

St Josephs Church Hall, Wetherby  
Parish Report  
October 2021

The church hall has not been ungraded since the new church was built in 1985.

In Winter 2020/2021, the parish conducted a consultation on the hall. A summary was produced in March 2021 and is available on the church website.

Parishioners, parents and teachers at the school all value having the hall and wish to see it used more. There was widespread agreement that an upgrade to the hall is needed to significantly reduce its environmental impact and make it fit for use in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

The aim of upgrade:

- Reduce the environmental impact through insulation of the roof, which is currently uninsulated.
- A greatly improved heating system for the hall and include church and presbytery to increase efficiency, reduce heating and maintenance bills across the site.
- Improve the fabric of the building including the removal of the stage, restore original features of the building, install porches inside the entrances to the hall to prevent heat loss and a “floor to ceiling” glass partition with retracting door, across the “stage” area to provide smaller meeting space with view of stained-glass windows and light through the hall.
- Much improved toilet facilities including accessible toilet for the hall.
- New kitchen including catering dishwasher, cooking and food preparation, accessible storage.
- Accessibility for all, including access and egress from the premises.
- Advanced IT infrastructure and technology including loop system
- Modern furniture which is easy to use and store
- The hall to be a benefit the community of Wetherby and District and which is attractive to use and adaptable to the needs of different groups.

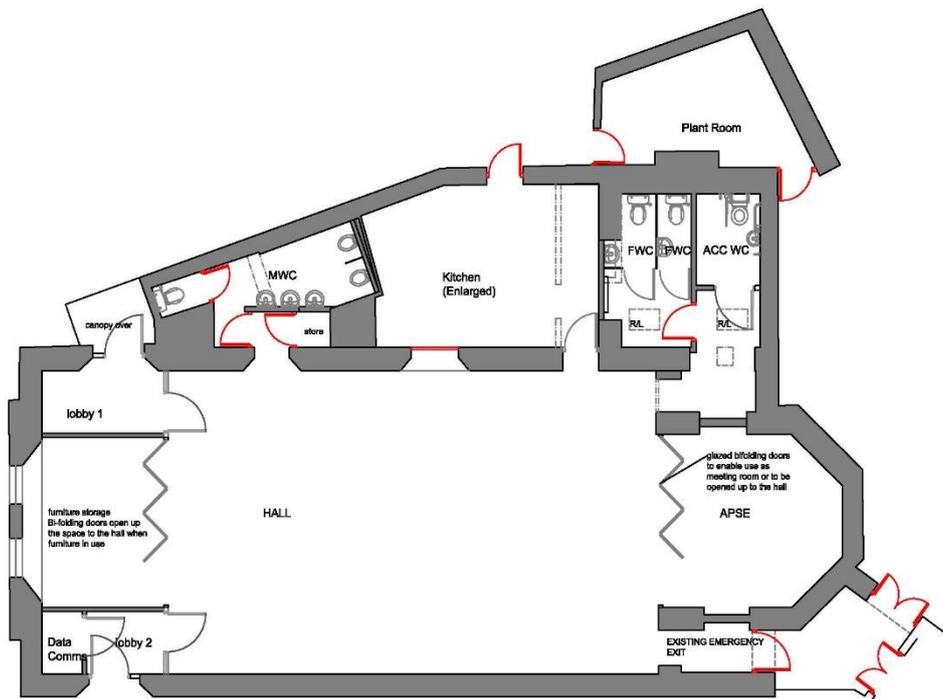
Designs have been developed and consulted upon with feedback taken into consideration on the design which has been taken up into the business case to help prepare costings. A copy of this is displayed in the Narthex and see overleaf.

The total cost of the project will be in the region of £350,000. There is dialogue with the diocese regarding grants/finances for the project and this is against the backdrop of reduced income in the diocese because of the pandemic. We are exploring grants locally and from business, industry and charities who aim to support with projects to benefit one or more of the aims.

We will need to raise funds in the parish and will welcome ideas and support from all.

If you have any comments, please do tell us at [stjshwetherby@gmail.com](mailto:stjshwetherby@gmail.com) Thankyou.

Design Plan:



GROUND FLOOR

Committee:

Fr John Nunan, Jo Parascandolo, David Rigby, Davida Hamilton, Geoff Waterfield, Andy Minshull, Liz Vickerstaff.