

# Parish of St James the Great, Petts Wood

## Should we Redevelop our Hall/Social Centre?

### *Parish Survey - Full Report*

#### **1. Introduction**

- 1.1. For some while there has been discussion among parishioners (and others) as to the state of our Hall and Social Centre (the latter embracing all the other aspects of our complex, including meeting rooms, toilets, kitchen, sacristies, etc, apart from the church itself and the presbytery). Early in 2009 a small Scoping Team was formed from the membership of our Mission & Planning Team (MaP) and our Pastoral & Advisory Team (PAT), to consider whether there was a project here for the parish and if so what was its scope. Early questions included whether there was widespread agreement that a substantial redevelopment was needed and how matters should be carried forward. A short discussion took place at the Parish Forum meeting in March.
- 1.2. At the end of May 2009 the Scoping Team launched a survey, with the aim of discerning parish views on some initial key questions - whether parishioners agreed a substantial redevelopment was needed and, if it was, was there sufficient willingness to meet costs. The survey forms are reproduced at the end of this report, as an Appendix. Up to 29<sup>th</sup> July, when the survey was 'closed', 251 individual responses were received, together with responses on behalf of 16 of the groups which use the Hall/Social Centre.
  - 1.2.1. All\* responses, word-for-word, have been entered on an internet-based piece of software called Survey Monkey. \*(except for the pre-school, for which our standard questionnaire was not very suitable, so their views, summarised in section10 below, were obtained by direct interview.)
    - 1.2.1.1. Parishioners with access to the internet can view the responses by visiting the parish website and following the link on the home page. The resulting page has links to individual responses, group responses and also to this report.
- 1.3. This (draft) report sets out fairly fully the results of the survey.
  - 1.3.1. The questionnaire included a number of questions with multiple-choice answers, which can be summarised quite simply.
  - 1.3.2. However 'free-style' comments were also invited and many were made. This report attempts to convey the overall sense of such comments, but ultimately there is no substitute for reading the comments themselves, which interested parishioners (with access to the internet - see 1.2.1.1 above) are invited to do. These comments will also be available to any team(s) which might be established to carry work forward.
  - 1.3.3. The (draft) report also suggests a number of conclusions. These conclusions were subjected to a process of further discernment, via a discussion with MaP and PAT which took place on 3<sup>rd</sup> September (based on an earlier draft of this report), and then in a meeting open to the whole parish (the Parish Forum) on 6<sup>th</sup> October. It is hoped that by then the conclusions can be discerned more clearly and that we can with confidence proceed to an agreed next stage.
- 1.4. The Scoping Team recognised very clearly it was seeking only the parish's initial views in principle, ie prior to considering any specific possibilities.
- 1.5. The Scoping Team wishes to stress that the questionnaire was constructed in a genuine attempt to discern the parish's views, without prejudging what would emerge. It was felt that we needed to know from the start whether

- a) the parish agreed that a development was needed,
- b) that now was an acceptable time to embark on the work and
- c) that the parish as a whole was prepared to pay for it.

Depending on responses, the idea of a development project could well have been a non-starter. The most that might have been expected would have been a general willingness to proceed to some further investigations, which themselves would be without pre-commitment by the parish as to outcome.

## 2. Number of Replies.

- 2.1. The Scoping Team is very grateful to the 251 people (and 16 Groups) who took the time and trouble to respond, answering most or all of the questions, and with a significant proportion providing further thoughtful comments as well.
- 2.2. Such a volume of response gives a very good insight into the range of opinions among our parishioners.
- 2.3. We estimate that this represents a percentage response rate perhaps in the mid to high 30s. Our reasoning is as follows:
  - 2.3.1. We distributed around 750 survey forms to individuals. There may be a number of parishioners who did not pick up a form at all (offset by any parishioners who may have picked up more than one form). This would suggest a response rate in the region of perhaps just over 30%. But ...
  - 2.3.2. . . there are 538 unique addresses on the parish register, which is probably our best guess at the number of households in the parish. Although we asked as clearly as we could for each individual adult/confirmed parishioner to complete his/her own form, it is evident from a few of the forms that some couples have indeed done just one form between them. To this extent the views we have received will represent a somewhat higher proportion of our parish than that generated by the calculation in 2.3.1.
  - 2.3.3. Hence our guess of mid to high 30's percent.
- 2.4. The significance of a response rate in the mid to high 30's percent was discussed with MaP and PAT. The general feeling, based on knowledge of surveys done in other parishes, was that this was quite a good response rate. Indeed it compares quite reasonably to the sort of response rates we sometimes see in national elections! Even so, it is still a minority of parishioners. The following thoughts were considered relevant:
  - 2.4.1. We know that pretty well every parishioner was given the chance to participate in the survey. It is every parishioner's right to refrain from giving his/her views.
  - 2.4.2. It may be reasonable to surmise that those holding strong views on the questions posed are much more likely to express views. Perhaps many of those refraining from completing their survey form do not feel strongly on the issues raised.
  - 2.4.3. With regard to non-responders, just as in a general election, anyone refraining from casting a vote is, implicitly, indicating a willingness to accept the outcome whatever it may be. And since the survey was very much an initial trawl of views, without the presenting of specific proposals, many parishioners may have felt not yet ready to express views. Some would probably have been folk who intended to respond but never got round to it. Some may simply have felt disengaged, and not prepared to play any part.
  - 2.4.4. All in all it is felt that, for purposes of deciding whether to proceed to the next stage of investigation, the views expressed can be taken as representative. However when, as in this case, the outcome could eventually involve the need to raise significant sums of money it would be incautious of the parish to commit itself to such major expenditure without a clearer indication of a more widespread willingness to share the costs.

## 3. Parishioners

- 3.1. All but 7 of the 251 respondents can be identified as St James' parishioners.
- 3.1.1. One of the 7 wrote in that she was a visitor (and Firmly Agreed that the Hall/Centre was in need of substantial development, describing it as “*Very dark – Depressing*”).
- 3.1.2. Of the remaining 6 we suspect they may be parishioners who just overlooked the particular question.
- 3.1.3. We have allowed all the responses from these 7 to be included in the analysis below (though excluding them would make little difference to the overall picture).
- 3.2. Reported Usage of Hall/Social Centre.

Regular User	32%
Occasional User	44%
Only for events not connected with church*	2%
No usage reported	22%

\* a number of regular and occasional users additionally reported that they also sometimes used the Hall/Centre for events not connected with the church.

**4. Is the Hall/Social Centre in need of some fairly substantial redevelopment? And is now a good time to be getting on with it?**

4.1. 245 out of the 251 answered these questions.

4.2. Responses to the first of the two questions **“Do you agree that the Hall/Social Centre is in need of some fairly substantial redevelopment?”** were as follows:

	Do you agree that the Hall/Social Centre is in need of some fairly substantial redevelopment?		
	Agree/Firmly Agree	Not Sure	Disagree/Firmly Disagree
All Respondents	63%	16%	21%
Regular Users (79)	63%	12%	25%
Occasional Users (109)	72%	10%	18%
Non-Users (52)	50%	33%	17%

4.2.1. A pretty impressive 63% of respondents either Agreed or Firmly Agreed with the proposition. It should be noted though that there was a range of views as to what degree of redevelopment was required. Those who either Disagreed or Firmly Disagreed formed a not-inconsiderable 21% of all respondents. Thus of those who expressed a view, the split was about 3 : 1 in favour of the need for some fairly substantial redevelopment. 16% of respondents were Not Sure

4.2.2. Analysing these responses according to usage of the Hall/Social Centre,

4.2.2.1. Regular Users: unsurprisingly, a smaller proportion of this group was Not Sure about the need for redevelopment. Of those expressing a view, the split was ‘only’ about 2.5 : 1. This again is probably unsurprising since regular users might be expected to include those who are pretty much happy with how things are.

