

The Well Project



The Samaritan Woman met Jesus at Jacob's Well, and her life was transformed through the encounter

How might we be today's "Jacob's Well"?

Culcheth Methodist Church Vision and Mission

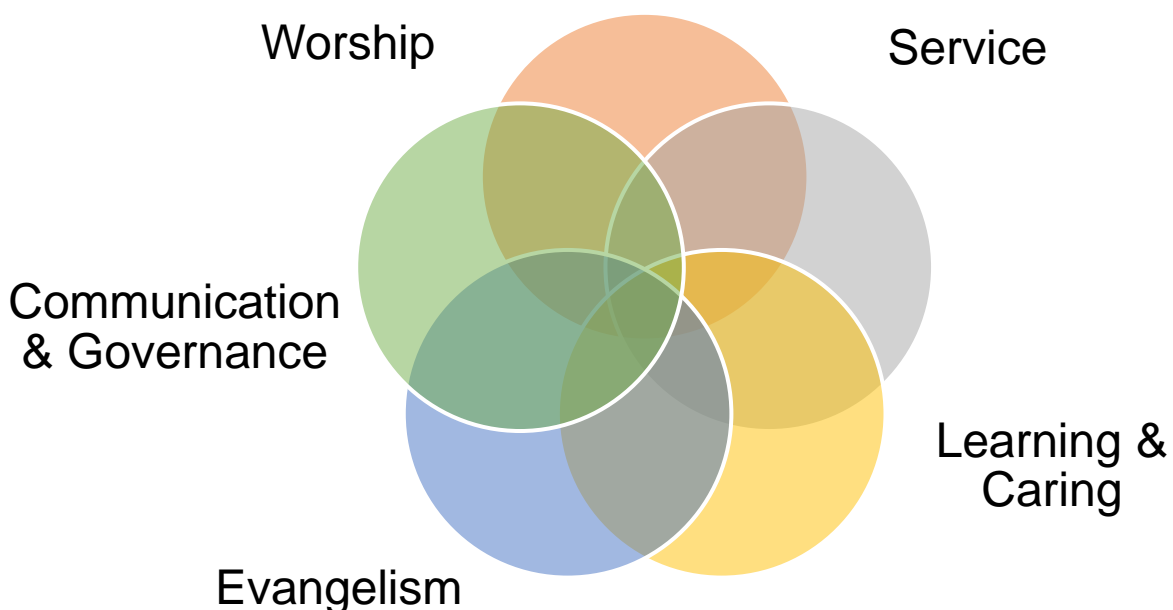
What?

Transforming the world by meeting the needs of the community as God's family.

How?

By creating a place where people feel a connection to others and are supported, nurtured and inspired to further God's Kingdom.

Mission Objectives



You said...snippets taken from feedback at mission lunches, recent services and from young people

We want to be a church that people know is a good place

How do we make God relevant today?

Thanks for opening youth club...it keeps me out of trouble on Friday nights

Lord, your church on earth is seeking your renewal from above...We would heed your great commission: sending us to every place – preach, baptise, fulfil my mission, serve with love and share my grace. (StF. 410)

‘This is how I think church should be’

We should engage with the local community, respond to needs, address loneliness and make people welcome

Let us build a house where hands will reach beyond the wood and stone to heal and strengthen, serve and teach, and live the Word they’ve known (StF. 409)

How do we engage people, involve people and share the Christian message?

Are we a church of dried bones?

God can send new life to a dry-bone situation. He can breathe vitality through the Holy Spirit and his Word today.

We should find opportunities to open up our building and invite people in

We need to be loving, hospitable, creative, positive, enthusiastic and joyful!

We need to make sure that everyone knows what is going on

Children and Young People need to be at the heart of church life

Where have all the youngsters from Junior Church gone?

Let’s not be afraid and always see problems...let’s just have faith...and do it!

