



starbeck welcome

Building for The future

April 2012 (incorporating AGM Report)

This past year has probably seen the most significant moves forward in the 6 year history of the project. Whereas the formative years and 2010 – 2011 were spent on researching and consulting with our church family and the Starbeck community as to what was important to them, this year has been one of major achievement, consolidation and fund raising and will result in building starting as early as September this year. Some highlights are:

- Obtaining the agreement of The Victorian Society, English Heritage and The Church Building Commissioners to knock down and alter parts of our 100 year old Grade 2 listed building
- Finally getting the agreement (after 4 submissions) of the Diocese to issue a Faculty showing approval of the plans and giving permission to go ahead with the project.
- Having the plans drawn up in such a sympathetic way that no one in The Starbeck Community raised any objections to the project when planning permission was sought.
- Obtaining planning permission and Building regulations from Harrogate Borough Council
- At least 4 major surveys done and no unexpected problems found
- The fantastic and generous response to our gift days and appeals.
- The contribution by the prayer team that meet every Thursday evening who have been our Rock of continuity and certainty.
- The forming of a FUNdraising committee which has pledged to hold regular FUNdraising and awareness for the next 2 years. This years highlight was the Cabaret night which not only raised £ 600 but was appreciated and contributed to by the whole church. Francis and Elaine's bicycle ride from Lands End to John O'Groats which raised over £9400... if only we could all do that !
- Identifying possible fund raising sources and preparing paperwork to support the applications when the timing is right
- ButWe need more people to show their support for the project by contributing through gifts and pledges. As we near September and building starts we need more people to want to "own" the project by contributing significantly through fund raising. We need more people to support the FUNdraising evenings by their attendance and invitations to friends in Starbeck, Harrogate and Knaresborough coming to support the evenings.
- And....We need more people to recognize the significance of prayer not only on the Thursday evening but also at the monthly 24 hour prayer held at St Andrews, at house groups and in private. Particular prayer support is needed for the grant applications as the timing of those is so critical. Some cannot be applied for until the buildings "tender" process, or at a particular time of year.
- I will end this report with the confidence that building will start in September but there will be many problems and opportunities before it is finished. It will require sacrifice and difficulties but it will bring our church family closer together and allow us, if we are involved in some way or other, to experience The Power, Grace and Gentleness of God that some of us have never ever experienced. Please do join us.

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