



Last Sunday on 'HTH Sunday Live' I updated everyone about our Building for the Future (BFTF) project. Here's the written summary that I promised.

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, BFTF is 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. A new building

We're in the final stages of getting the permissions we need from Chester Diocese and Cheshire East Council.

- The Diocese has recommended our application and we hope to receive final approval after it serves a 30-day notice period.
- We've had positive informal feedback from the planning and conservation officers at Cheshire East and are optimistic that the Council will grant us planning permission before the end of June.

We thank God as he continues to answer our prayers and provide a straight pathway for us.

3. An improved site and welcome

- Cheshire East has paid us the grant of £16,500 that we bid for under the New Homes Bonus initiative.
- The Diocese is finalising the new lease we need for the additional carparking space outside the vicarage.

- All other permissions are now in place, so we're talking to a contractor about starting the resurfacing and carparking improvements.
- Andy Leary has already completed the exterior lighting improvements.
- Jack is helping with updating our signage.
- Rachel Mortishire-Smith is helping with the redesign of the church entrance and lounge area and we'll share colour palates and decor ideas next month. And we'll have a Painting Party once we can meet in small groups again.

4. Some more resource to grow our ministry

I'm talking to a potential curate with a view to them starting in June 2021. We'll let you know more as things progress.

5. Money

If you've pledged money to fund this project, Pip Mosscrop will write to you later this month about when we'd like to receive it. Thank you if you have reconfirmed or revised your pledges during this difficult time. If you haven't pledged yet, it's not too late to talk to Pip and be part of all that's going on.

6. BFTF Project Team

We're delighted that Jo Gregory has joined the core BFTF project team.

7. Questions

There's lots going on with our BFTF project, and we'll try to keep you up to date as things develop and change. If you have any comments, questions, ideas or concerns, please talk to me, or one of the project team or PCC. It's really important that we:

- listen to one another
- share ideas and concerns before we start building, rather than afterwards, and
- proceed prayerfully.

Please do continue to pray for the project and for the future growth of God's kingdom in this place. With every blessing,

James, the BFTF Project Team and the PCC
June 2020