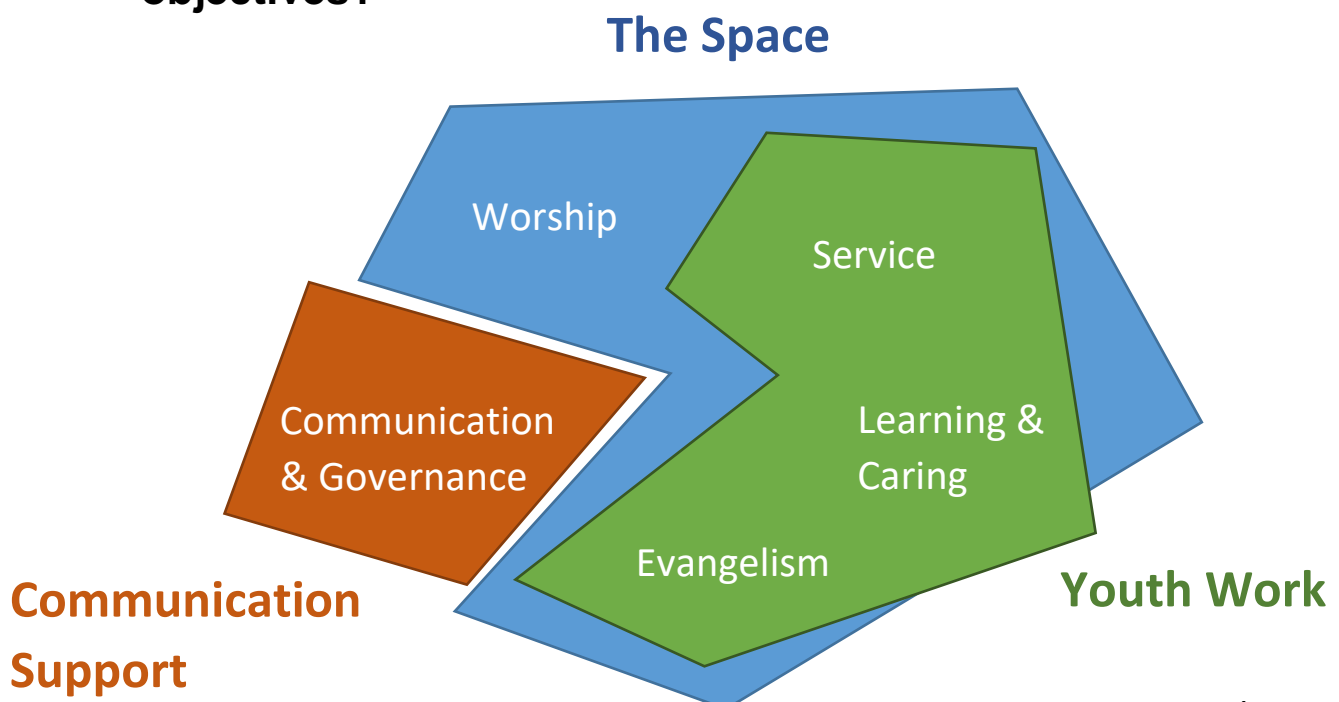
This document has been created in order to consult with the church community about how we might move forward to **creating a place where people feel a connection to others and are supported, nurtured and inspired to further God's Kingdom.**

While much of these proposals are questions of faith, the financial implications also need to be considered, and are included in section 4. The vision is for the years ahead, and will not all be completed immediately.

Contents:

1. Youth Work
2. The Space
3. Communication Support
4. Financial Implications
5. Have Your Say

How do these plans contribute to our mission objectives?



1. Youth Work

Employ a Youth Worker able to innovate; to meet the needs of church and non-church young people

Mission Areas: Service,
Learning & Caring, Evangelism

Why?

- CMC current outreach detached work is in danger of ending this year unless we employ a worker
- Friday night youth club is in danger of closing due to staffing shortages
- We are conscious of increased antisocial problems emerging in the village.

What?

Warrington Youth for Christ (WYFC) would employ a Youth Worker to work in partnership with Culcheth High school, other youth providers and churches to ensure the widest possible range of quality opportunities are made available to the young people of Culcheth.

WYFC expect that a substantial part of the role will be undertaken within the context of Culcheth High School, and that the worker would manage the church's provision with support from the existing volunteers. We would expect the worker to be an active participant in and worshipper at CMC.



