

### 1. The story so far...

We're walking a journey as we seek to play our part in the building of God's kingdom in Hurdsfield, Macclesfield and beyond. As with all journeys, we need to know:

- who we are
- where we're going, and
- what we need to get us there.

We've tried to explain these clearly in our vision and our values:

#### **Our Vision (What we are about):**

We seek to passionately follow Jesus, sharing the good news of His amazing love and seeing people, relationships and our community transformed by Him.

#### **Our Values (Who we aspire to be):**

*We are HTH | family | authentic | adventurers*

### 2. What's this project called?

'Building for the Future' is the new name for the project that we have previously called '2038 and beyond'. That's because the future starts tomorrow. The project is about much more than a new building. It incorporates the Everybody Welcome project and has three elements:

- investing in our facilities – a new building
- investing in our site – better roads and footpaths, lighting, signage, access, car parking, bicycle racks and redecorating the lounge (previously referred to as the Everybody Welcome project), and
- investing in people – how we resource growth.

### 3. What's the timescale for the new building?

Our classroom and office have temporary planning consent only. Cheshire East Council has told us that it won't issue further consent after 31 December 2020. We need to have made the necessary applications for a new building by then (not to have built it).

#### **4. Progress since last update**

The PCC met in September and agreed:

- to share with everyone the feedback we received about what the new building will need (attached)
- a design brief setting out the essential criteria for the building, and
- with the project team's decision to appoint Urban Imprint to design it.

#### **5. What we're working on now**

Over the next three months we plan to:

- create initial sketches of what the new building and extended car park area might look like, so that we can share these with everyone in due course
- appoint a structural engineer to investigate the site with regard to the foundations that a new building will need
- try and work out what we'll need to spend in both 2020 and 2021
- continue to work on a detailed site plan to improve access, lighting, etc (see under '2' above)
- continue to work with the Council on accessing the £15k we successfully bid for towards our planned expenditure in improving our site, and
- keep the Diocese informed about progress at every step.

#### **6. Any questions?**

We're aiming to produce written updates like this, and give short updates in church services, every two months. You can read this and previous updates on the [church website](#). If there's anything you want to know, please ask any of the Project Team – John Burt, Jenni Hardy, Deb Last, Jo Gregory or myself.

#### **7. And finally...**

As we make our plans for our Building for the Future project, let us continue to pray for God's guidance and blessing on all we do in His name. It was fantastic to see many of us gather last month for our termly prayer meeting. Please do put the next ones in your diary: 7:45pm for 8:00pm on Tuesday 22 October and Thursday 21 November. I'm confident that God will continue to make our way straight and provide all that we'll require as we follow Him and take the next steps in building His kingdom in us, HTH, Hurdsfield, Macclesfield and beyond.

**James GIBSON – 03/10/19**