4.2.2.2. Occasional Users, the largest of the ‘by usage’ groups, showed a greater level of dissatisfaction with the condition of the Hall/Social Centre, with the 72% who Agree or Firmly Agree with the need for redevelopment outweighing by 4 : 1 those who Disagree or Firmly Disagree. This group showed the lowest Not Sure proportion. This may be a significant finding. Perhaps many of those who, when they have to, come to parish events/activities in the Hall/Social Centre might participate more frequently within a redeveloped complex.

4.2.2.3. Of Non-users of the Hall/Social Centre, a much higher proportion, 33%, were Not Sure - unsurprising. Of those expressing a view, the split was similar to that for All Respondents, viz about 3:1.

**4.3. If the parish as a whole considers that the Hall/Social Centre is in need of substantial development, is now a good time to be getting on with it?**

4.3.1. The overall response to this question was:

Yes, now is a good time	51%
Not sure	22%
No, not a good time	27%

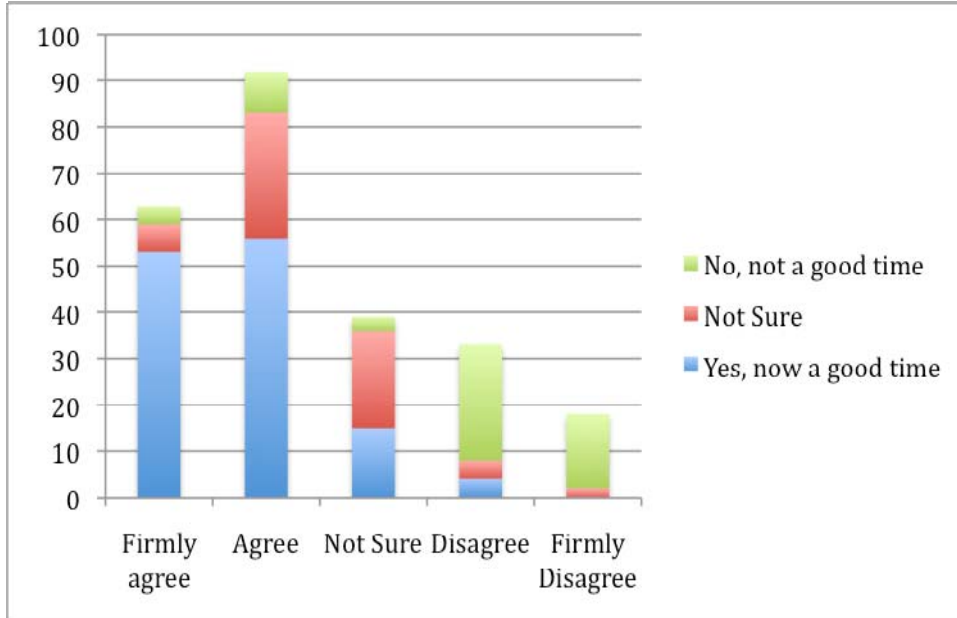
4.3.2. ‘Votes’ in favour of the ‘now is a good time’ question are supported in some cases by comments such as *“Now is as good as any a time”*, or *“Any delay or procrastination in redeveloping the Hall/Social Centre will add to the costs. There is no better time than the present to completely rebuild the Hall/Social Centre”*.

4.3.3. Comments the other way have included concern about the effect of the recession on families – *“With the credit crunch and rising unemployment quite a*

*few parishioners must worry about committing themselves to spending extra money*". Some comments though express clearly strongly-held views that to embark on a costly redevelopment would be *"a misjudgement", that it would be "wise to NOT burden the parish with extra debt as many families are unsure about their jobs"*, or in other ways it would quite wrong for us to be thinking about spending large sums in this way – *"I feel that it is irresponsible to be considering what is a luxury in the current economic climate and it will be very divisive within the Parish"*.

- 4.3.4. The Scoping Team, supported by MaP and PAT, agree fully that the position of families affected by the recession has to be taken into full account. Some comments are included in section 5.2.3 below.
- 4.3.5. On a scan through the written-in comments for Part A of the form some 40 or more statements have been identified (some interpretation is necessary) saying with varying degrees of force that we should be looking at refurbishment, not a complete rebuild.
  - 4.3.5.1. In a few cases the comments indicate that the objection to full rebuild is on cost grounds– *"I would like to have known rough COSTING QUOTES for the different scenarios BEFORE answering this question, as it might sway my decision."*
  - 4.3.5.2. Such comments presumably pre-suppose that a full rebuild would necessarily be more expensive than a refurbishment. This may be pre-judging the issue, and the Scoping Team suggests that further exploration of possibilities should not exclude the possibility of rebuild until such time as we know it is more expensive. MaP/PAT supported this view, adding that a decision between refurbishment and rebuild would not be one wholly to be resolved on cost grounds alone – it may be that for a small amount more a rebuild would give much better facilities.
- 4.3.6. Several written-in comments indicate an instinctive preference for avoiding too elaborate a redevelopment.

4.3.7. There was a strong correlation between responses to this question and the previous 'need for substantial redevelopment' question. In the following graphical display, each column shows the number of 'votes' to the 'Do you Agree on the need for substantial redevelopment?' question. Within each column, each band shows the number voting according to the 'Is now a good time?' question.



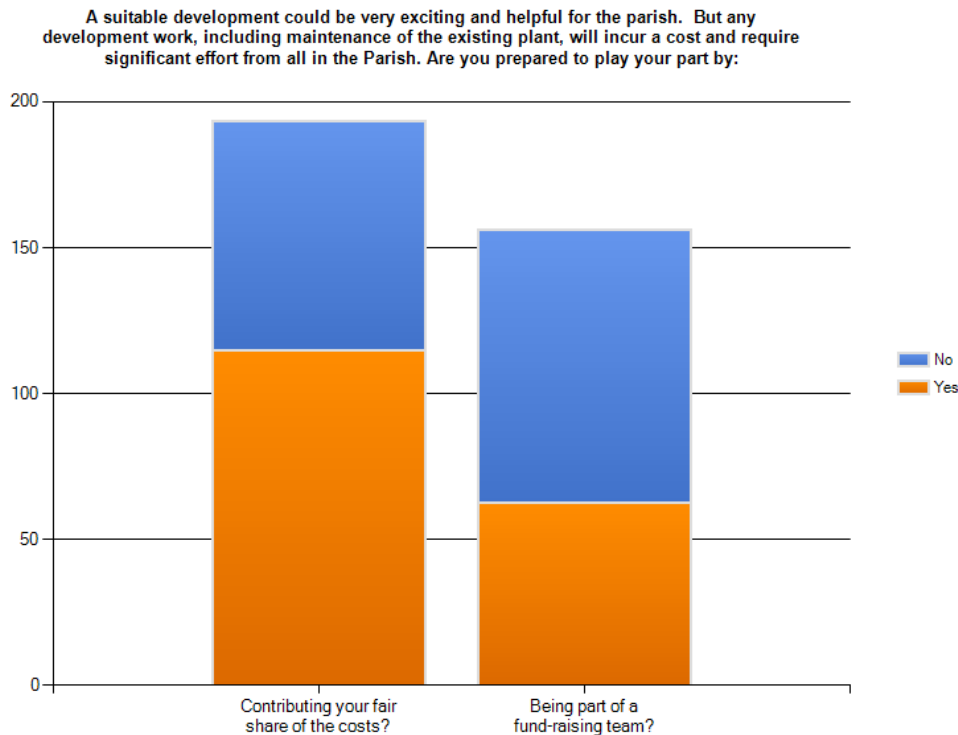
So if a parishioner agrees that substantial redevelopment is needed, then there is a high chance that the same parishioner will agree that we should be getting on with it. And vice versa!