WYFC would:

- Take on all the employment responsibility, providing the worker with training, networking and support opportunities that would not be available to them if they were employed by CMC alone.

CMC would:

- Agree to sponsor the costs of a youth worker for a fixed 12-month term, to be extended by agreement between the parties. Ideally, this would be established as a long term project, with the goal being a 3 year project.
- Provide the funding in advance to WYFC, except expenses which would be refunded as required.
- Provide support to WYFC in managing the worker, with monthly meeting and regular support monitoring performance and setting targets. The existing Youth Strategy group would be able to offer this support.

What would success look like?

- Strengthened Youth Ministry
- Presence in the village highlighted
- Offering support for the young people of our village
- Providing a safe place for them to meet
- Providing better worship opportunities for our young people
- Young people come to faith



Children and
Young People
need to be at
the heart of
church life

2. The Space

Transform the space in order to better meet the needs of the community

Mission Areas: Worship, Service, Learning & Caring, Evangelism

The Concept:


A number of ideas are proposed in order to improve the use of the Foyer & Sanctuary spaces.

- a) To increase our welcome area by creating a larger informal space which is bright, airy and comfortable, offering toys, refreshment and opportunity for conversation and support.
- b) To change the sanctuary doors to create an open and inviting feel, and allow more flexible use of the space
- c) To improve our audio visual equipment, and provide internet access.

a) Welcome Area

Why?

Our vision is to meet the needs of various groups, including those who attend Open Doors on a Saturday and Monday, and people who care for children, attending ABC and uniformed groups, and who used the "Forget-Me-Not" cafe before it closed.



We should find opportunities to open up our building and invite people in

We seek to be a hub in Culcheth, with a comfortable space for people to rest, share conversation and support, and access the library and periodicals. Available to our congregation, and the wider community.

What?

- The project includes the removal of the internal dividing walls that separate Room 1 from the entrance and corridor space, while maintaining privacy at toilet entrances. It also includes the much needed redecoration of the entrance area and corridor and replacement of the worn carpet.
- There will also be a small utility space including the provision of hot drink preparation and light refreshment.
- We will provide a selection of toys, books and periodicals as well as continuing to provide a lending facility through the church library.
- The additional open space will also make the parking of prams and buggies a little easier.

What would success look like?

- An open space, decorated and furnished with comfortable chairs and low tables will provide a welcome area for small gatherings and Bible study groups.
- More users benefiting from the open space, especially those who pass through collecting or dropping off children
- A larger open and more welcome pace for pre- and post-service conversation, especially in conjunction with the sanctuary doors suggestion below.
- The relaxed space with refreshment and periodicals will provide an opportunity of encouraging faith conversation

Areas of concern:

- Bible and Fellowship group would lose the space currently used (Room 1)
- Uniformed organisations use the room for training
- Limited meeting space already, reduced by removing Room 1
- Occasional room rental revenue loss
- Room 1 currently used as a storage space, which would be lost
- Comfortable green chairs would be replaced
- Can we afford it?

Possible Solutions:

- Groups could meet in the new area, in Room 2, or in the Sanctuary space (see the Sanctuary doors section below)
- Storage can be addressed by reviewing current storage arrangements elsewhere, and providing cupboards.
- The comfortable green chairs would be replaced by equally comfortable seating. They are also heavy and cannot be stacked, which reduces flexibility.

We need to be loving, hospitable, creative, positive, enthusiastic and joyful!

Let us build a house where hands will reach beyond the wood and stone to heal and strengthen, serve and teach, and live the Word they've known

b) Sanctuary Doors

Why?

We wish to create an open and inviting feel from the entrance space into the sanctuary. To create a sense of one with the wider community and a useful overspill when the need arises.

What?

Remove the current wooden glazed doors, opening the up the wall and insert large glazed sliding doors.

A blue thought bubble with a black outline, containing the text: "How do we engage people, involve people and share the Christian message?". The bubble is connected to three smaller blue circles of increasing size, leading from the text to the left.

