



# St Andrews Starbeck

March 2011

*"building for the future"*

This time last year we were waiting on plans so that we could submit them to Harrogate Planning and The Diocesan Advisory Committee for approval. The plans duly arrived but when we looked at them we considered we could do better. The problems we identified were.

- Too many toilets
- Constricted traffic flows from entrance into worship area
- Entrance below West Window
- Review entrance to new extension to make it less of a gathering area for undesirables

These points have now been addressed:

- The new plans have 1 disabled toilet and 1 ordinary toilet in church, same again in new welcome area
- Re-siting of kitchen to make better traffic flows and less constriction
- Roof of new welcome area redesigned to be more appealing and visible, create a feeling of more space and provide dramatic view of church roof. Re look at disability access.

So new plans were drawn up and in December the plans were studied by all those architectural and heritage bodies that must be part of the consultation process. There were a number of things they did not like.

- All agencies approved of the idea to create increased Narthex space and an extension to the side of The Church with additional toilet and catering facilities.
- Some agencies did not like the idea of a window being put below the West Window
- There was an objection to the extension having a raked roof rather than a horizontal one
- Will each area of the church be secure from the other areas?
- The doors made out of the window areas on the North Wall should not be lowered from the original height. Nor should alteration be made to the doorway in The South Porch (present main entrance)
- We decided the way forward was to decide what was necessary to what we wanted to achieve and compromise on what was not necessary.
- We decided a window under the stained glass window on the west wall was not necessary to us achieving our objectives
- Alteration to the North Porch is not necessary to what we want to achieve
- We need to enlarge the size of the Narthex in order to achieve our larger meeting space and the ability to join the 2 spaces together for large worship services and big events. A long conversation took place about the size, fabric and structure of the glass screen that will separate the two areas. We decided it must be of good quality, completely transparent and as sound proof as possible and have a small door in it.
- We have to knock down part of the south porch in order to have a catering area that can serve both the church building and the extension.
- We need to make all 3 openings in the south wall into doorways to help with traffic flow between the extension and the church building.

So at the moment we are waiting the results of DAC meetings and planning approval.

In the meantime prayer for the project continues every Thursday from 6.30 pm – 7.30 pm. If anyone new to the Church would like to contribute financially to the project please see Peter Miles or take one of the forms found at the back of church on the building project table. Latest plans, financial updates, past publications and the time line can always be found on the church website and follow the links to the building project.

Mike Langford (01423 880914)