4.3.8. Some comments indicate that there are in the respondent's view more urgent needs for the parish, with several references to the roof and other aspects of the church itself. It is agreed that any project for redevelopment in one area cannot ignore needs in others, in which respect the Scoping Team recommends that the next stage of work includes a survey of the whole of the parish's premises, and an assessment of likely costs.

## 5. Paying One's Fair Share, and Fund-Raising

5.1. 193 respondents answered the question about paying one's fair share of costs and 156 about being part of a fund-raising team.

5.2. 115 parishioners, being 60% of respondents to the Fair Share question, indicated



that Yes they were willing to contribute their fair share of costs and 78 parishioners (40% of respondents) said that No they were not.

5.2.1. Over half of the No voters were respondents who Disagreed/Firmly Disagreed with the need for substantial redevelopment.

5.2.2. Some comments referred to substantial commitments to providing support to other causes (including St James' Primary School). Other comments expressed doubts about us raising money to spend 'on ourselves' when there are so many other causes we should be supporting.

5.2.2.1. It is quite proper of course that parishioners should have charitable and other causes they support.

5.2.3. Looking at some of the comments made by the No respondents, it is clear that a number were motivated by the thought that a 'fair share' would be more than they could afford. Such worries have to be recognized (and for families in a difficult position, their 'fair share' of any costs would be substantially influenced on this account). However, it is probably appropriate to recognise that (a) not everyone in the parish is about to be made redundant (b) the recession won't last forever, and (c) anyone who has pledged money on a regular basis would not be bound to continue in the event of hitting hard times. When this issue was discussed with MaP and PAT it was agreed that it was important to make it clear that the concept of 'fair share' certainly encompassed 'ability to contribute', and that any parishioners whose circumstances changed would be free and indeed expected to adjust accordingly any contributions they were making.

5.2.4. It is likely that the major part of the funding of any substantial development will come from donations from parishioners. The survey does not seem to have elicited, at least as at the present time (see 5.4 below), sufficient financial widespread support for providing such donations.

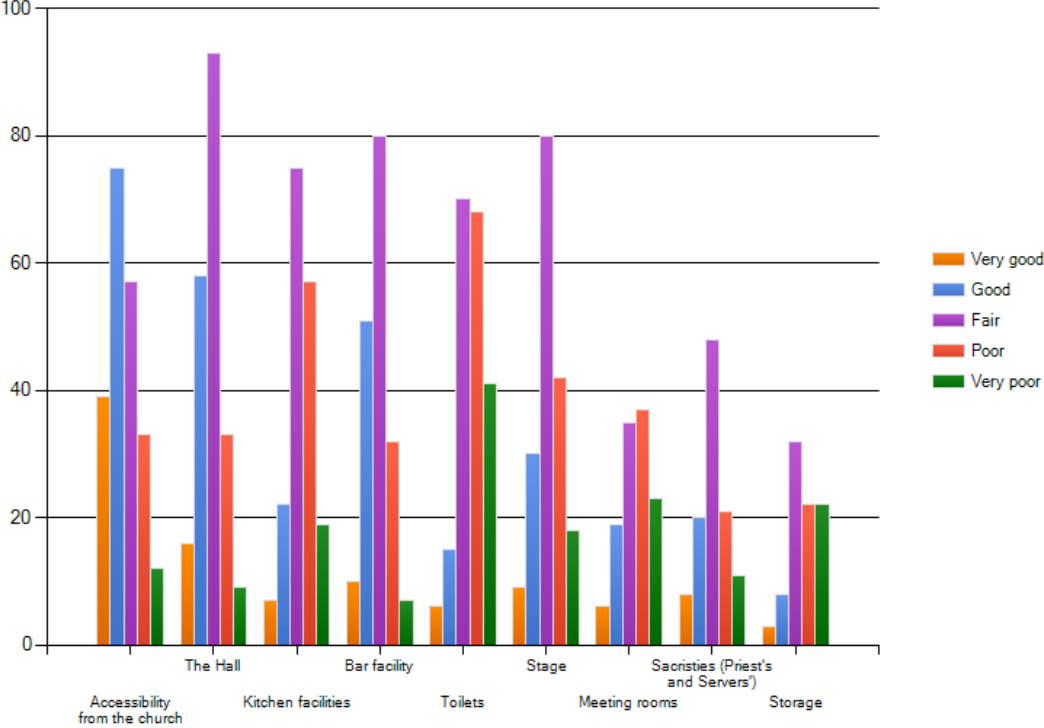
- 5.2.4.1. But perhaps, in advance of specific proposals, it is unrealistic to expect to see any stronger willingness to provide financial support than that which has emerged.
- 5.3. For the question about willingness to be part of a Fund-Raising Team the percentages were reversed – 40% said Yes and 60% said No.
- 5.3.1. Only 37% of the No's were respondents who Disagreed/Firmly Disagreed with the need for substantial redevelopment. In other words there was quite a strong No vote among parishioners who agreed with (or were not sure about) the need for substantial redevelopment. How should this be interpreted? It may simply be that, for a significant number of parishioners, 'fund-raising' is not their thing. But it may be that the 60% No voters would not want to organise fund-raising while still being willing to support events. A finding that 40% of respondents were willing to be actively involved in organising fund-raising would be quite positive for the parish. Some further enquiry seems needed in this area.
- 5.4. As can be seen from the height of the columns in 5.2, about 60 of the 251 respondents to the survey declined to respond to the question about Fair Share and nearly 100 to the question on Fund-Raising. Taken together with the number who responded No to one or both questions, this points to a high proportion of respondents who are unwilling, at least at this point, to indicate a preparedness to engage in the matter of paying for a redevelopment. And then there is the majority of parishioners who did not complete a survey form at all. The message of the survey must be that presently there is insufficient clearly stated willingness to meet the costs of a major project to feel confident that the parish is definitely willing to proceed. But the response is not at all so negative as to say to the parish that we should stop further work right now.
- 5.5. Other points about fund-raising made in the survey and at MaP/PAT included:
- 5.5.1. The parish is frequently very generous in responding to special appeals. It should not be assumed that this would not be the case if a significant redevelopment project is decided upon.
- 5.5.2. The services of a professional fundraiser should be considered.
- 5.5.3. The availability of grants should be considered.
- 5.5.4. Different ways of giving should be explored. Gift Aid is one such. Some employers offer matched giving to charitable causes. It is possible that the parish might benefit from bequests, and other sources of income as yet unconsidered.
- 5.5.5. There is though concern that if enhanced giving is encouraged for the parish then other giving may suffer. This could even include support for parish activities, eg the uniformed groups.

**6. Rating Existing Aspects of the Hall/Centre in Serving Parish Needs**

6.1. The following chart contains much information, but summarises quite well the responses to this question.

6.2. The height of each column indicates the number of 'votes' for that particular answer

**Please rate how good you think existing aspects of the Hall/Social Centre are in serving parish needs:**



in relation to the relevant aspect of our Hall/Centre.

6.2.1. Please note that 'Don't Know' votes have been excluded. So where the height of a set of columns is low overall, eg for Storage, this simply indicates that fewer parishioners felt in a position to comment.

6.3. Where the orange and blue columns predominate, the parish is saying it is pretty happy with the state of that aspect of the Hall/Centre. Where however the mauve column is significant the feelings are rather grudging, and significant heights to the red and green columns show a substantial degree of unhappiness.

6.4. Thus the most criticised aspect of the Hall/Centre is the Toilets, with 109 respondents (about 55% of those voting) rating them Poor or Very Poor. Significant unhappiness was also shown with Storage and Meeting Rooms, though fewer respondents expressed a view on these aspects. The Kitchen facilities also got a rather poor rating.