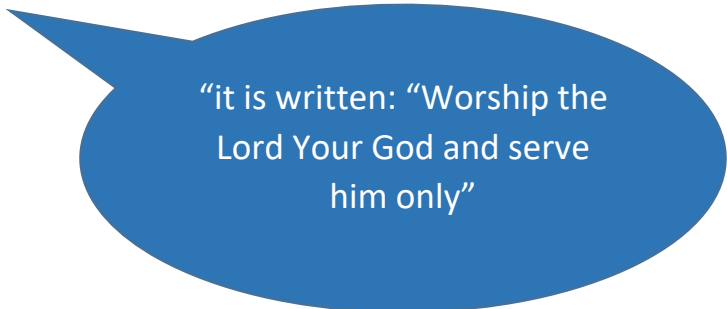
What would success look like?

- A welcoming, contemporary feel as people enter the Sanctuary, with the Sanctuary looking and feeling like part of the building.
- An expanded worship space can be opened up to use the welcome area, for example for funerals, ABC services and Supper Clubs.

c) Improved Audio Visual equipment, and Internet access

Why?

The current AV equipment is good, but is being left behind by advance in technology. Internet provision is widespread, and people choose to be in places where there is free access.




“it is written: “Worship the Lord Your God and serve him only”

What?

Updating AV equipment and installing free Wi-Fi internet access.

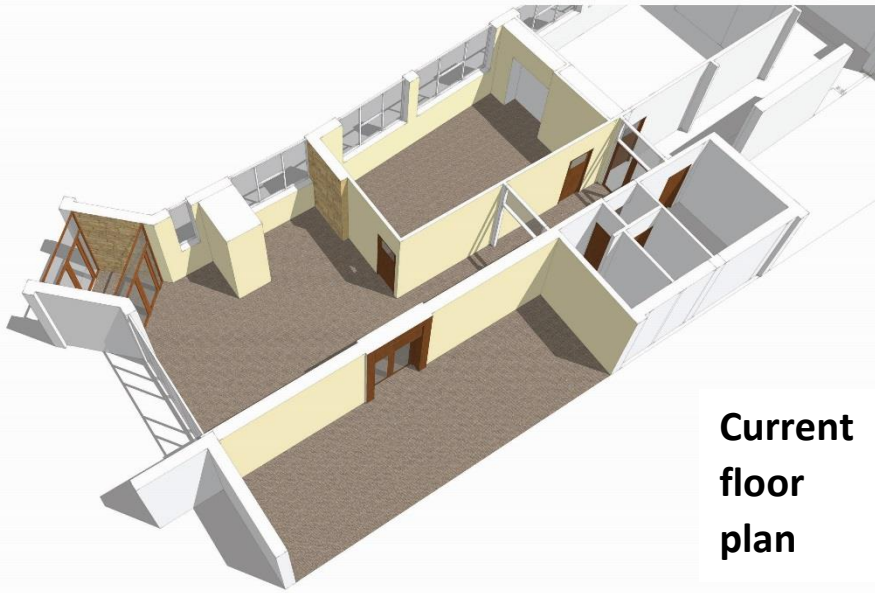
What would success look like?

- Improved sound and vision.
- Preachers and presenters able to control their own material from the front of the Sanctuary (if they so wished).
- More user-friendly operation.
- AV facilities in the entrance area to communicate church activities, relay services and provide a useful resource for users.
- WiFi for all users. Particularly attractive to young people and group leaders, but available to anyone using the building.



We want to watch videos and listen to music. I want to go to places with WiFi.

Culcheth Methodist Church - Internal Remodelling 01
Existing Layout



**Current
floor
plan**

PYE DESIGN / ARCHITECTS

Culcheth Methodist Church - Internal Remodelling 02
Proposed Layout



**Redesigned
floor
plan**

PYE DESIGN / ARCHITECTS

We should engage with
the local community,
respond to needs,
address loneliness and
make people welcome

Artist impression of the redesigned area

Culcheth Methodist Church - Internal Remodelling 05



PYE DESIGN / ARCHITECTS

Culcheth Methodist Church - Internal Remodelling 04



PYE DESIGN / ARCHITECTS

Culcheth Methodist Church - Internal Remodelling 03



PYE DESIGN / ARCHITECTS

3. Communication Support

Review administration and communication to streamline and possibly create a church communication/administration role

Mission Areas: Communication & Governance

Why?

