



1. One project, three parts

There are so many opportunities through which we can bless people, build relationships throughout our community and bring the transformation that the gospel promises.

So, our Building for the Future (BftF) project is about much more than a physical building. It's about equipping us to continue to play our part in building God's kingdom in Hurdsfield, Macclesfield and beyond. The project has three parts:

- a new building
- an improved site and welcome, and
- some more resource to grow our ministry.

2. When will it all happen?

We had some great news at the end of February about improving our site (resurfacing, access ramp and handrails, exterior lighting, signage, car and bike parking).

- Cheshire East Council has given us formal permission to go ahead.
- We hope to have formal permission from the Diocese of Chester in about six weeks, following a 28-day public consultation.

We hope to start improving our site this year. It's likely to be several weeks until we have responses from the Council and Diocese on the plans for the new building. We would hope to start the new building early in 2021.

3. How is the fundraising going?

We expect that project will cost £383K, which we need to raise from:

- existing church funds (part of our reserves)
- giving from church members and others associated with HTH, and
- grants.

We are thrilled that church members responded so positively by pledging enough money to ensure that, with existing church funds and grant income already allocated to us, we expect to have **more than enough** for the project. God is good! Thank you to Him and to you for your faithfulness.

Please do still pledge if you have not already done so, because:

- some people's circumstances may change before it's time to start giving
- we don't yet have the necessary permissions for the new building as we've planned it (so it could cost more), and
- there are plenty of other ways we could improve our facilities and ministry (and accordingly, we will still investigate potential sources of grant funding).

*Every contribution,
given for the glory of
God, is of great
value.*

4. **I've pledged. When will you want me to start giving?**

We hope to tell you in our May update when we would like you to start giving the money you've pledged.

5. **What else should I do?**

Thank you if you were able to join our service on 26 January where we shared lots of detail about our plans (you can see some drawings in the coffee lounge). The project team received lots of feedback and ideas, and considered all of these at its meetings in February. The PCC will continue to govern the project and we'll continue to produce regular written updates as we pass specific milestones.

Please continue to tell any of the project team or PCC **what you think** about:

- the plans
- the fundraising, and
- the way we're sharing information.

We'll also need lots of **practical help** to make it all happen and we'll let you know soon what skills we'll need. Most of all, please keep **praying**.

James, the BftF Project Team and the PCC
March 2020