6.5. The most strongly positive vote was for Accessibility from the church. The Scoping Team was initially rather surprised at this. After all, to get from church to hall involves either making our way down a narrow and often rather dark corridor, or making one's way round the car park. We would welcome feedback from parishioners on the thinking behind this particular 'voting'.

6.6. An alternative way of summarising this information is to calculate the weighted average of each score, where a Very good vote carries 1 point, Good 2, Fair 3, etc. This produces the following ratings table, which also shows the number of votes cast in each case, and sorts the facilities into order of rating:

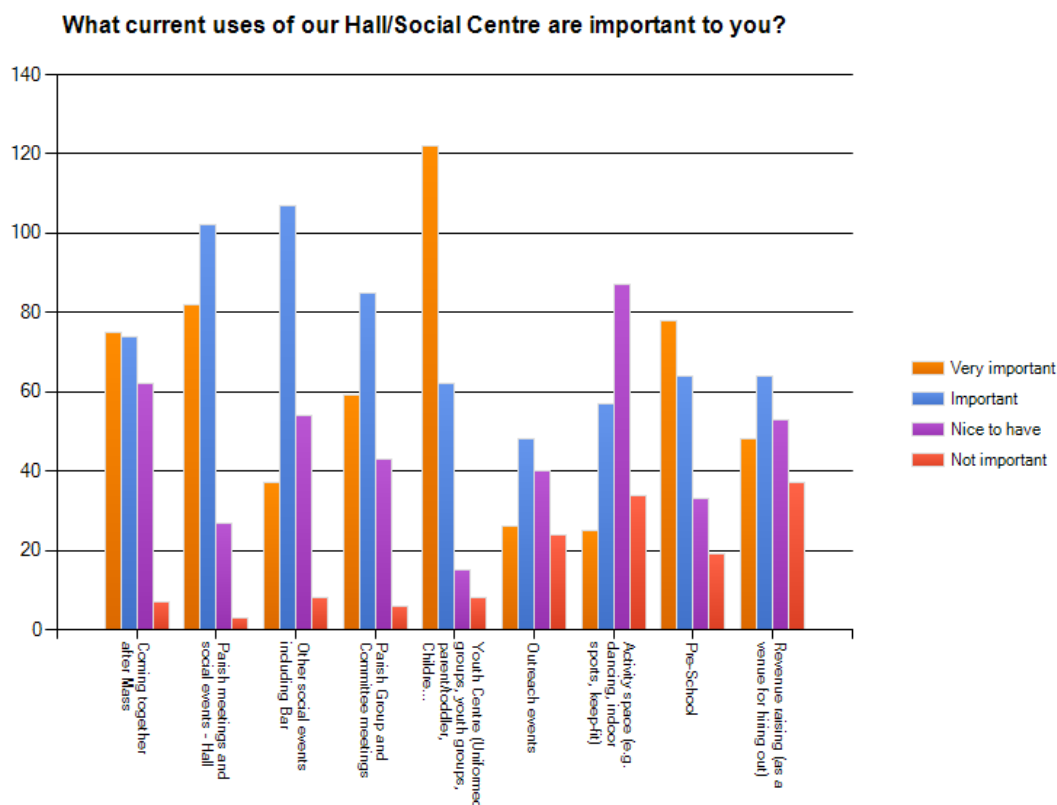
Facility	Responses	Average rating	Comment
Accessibility	216	2.6	Fair to Good

Hall	209	2.8	Close to Fair
Bar	180	2.9	Close to Fair
Sacristies	108	3.1	Close to Fair
Stage	179	3.2	Close to Fair
Kitchen	180	3.3	Fair to Poor
Meeting Rooms	120	3.4	Fair to Poor
Storage	87	3.6	Fair to Poor
Toilets	200	3.6	Fair to Poor
Overall	193	3.1	Close to Fair

- 6.7. The survey form allowed for other aspects to be mentioned. Most were critical (though Table Football and Facilities for Scouts each got a Good vote, and Access from the Car Park a Very Good). 7 write-ins referred to various aspects of Overall Appearance/ Décor/Light with a mix of Poor and Very Poor ratings., and 2 further Very Poor's for Cleanliness. 4 write-ins on Furniture got votes ranging from Fair to Very Poor, though one respondent excluded chairs from his/her criticism. Various other points were made, which will be available to inform future work on developing specifications for future development (if any) of the Hall/Centre.
- 6.8. Several write-in comments questioned our need for a Stage, with the facility to 'build' a temporary Stage when needed being suggested as a desirable alternative to a dedicated Stage. This could allow then for the footprint of the present Stage (and possibly the room behind), in conjunction with suitable partitioning, to be useable both as a separate room and as an extension of the main Hall.
- 6.9. Overall, as might have been expected, detailed comments on the facilities gave a consistent picture to that from the earlier question on whether some substantial redevelopment was needed.

## 7. What Current Uses of Hall/Centre are Important to Parishioners?

7.1. The following chart summarises responses to this question.



7.2. The orange and blue columns show the numbers of uses which are considered Very Important or Important, and the use of the Hall/Centre as a facility for our Young People is clearly given a very high priority.

7.3. The other use where the greatest number of ratings was Very Important was the Pre-School.

7.4. Parish meetings of various sorts, whether of the whole parish, of Groups and Committees or of coming together after Mass, were all rated highly.

7.5. The uses of the Hall/Centre as an Activity Space or for Outreach Events were less highly rated. (There may have been uncertainty as to what Outreach events might comprise, given the much lower numbers giving an answer to this question.)

7.6. The greatest number of Not Important votes went to Revenue Raising, though this also got substantial numbers of Very Important and Important votes, perhaps reflecting some uncertainty as to our need for gaining revenue through use of the Hall/Centre. One comment possibly represents a commonly held view, viz *"Not at expense of parishioners e.g. uniformed groups etc should be given priority."*

7.7. As for the previous question, the following table is an alternative way of summarising this information. Please note that there are only four ratings possible here (1 = Very Important, 2 = Important, 3 = Nice to Have and 4 = Not Important), so the Average Ratings are not in any sense comparable to those in 6.6 above.

Use	Responses	Average Rating	Comment
Youth Centre	207	1.6	V Important to Important
Parish meetings & social events	214	1.8	Important