The past few decades new forms of communications technology have revolutionised the way we communicate with each other. That also means that we are bombarded with information. Somehow the church must make its distinctive voice heard amidst the clamour.

Administration in the church of today is a difficult and challenging task too, the ever increasing needs of both the church and society ultimately result in ever increasing needs within a church community to keep up to date and legal.

We need to make sure that everyone knows what is going on

What?

We seek to explore what a dedicated (paid or not) individual might be able to do to help us become more visible within the community, and to assist us in our ever increasing administrative burdens.

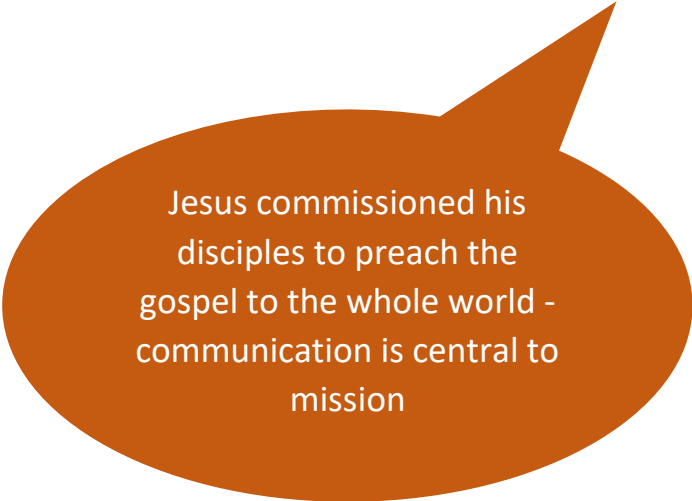
We would:

- Identify what is needed for the church to be an effective communicator of its provision to the church and the wider community.
- Compile a record of all the administrative functions and means of communication within the church, along with a list of responsible persons currently undertaking that work.

- Determine best practice to streamline the administrative functions of the church, and potentially appoint a paid or volunteer post to carry out this work.

What would success look like?

- Greater co-ordination of communication so that there is a consistent professional approach, perhaps a one-stop shop for all church communication.
- Reduction of administrative burden to do only that which is necessary for the life of the church, consolidated as appropriate
- If appropriate, a Church Administrator/Communications officer



Jesus commissioned his
disciples to preach the
gospel to the whole world -
communication is central to
mission

4. Financial Implications

Youth Work

Typical costs of employing a youth worker, based on 30hrs per week, along with some indicative admin and support costs:

Element	Cost
Annual Salary	£14,500
Employment costs	£2,908
Expenses - Stationery, Mobile etc	£1,000
Mileage - 125mpw @£0.45pm	£2,700
Total Costs per year	£21,108

Possible Revenue Streams:

