, a facility which is not available in Wingrave currently. The appearance and functionality, both externally and internally, will be attractive and relevant to today's people, with today's needs, in the 21st century.

2. Alignment with Circuit Priorities

Our project will directly support fulfilment of the following Circuit objectives:

-- Congregation development: To provide meaningful weekly worship, to identify and facilitate alternative approaches to worship, the development of local congregations and support of smaller churches.

-- Community needs: To encourage churches to investigate and respond to the needs of their local community and new housing developments, especially in the use of our buildings.

- External Communications: To explore appropriate means of presenting the life changing Good News of Jesus Christ in the local community.

Since February 2011 there has been some redesigning of some of the details but not the main details of the scheme and certainly no lessening of the commitment to it.

The latest position is set out in our Briefing Paper to the September 2013 Circuit Meeting [...click](#) to see.

Announcement Dated 30/9/2013

Now that the builders have started work in the Church we need to firm up on our choice of internal fittings and decorations such as chairs and flooring. The final choice will need to be made at the **Church Council meeting on 23rd October**, but we want everyone to have an opportunity to see and discuss the options in advance of the meeting.

Andrew Muir is therefore arranging a small display of chairs, carpet colours etc in the Church between **3 and 5pm on Sunday 13th October**. Not only will this provide an opportunity to discuss the furniture and fittings, but it will also provide an opportunity to see how the work is progressing. I hope that you will be able to come to the Church and see the display.

If you are not able to come on Sunday 13th Andrew would be happy to show you the display on either Friday 11th or Monday 14th, but this will need to be by appointment in order to fit in with the builders' work. Could you therefore contact Andrew on 681513 or windmillandrew@btinternet.com.

JOHN COTTON

The Report on the Completion of the First Stage of this Project can be seen by clicking

[...here](#) to reveal Andrew's illustrated report.