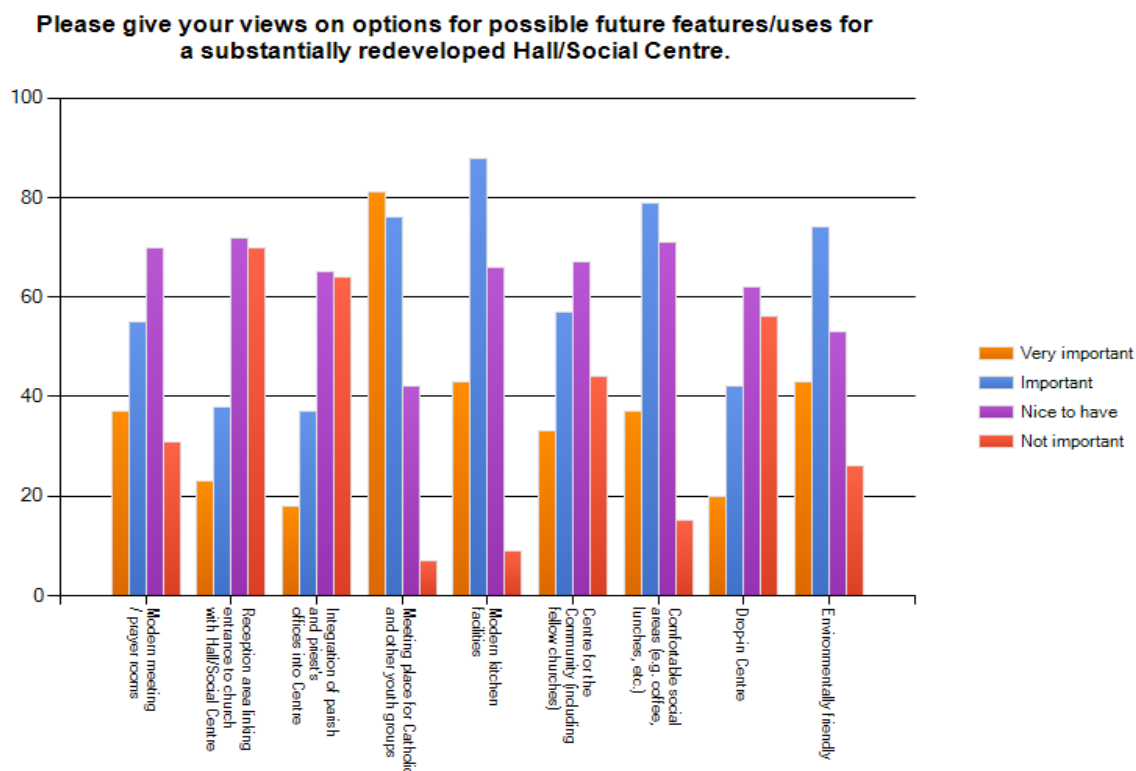
Pre-School	194	2.0	Important
Parish Group & Committee meetings	193	2.0	Important
Coming together after Mass	218	2.0	Important
Other social events, including bar	206	2.2	Important
Revenue raising	202	2.4	Important to Nice to Have
Outreach events	138	2.4	Important to Nice to Have
Activity space	203	2.6	Important to Nice to Have

7.8. There were only three 'other' entries, two of which simply indicated that the respondent knew of no other use and one of which related to a form of Outreach event.

7.9. Other comments were generally by way of emphasising the respondent's views on particular uses. Several comments related to the Pre-School, which are picked up in section 10 under Group responses to the survey.

## 8. Possible Future Uses for a Substantially Redeveloped Hall/Social Centre

8.1. The following chart summarises responses to this question:-



8.2.

The following table summarises the results in the alternative way, again in order of rating, where a Very Important vote is weighted 1, ... and Not Important is weighted 4:

Feature/Use	Responses	Average Rating	Comment
Youth Groups	206	1.9	Important
Modern Kitchen Facilities	206	2.2	Important
Environmentally Friendly	196	2.3	Important to Nice to Have
Comfortable social areas	202	2.3	Important to Nice to Have
Modern meeting/prayer rooms	193	2.5	Important to Nice to Have
Centre for Community	201	2.6	Important to Nice to Have
Drop-in Centre	180	2.9	Nice to Have
Reception area linking to church	203	2.9	Nice to Have
Integrate Parish Office	184	3.0	Nice to Have

8.3. As with the previous 'existing uses' question, the responses on possible features/uses reflect the parish's clear priority to serving our young people.

- 8.4. Modern kitchen facilities are regarded as Important. However the ideas of a Drop-in Centre, of Linking the Church and a Reception Area and of Integrating the Parish Office into the Centre received 'votes' very much concentrated in the Nice to Have and the Not Important categories (but see section 11.3 below).
- 8.5. A range of Other possibilities or matters to be considered was suggested. These included provision of other facilities to enhance its social use by our young people and others, including table-tennis and the facility to show films. The need to take security seriously was referred to in several different ways. And other matters were extensions of features mentioned in the list, such as energy consumption/minimising maintenance/improving natural light/access to the garden.
- 8.6. As an alternative to indicating support for possible features/uses of a redeveloped Hall/Centre, respondents who opposed the idea of redeveloping could indicate their reasons.
- 8.6.1. Of the 33 who Disagreed with the need for redevelopment, 29 gave their reasons, and of the 18 who Firmly Disagreed with the need for redevelopment, 15 gave their reasons. The frequency of citing the suggested reasons was as follows:

Attitude to need for substantial redevelopment	Hall used to be our church – should be preserved	We should not be spending a large sum of money	We should be content to use what we have
Disagree	8/29	26/29	15/29
Firmly Disagree	8/15	14/15	9/15

- 8.6.2. It seems clear that the major objection to significant redevelopment is cost, coupled with an instinct for some frugality.
- 8.6.3. This seems to be a very significant point. The desire to avoid saddling the parish with a large debt is repeated many times in the survey returns, and by no means only among those who disagreed with the need for significant redevelopment.
- 8.6.4. In relation to the third suggested reason, several of the comments added words to the effect that, in using what we have, there still needed to be some refurbishment (but short of what the respondent would class as a major expenditure).

## 9. Opportunities and Concerns

- 9.1. This question gave respondents the opportunity to suggest particular Opportunities and/or Concerns relating to a substantial development. Because these were written in, summary is a somewhat objective effort. There is no substitute for reading through the comments.
- 9.2. 132 Opportunities were written in.
- 9.2.1. Of these, around 50 can be read as relating in one way or another to improvement of facilities including both updating existing facilities and introducing others, either generally or on behalf of specific group eg young people.
- 9.2.2. About 30 relate in various ways to enabling us to come together better as a community,
- 9.2.3. with another 10 or so talking about us being able better to reach out to the wider community.
- 9.2.4. About another 10 mention opportunities for earning revenue for the parish,
- 9.2.5. with nearly a further 10 on various ways we can be greener/use resources more effectively.
- 9.2.6. Finally, a number of other thoughts relate to such diverse suggestions as the opportunity to make use of parish skills, the thought we might build above the Hall or out into the garden, to the benefits of integrating the parish office and to a preference for a temporary stage rather than our permanent one.

9.3. 155 Concerns were written in.

9.3.1. Of these, about 65 related to costs in various ways – clearly the major area of concern.

9.3.2. About 25 concerns related to disruption to parish activities during the period of refurbishment.

9.3.3. About 10 concerns were to do with post-redevelopment needs for maintenance, security, possibly caretaker et al.

9.3.3.1. The caretaker/cleaner issue May well be something the parish should be addressing anyway.

9.3.4. About 20 responses were in the nature of concerns or questions as to broader dangers in undertaking a major redevelopment; the reasons ranged from concerns that it may lead us to take our eye off the more important area of our spiritual development as a community through to concerns that we might lose our collective character as a Catholic community

9.3.5. Other concerns ranged fairly widely, and all can be read on the SurveyMonkey site – see 1.1.2 above.

## 10. Group Responses

10.1. In addition to the Part A and Part B forms which went to parishioners, a Part C survey form was developed for Groups which use the Hall/Social Centre. 22 Part C forms were delivered to 'group leaders', 15 were returned and one Group was approached on an interview basis. Of the 7 not returned, it will of course be open to such Groups to supply views in any subsequent stages, if the parish decides to go ahead with further work.

10.1.1. The 15 Groups making returns were as follows:

	Abbrev used in text
Bar/Coffee Club	Bar
Brownies & Rainbows	Brownies
Catenians	No references
Catholic Women's League	CWL
Children's Liturgy Group	CLG
Firm Believers	Exercisers
Justice & Peace	J&P
Knights of St Columba	KSC
Mission and Planning Team	MaP
Parent & Toddler	P&T
Parish Library	Library
Sequence Dancing	Dancers
Uniformed Groups - Scouts, Cubs, Beavers	Scouts
Welcomers	Welcomers
Youth Groups (Senior & Junior)	Youth

10.1.2. The Pre-School was approached differently because the standard form would not have been appropriate to their situation. A meeting was held between Mary Hutchinson and Roger Wright, and extracts from that meeting are summarised in the section 10.15 below.