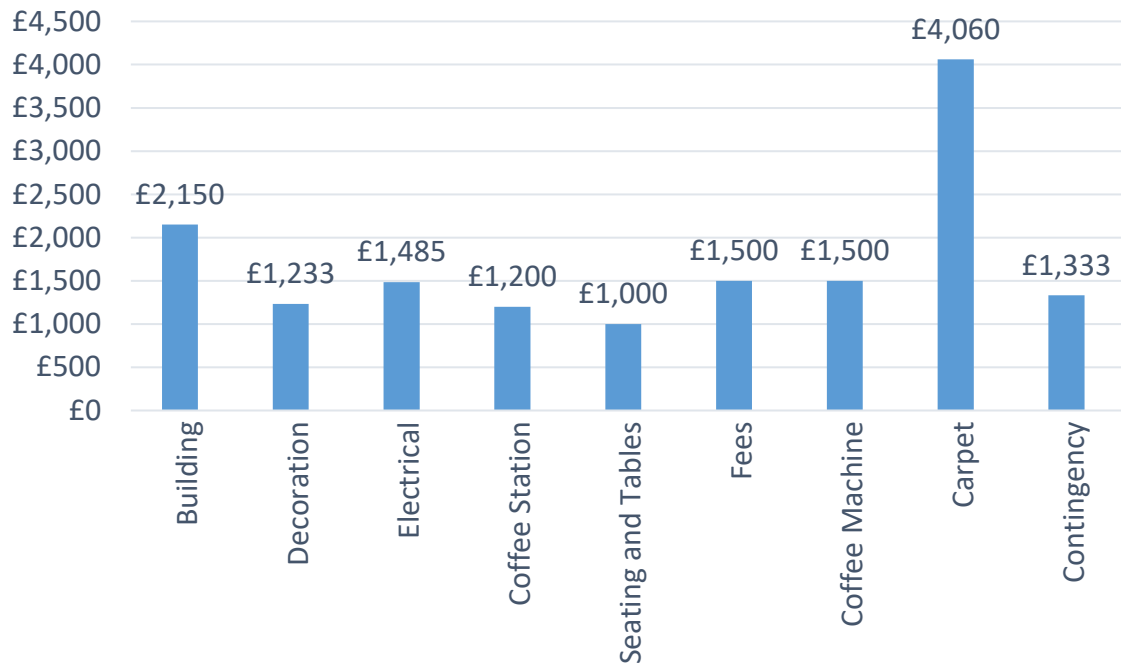
	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4
Existing Fund*	£4,000	£3,000	£2,000	£000
District	£5,000	£5,000	£5,000	£000
Community	£3,000	£3,000	£3,000	£3,000
Church Giving	£4,108	£5,108	£6,108	£13,108
Circuit Grant**	£5,000	£5,000	£5,000	£5,000
Total	£21,108	£21,108	£21,108	£21,108

*Currently the church has £9,000 reserves from previous employment grants, initially our commitment would be for one year, and the payment to WYFC would be paid monthly in advance, so in the first year we could simply fund the difference between reserve and agreed year figure, whilst at the same time creating funding opportunities for future years. (Figures above do not show this, rather show a sliding scale)

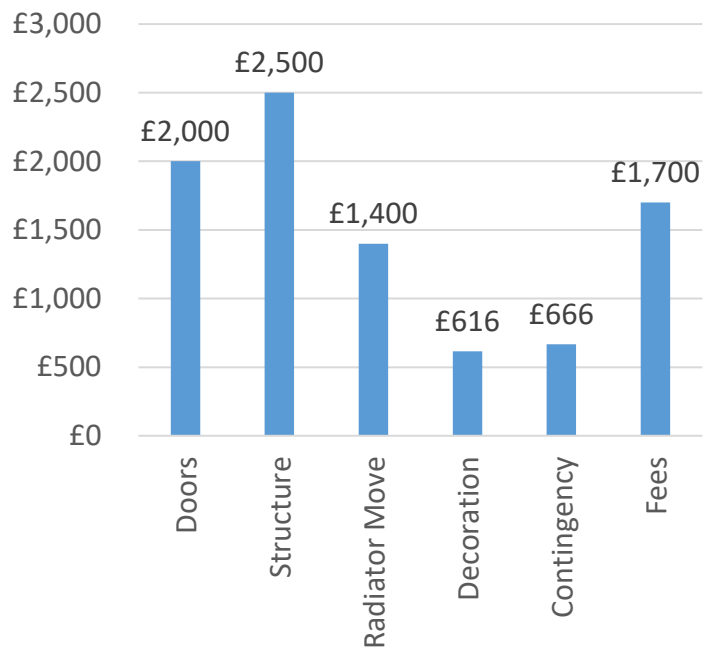
**The circuit currently has no Youth Provision, this is a contribution to recognise the role as being wider than Culcheth.

