



Vicar:
Rev Duncan Hill-Brown
54 Glendon Way
Dorridge
Solihull
B93 8SY
Tel 01564 772472
duncan@stphilipsandstjames.org

Associate Vicar:
Rev Hennie Johnston
2 Hurst Green Road
Bentley Heath
Solihull
B93 8AE
Tel 01564 772295
hennie@stphilipsandstjames.org

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Dear Friends

Over the last couple of weeks, we have been trying to keep the church family informed of the process that the PCC is working through towards the potential redevelopment of St Philip's church and the whole Manor Road site.

At the PCC meeting on 10 January 2011 we will be seeking to discern the will of God and the common mind of the church family with regard to the 3 in-principle options that are before us. These options can be summarised in the following 3 questions:

1. Do we build a new church worship centre towards the front of the Manor Road site, retaining the existing chancel and Lady Chapel as a ruin set within a garden, and redeveloping the church hall on its existing footprint?
2. Do we rebuild the church worship centre, retaining the chancel and Lady Chapel as an integral part of the building and redeveloping the church hall, closely sticking to the entire existing footprint?
3. Do we demolish the church worship centre and church hall entirely, clearing the site, giving us the option to build a new church and church hall relocated on the site including land currently occupied by 6 Manor Road?

Two papers are attached: a background paper which was published in May, and the update paper published in November.

When the PCC have decided in January 2011 which of the 3 in-principle options we believe it is right to pursue, a presentation will be made to the whole church, outlining the proposal we have decided on. We will consult further on this proposal and from November 2011 commission much more in-detail plans, working towards planning permission and beginning the process of fundraising towards the build project in 2012.

From now until the January PCC meeting, we would ask the church family to continue to pray for the PCC, and to talk to PCC members about their response to these 3 questions.

With thanks
Duncan
On behalf of the Churchwardens and the PCC