10.2. The Groups were asked the same initial questions as individual parishioners as to whether they agreed that the Hall/Social Centre was in need of substantial redevelopment and whether now was a good time to do it. The spread and average level of views was very similar to that for individual parishioners, shading slightly more in favour of the need for redevelopment and now being the right time.

10.3. The remaining questions were 'open' questions, ie Groups were asked to provide written-in answers rather than tick pre-suggested responses. The following sections work through these questions.

10.4. *"Does the Group use the Hall/Social Centre? If so, please describe which parts (Hall? Kitchen, Bar, Other Rooms?), how often and in what numbers."*

10.4.1. From the descriptions and numbers provided, the sizes of the 15 groups were categorised as: 7 large, 4 medium, 2 small and 2 tiny. 11 are regular users, 3 infrequent and 1 unclassified.

10.4.2. 13 groups stated that they use the hall; 2 use the small hall, 9 use the kitchen (2 occasionally), 3 use the bar (2 occasionally). Most, but not all, use the toilets!

10.5. *"Does the Group ever use the Stage? If so, for what purpose?"*

10.5.1. Occasional use is made of the stage, but not necessarily for conventional purposes. The P&T stores its toys there because they lack sufficient alternative space. The Youth, KSC, Scouts and CWL use it occasionally for entertainment. There is a feeling that a portable stage would be more sensible. The Scouts in particular would like it removed, the space combined with the Green Room and the new area divided from the Hall by a retractable partition.

- 10.6. *“What storage facilities in the Hall/Social Centre does the Group have?”*
- 10.6.1. Most of the groups having a requirement for storage are just about managing, but they would all like larger and more convenient facilities. These currently consist of small corners of odd rooms, cupboards, and the stage. The Scouts seem to be reasonably well endowed because of the Den, although access up the spiral staircase is poor. The Youth have problems storing their table tennis and snooker equipment. Sadly we haven't been told how the Guides are coping.
- 10.7. *“It has been suggested that the Hall/Social Centre is in need of some fairly substantial redevelopment. What best describes your group's opinion at the present stage?”*
- 10.7.1. Although this was posed as a closed question, two comments were written in here and associated comments made in various other places. The Scouts and Dancers are strongly opposed to any major re-development, fearing that losing use of the Hall would endanger the existence of their groups altogether. The Bar believes some changes are desirable and CLG suggests the whole complex should be rebuilt. Two of the small groups suggested it was good to discuss the idea and cost options. It seems fair to say that from the comments made, the main reason for opposition, apart from cost, is the concern about losing use of the Hall for a lengthy period.
- 10.8. *“What aspects of the Hall/Social Centre does the group consider should be improved as a priority?”*
- 10.8.1. Almost without exception every group claiming to use them would like substantial improvements to the toilets. Most groups mention that the kitchen should be improved: one suggesting at least a deep clean, another that there is a smell of gas, and three recommending a complete redesign so that its use can be extended.
- 10.8.2. Some groups mention the unattractiveness of the hall and its poor lighting. Another has problems with access; having to bother Frank Simon each week for entry is not desirable.
- 10.8.3. The Scouts requested that other users should be obliged to store all their belongings after use. This may be a reference to the Pre-School equipment but in any case, as storage is known to be a problem, this request is unlikely to be met in the short term.
- 10.9. *“If the parish as a whole considers that the Hall/Social Centre is in need of substantial development, does the group consider that now is a good time to be getting on with it?”*
- 10.9.1. The P&T suggested there is never a good time and the parish should just get on with it. However, the Scouts thought it would send out the wrong message in a time of recession and the Library thought it might be prudent to wait for an economic upturn. The overall feeling (from 4 groups) was that this is a good time to think and plan for such a development.
- 10.10. *“If a substantial development were to take place, what facilities would the group: Need, Want, Like?”*
- 10.10.1. It wasn't possible to attribute most of the replies to the categories listed, and so the suggestions have been considered as general needs. Neither is there a general trend for what improvements are required except for better toilet facilities. The Dancers and Exercisers obviously need a good, clean floor and a reliable ambient temperature. They and also CLG comment on the need for proper cleaning and general caretaking improvements. Brownies and Youth groups want better storage. CLG would like a warm, bright space, with moveable child friendly furniture plus decent audio visual equipment. The

groups which are more meeting/discussion orientated (J&P, MaP, KSC) ask for rooms of a more suitable size. Welcomers and KSC suggest that a major kitchen refit should be carried out. Welcomers want this so parish meals (such as lunch club for the elderly) could be provided. The CWL would want a hand in the design of any kitchen alterations. The library would be more accessible if set up in new surroundings and this could be done in a meeting room of a suitable size.

10.10.2. The most radical proposal is to be found in the Scouts submission. They wrote at length describing their legacy and loyalty to the parish, which is not disputed of course. Their main concern, apart from continuity, is that the parish should not create a facility which is too nice for them to use because of the types of activity in which they engage. This has caused problems in the past when they had been banned from using certain areas. Instead they would prefer to be housed in separate accommodation with their own storage and independent access. This is surely something which should be seriously considered, and where possible shared with the Guiding groups.

10.11. *“If a substantial development is undertaken there could be significant disruption to the use of the Hall/Social Centre for some time. What particular needs does the group think it may have during that period and how does it think it would cope?”*

10.11.1. This is the main cause of concern for the large and established groups. The CWL states that it couldn't cope, using, as it states, all facilities within the existing centre. The Dancers and Scout groups conclude that they would be forced to close, or move completely and not return. Availability of the hall after Sunday Masses is essential in the view of the Bar. All the other groups believe they would find ways round such difficulties with some minor assistance and adjustments to routine. CLG and P&T would probably suspend their activities for the period of re-development.

10.12. *“Without any commitment at the present stage, would the group be willing to play its part in raising funds for a redevelopment of the Hall/Social Centre if the parish as a whole agreed that this was something that should be done?”*

10.12.1. All groups are sympathetic to this idea, although important caveats have been noted. The CWL for example would assist with fund-raising for hall refurbishment but not a rebuild. Brownies and Scouts rightly point out that the burden would fall on the same constituency of givers. P&T and KSC were the most enthusiastic on this subject. The Bar suggested that prices could be increased to help but were concerned about how to ring fence such contributions. The Dancers already make a valuable donation to parish funds of £120 for each month it operates.

10.13. *“Does the group believe that that this questionnaire has given it sufficient scope to put its point of view at this (early) stage? If not, what more would it like to add?”*

10.13.1. 9 of the 15 respondents said yes, the others making no indication one way or the other.

10.14. Dancers and Scouts submitted extensive additional comments. These were entered in an extra comment box on Survey Monkey, called “Major additional commentary”. Many of their points have been incorporated above, however, the following did not conveniently fit the questions but are well worth recording here.

10.14.1. Scouts This response was phrased in quite strong terms. The Group does not wish to see the building “razed to the ground” but would support refurbishment. As well as the belief that a rebuild would have a serious, if not catastrophic, impact on their operation, they are sceptical about how much

backing the parish would give to such a scheme. In their words “the congregation as a whole is only committed to attending Mass on Sunday” and they believe that initial enthusiasm would quickly wane and the fund raising burden then fall on the “usual suspects”. They are also clearly unhappy about other hall users not putting things away and appear to link this in saying that the parish does not make full use of the facilities.

As reported above, their main concern is losing their Friday night sessions either temporarily or even permanently. They worry that if the centre is radically improved, and bookings increase as a result, that they will lose out.