The Space

Projected Welcome Area Costs



Projected Sanctuary Door Cost



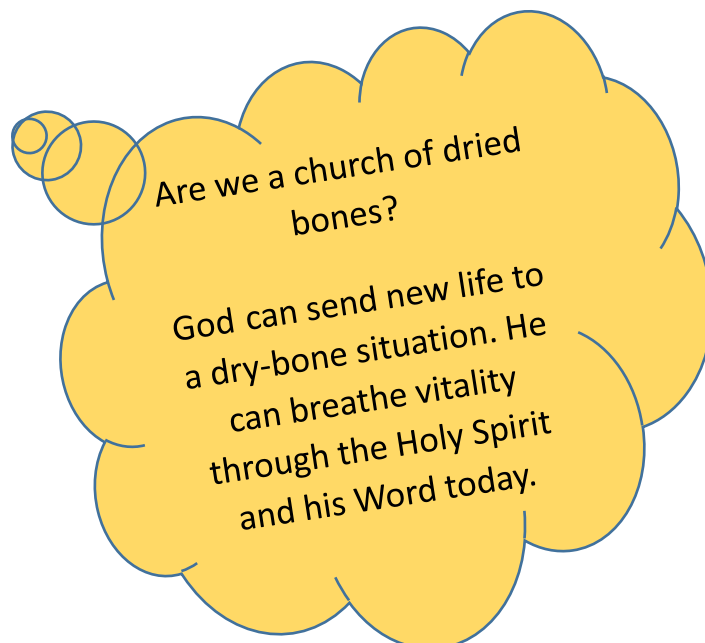
Projected AV & Internet Costs



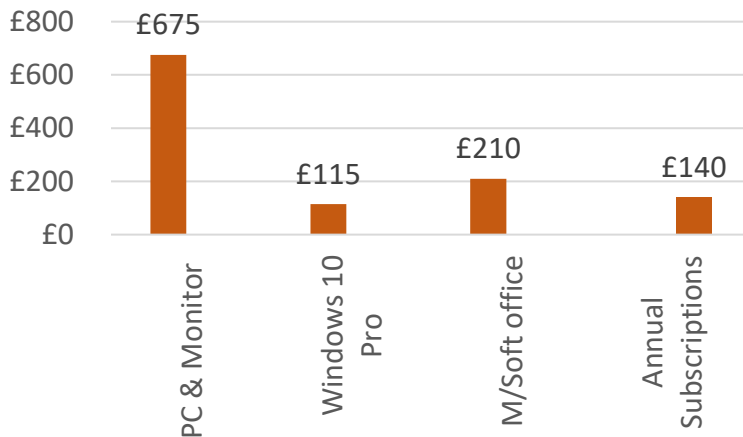
**Based on BT figures*

***will reduce if shared with more computers e.g. admin support*

Element	Cost
Welcome Area Building Work	£15,461
Sanctuary Door Building Cost	£8,882
Audio Visual Upgrade & Internet Set Up	£2,465
Annual Subscriptions	£660



Communication Support



Element	Cost
Annual Subscription	£140
Project Costs	£1,000
Additional cost of employing one person for 12 hours per week (potential)	£6,500
Total Cost	£6,640 p.a. & £1000 project cost

Overall Cost Summary – For all Elements

Element	One-off Cost	Annual Cost
Youth Work		£21,108*
Welcome Space	£15,461	
Sanctuary Doors	£8,882	
AV & Internet	£2,465	£660
Communication	£1,000	£6,640
Total	£24,415	£27,748

* total funding - including other funds available

5. Have Your Say

In order to hear your response to these proposals, conversations are being held at church on:

Tue 6th June 7.00pm

Sat 10th June 11.00am

Thu 15th June 10am.

Please take the time to consider your thoughts, and join us to make sure your voice is heard. What do you think should be done?

During these sessions, the time will be devoted to discussion, there will be no formal presentation of the contents of this document, so please ensure you are familiar with the contents in advance.

You will be asked:

- Can you engage with the whole vision?
- Which are the priority projects?

Your responses will inform the Church Council's consequent decision making.

Lord, your church on earth is seeking your renewal from above...We would heed your great commission: sending us to every place – preach, baptise, fulfil my mission, serve with love and share my grace. (StF. 410)

‘This is how I think church should be’