10.14.2. Dancers This comprehensive response was prepared by Denis Nelligan, and he is concerned both for his group and also the parish. This is clearly a very successful weekly event which is enjoyed by a large number of parishioners as well as some from at least one other Petts Wood church. It is well-managed financially, pays its way and even donates a decent profit to the parish. Denis would not like the venture disrupted in any way, believing that if the hall was unavailable for a prolonged period then it would go elsewhere and not return.

He is also concerned that the parish might be saddled with a large debt for years to come. However, he would support the raising of a separate cash building fund (target of £200,000) and the preparation of plans and costs.

#### 10.15. St James' Pre-School

10.15.1. The Pre-School is clearly valued by the parish. This shows in the very positive ‘rating’ it achieved as one of the current uses (see 7.1 above) where it received the second-highest Very Important ‘vote’.

10.15.2. The present situation for the Pre-School is unsatisfactory, due to the state of the premises which leaves a great deal to be desired.

10.15.3. In particular the toilets and kitchen come in for fierce criticism by staff and parents alike. The toilets are left in a poor state after weekends and after mid-week bookings, with staff having to clean and tidy throughout before children arrive.

10.15.4. Storage is a major problem.

10.15.5. It is very unsatisfactory for the Pre-School when functions essential for parish life (eg funeral receptions) take place during school times. This is a prime example of the Pre-School's lack of independence caused by the Social Centre's inflexible space.

10.15.6. The generally poor facilities give concerns that staff will leave. They are a marvellous bunch of people who achieve great results despite all the obstacles.

10.15.7. In the light of this situation, management and staff have been thinking about the Pre-School's future, and the prospect of major redevelopment of the Social Centre is very helpful. Any advice that can be provided about the possibility of dedicated facilities (as an alternative to the present situation of shared facilities) for the Pre-School within the Centre would be very welcome.

### 11. Other Comments

11.1. As and when we have a team drawing up specifications/priorities, even simply for the purpose of getting estimates, they would benefit from trawling through the various comments for a large number of thoughtful suggestions – see 1.2.2.

11.2. Where the survey seems to have had rather limited success is in eliciting ‘vision’ for what a redeveloped Centre might enable us to do, outside things we already do. Perhaps this was a consequence of us promoting the questionnaire as being quick and easy to complete.

- 11.2.1. It is maybe no coincidence that of the possible options offered in question 8 (see section 8 above), the three that received the least support were those that were furthest from our present situation. Maybe there is genuinely no enthusiasm in the parish for integrating the parish office into the Centre, having a reception area linking the entrance to the church with the Hall/Social Centre, or possibly offering a Drop-in Centre. But maybe it is just that such ideas, and others, need more time to gel and attract support.
- 11.2.2. Perhaps realistically it is only after the introduction of better facilities that we would get a widespread enthusiasm for new things among parish groups and parishioners.
- 11.2.3. But it may well be fruitful, a little further along the track, to institute some brain-storming exercises. Perhaps have two or more groups meeting simultaneously, but independently, sharing some features to encourage cross-fertilisation of ideas and community. Perhaps involve outside users at the same time, to show that as Catholics we are interested in our local community and can serve it in a positive way. There are many techniques, quite common within business and other organisations, for generating vision.
- 11.2.4. We do though note the Welcomers' proposal for a lunch club and the Library's suggestion to relocate. It has also been pointed out, on behalf of the Children's Liturgy Group, how although we meet a number of the needs of our children we are less successful when they move into their teen years. Part of an addressing of this challenge might be a Young Teens liturgy group. But presently this is inhibited by lack of suitable space which could be separated off.

## **12. Overall Comments and Conclusions**

- 12.1. There seems to be strong agreement that the present state of the Hall/Social Centre is unsatisfactory. We have significantly over 60% of respondents to our survey, including parish groups, saying they agree with the proposition that significant redevelopment is needed. Considering that we have set out no specifics as to what form such redevelopment might take, this is an impressive number. A further group of parishioners are Not Sure. But even among the 20% who Disagree or Firmly Disagree with the proposition for substantial redevelopment there were a number of written-in comments favouring at least some refurbishment.
- 12.2. It is instructive to note that among those who Disagreed with the proposition (Firmly or otherwise) the predominant reason was cost. This concern about cost is one that comes through strongly overall. It is expressed as either a concern that in these difficult economic times our parishioners will not be in a position to respond to requests to increase their giving, or that we might saddle ourselves as a community with an enormous debt.
- 12.3. Cost is clearly a major issue.
- 12.3.1. On the one hand, we had 60% of those responding to the relevant question saying they would be prepared to pay their fair share, which at a stage when no specific proposals have been produced is encouraging. Also 40 % of those who responded to the next question said they would be willing to be part of a fund-raising team.
- 12.3.2. But it has to be noted that nearly a quarter of respondents chose not to respond to the 'fair share' question at all. In all, less than half of respondents to the survey said they would be prepared to pay their fair share of the costs. And (we estimate) over 60% of parishioners did not submit a survey form. Also the wish to avoid saddling the parish with a major debt was a strong theme in many comments.

- 12.3.2.1. Some confusion exists among a number of parishioners as to what might be a 'fair share'. Clearly 'fair' in this context should be a matter of conscience for the individual parishioner, after thought and prayer. But it would seem that there could be value in providing some thoughts and advice to parishioners, as an aid to reflection.
- 12.3.2.2. There may even be a case for opening more generally with parishioners the matter of what should be a proper level of giving to the parish.
- 12.3.3. A number of written-in comments made it clear that there could be worry, if a parishioner's circumstances changed (eg redundancy) about being able to continue with a 'promised' level of donations. It needs to be made crystal clear that no 'promise' to make donations will in any sense be binding. It will always be at the individual's discretion whether to continue a level of support to (say) a Building Fund.
- 12.4. Coupled with clear expressions of concern about cost, one can detect in a number of responses a sense of preference for us being frugal, coming both from the conditions of the time and what is felt appropriate for a community such as ours.
- 12.4.1. This is a perplexing issue when it comes to interpreting what this might mean in practice. Our faith of course is not dependent on whether we have a smart new church or an old dark Victorian one, and it is easy to say we do not want anything 'unnecessarily fancy'. But what does this mean? It surely does not mean we go for cheapest construction materials, irrespective of quality and costs of longer-term maintenance.
- 12.4.2. And we have said that we want our young parishioners to be catered for. Like it or not, we are in some senses at least 'competing' with other attractions of modern life.
- 12.4.3. Perhaps what it means is that in any redevelopment we do we need a persistent and constant attention to principles of good stewardship, with a sense of responsibility that when we spend the parish's money we are doing so in competition with all the causes which, as a Christian community, we could be supporting.
- 12.5. There is quite a strong body of opinion that we should go for refurbishment rather than complete rebuild.
- 12.5.1. See however the comment in 4.3.5.2, where it is remarked that this view would seem to be predicated on the assumption that rebuild is necessarily more expensive.
- 12.6. A "refurbishment vs rebuild" debate, together with the expressions of concern in the survey at possible expenditure needed on our church, suggests that we need a clearer picture than we presently have as to the real state of our Hall/Social Centre, of the church and indeed also the presbytery. The Scoping Team proposes that we obtain suitable building surveyor/ engineer's advice on the state of our premises, both in themselves in the context of the costs the parish might be facing anyway within the next 10 (say) years and in their suitability for redevelopment? Until we have such advice we do not know what we are facing in terms of calls on our collective purse, and what the feasibility is of saying we refurbish/adapt what we presently have rather than rebuild.
- 12.7. The Scoping Team also proposes that we seek from a suitably qualified architect suggestions and costings, including outline drawings, as to possible development options for our Hall/Social Centre.

- 12.7.1. The purpose of developing such options would be to provide the parish with a much clearer picture of choices which are available to us and of the order of magnitude of their cost.
- 12.7.2. It is suggested that three choices be looked at, which can be described as moderate redevelopment, substantial redevelopment and rebuild. Work will be needed by a Specification Team to agree the main parameters of each of these options, though we would expect our chosen surveyor to have suggestions. In developing these parameters, the Specification Team should have careful regard to the opinions of the parish as expressed in the survey, including particularly the importance the parish places on supporting our young people.
- 12.7.3. Work on preparation of these options can proceed in parallel with the survey of our premises –as described above in 12.6.
- 12.8. The Scoping Team is firmly of the view that the results of the survey give a mandate for the exploratory work described in 12.6 and 12.7. But it wishes to make it clear that it does not regard such work as representing any form of pre-commitment to undertake any particular project (other than, at a minimum and in the absence of more elaborate work, year-to-year maintenance and repair).
- 12.8.1. The cost of such work would not be small. Our best present estimate, based in part on early exploratory discussions with an architect who is the husband of a parishioner, is that it could be in the order of £10,000. The parish has sufficient funds with the diocese to cover such a cost.
- 12.8.2. The Scoping Team would intend to obtain the support of the Finance Committee before committing this sum. The overall principle the Scoping Team would follow in proposing the parish incur such cost would be that the cost was both necessary and sufficient. We would intend to discuss with the Finance Committee how best to achieve good value for the parish's money, including considering whether to get competitive quotes. (However for work such as this, we need to be more concerned about the quality of the advice we get rather than simply its cost.)
- 12.9. Following production of the work outlined in 12.6 and 12.7, there would be a process of further consultation with the parish. Coupled with discussion on possibilities would need to be serious debate on what the parish can realistically raise in funds.
- 12.9.1. The Scoping Team proposes that we resolve as a community that we will not embark on serious expenditure until we have saved at least 75% of what we intend to spend. (NB this is a diocesan requirement for Anglican parishes, which we would be wise to consider adopting ourselves.)

The Scoping Team (Fr Bryan, Austin Barradell, Chris Hairs and Roger Wright)  
28<sup>th</sup> September 2009

A copy is attached below of the survey forms. These consist of the basic Part A which includes the guidance notes for completing the survey, Part B with more detailed questions and Part C for Groups which use the Hall.

# WHAT DO YOU THINK? – Development of St James’ Hall/Social Centre

## What Am I Being Asked To Do?

The Questionnaire overleaf and attached asks for your views on the current and future use of the Hall/Social Centre. Please think about the questions, give your responses and then **return the questionnaire to the box in the lobby during June.**

**Your answers matter** – please take a few minutes to complete as much of the Questionnaire as you have time for.

Part A overleaf includes the most important questions: do you agree that now is a good time to redevelop our Hall/Social Centre, and would you be prepared to play your part in helping pay for the work? **Please, please at least complete Part A.**

If you would like to provide thoughts on more detailed aspects, then we would welcome your responses to the attached Part B also.

All responses will be treated in confidence. The Scoping Team may like to contact a few parishioners to discuss ideas that may arise. If you would be willing to be contacted, please include your contact details at the end.

## But What’s It all About?

*“Should we be redeveloping our Hall/Social Centre (including the sacristy, etc)?”*

- Our existing premises are less than ideal in a number of respects, and yearly maintenance costs are likely to mount.
- A number of neighbouring Christian parishes have redeveloped their own premises, so there is local experience from which we could benefit.
- It is approaching some 50 years since what was the old church became our Social Centre when the existing church was opened. Now seems a good time to consider redevelopment.
- Some initial discussion was opened at the Parish Forum meeting on 10<sup>th</sup> March.

This questionnaire is an important step in starting to explore whether redevelopment of our Hall/Social Centre is the right thing for us to be doing at this time.

## What Next?

1. The Scoping Team will examine and summarise the questionnaires.
2. The Mission and Planning Group will consider how our mission (calling from God) as a parish should influence any decision on a development.
3. If the responses point to further exploration of practical alternatives, the Scoping Team will draw up a provisional architectural brief, so that an architect can advise on ways we might realise our requirements, including:
  - a. Refurbishing our existing Social Centre
  - b. Building and equipping a new structure
  - c. A mix of the two scenarios
4. The architect will also be asked to comment on the repercussions of doing nothing (apart from making general repairs).
5. The results of all the above will be presented to a Parish Forum assembled to address this single issue.

Thank You – The Scoping Team.  
(Father Bryan, Austin Barradell, Chris Hairs, Roger Wright, Andrew Dalglish)

- 1** *How would you describe yourself (you may circle more than one category):*
- a. Parishioner of St James
  - b. Regular user of the Hall/Social Centre
  - c. Occasional user of the Hall/Social Centre
  - d. User of the Hall/Social Centre for events not directly attached to the church (e.g. birthday parties, receptions, pre-school etc)
- 2** *It has been suggested that the Hall/Social Centre is in need of some fairly substantial redevelopment. What best describes your opinion at the present stage?*
- a. Firmly agree;
  - b. Agree;
  - c. Not sure;
  - d. Don't agree;
  - e. Firmly disagree.
- 3** *If the parish as a whole considers that the Hall/Social Centre is in need of substantial development, is now a good time to be getting on with it?*
- a. Yes
  - b. No
  - c. Not sure
- 4** *A suitable development could be very exciting and helpful for the parish. But any development work, including maintenance of the existing plant, will incur a cost and require a significant effort from all in the Parish. Are you prepared to play your part by:*
- a. Contributing your fair share of the costs? Yes/No
  - b. Being part of a fund-raising team? Yes/No
  - c. Other – suggestions welcome.

[We don't yet have any costs. But it's clear that a development would need significantly more than our current offertory collections provide. For a project to succeed it will have to attract enthusiastic financial support and fund-raising from the Parish as a whole. We need an honest view as to whether the Parish has that enthusiasm.]

- 5** *Do you wish to add any comments?*

Thank you very much for completing the questionnaire – Part A. Please post it in the box in the lobby at the back of church.

If you would like to contribute further thoughts, why not look through Part B. Even if you only wanted to comment on one or two questions, your input would be much appreciated.

**But please be sure that the questionnaire is returned by the end of June.**

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# WHAT DO YOU THINK?

## Part B

### 6 Please rate how good you think existing aspects of the Hall/Social Centre are in serving parish needs:

1= Very Good 2= Good 3 = Fair 4 = Poor 5 = Very Poor

Accessibility from the Church	1	2	3	4	5	Don't Know
The Hall	1	2	3	4	5	Don't Know
Kitchen Facilities	1	2	3	4	5	Don't Know
Bar Facility	1	2	3	4	5	Don't Know
Toilets	1	2	3	4	5	Don't Know
Stage	1	2	3	4	5	Don't Know
Meeting Rooms	1	2	3	4	5	Don't Know
Sacristies (Priest's and Servers')	1	2	3	4	5	Don't Know
Storage	1	2	3	4	5	Don't Know
Other aspects? (please write in)	1	2	3	4	5	Don't Know
	1	2	3	4	5	Don't Know
	1	2	3	4	5	Don't Know
My overall feeling	1	2	3	4	5	Don't Know

### 7 What current uses of our Hall/Social Centre are important to you?

1 = Very Important 2 = Important 3 = Nice to Have 4 = Not Important.

Coming together after Mass	1	2	3	4	Don't Know
Parish Meetings and Social Events -	1	2	3	4	Don't Know
Other Social Events including Bar	1	2	3	4	Don't Know
Parish Group and Committee	1	2	3	4	Don't Know
Youth Centre (Uniformed groups, Youth Groups, Parent/Toddler, Children's Liturgy)	1	2	3	4	Don't Know
Outreach Events	1	2	3	4	Don't Know
Activity Space (e.g. dancing, indoor sports, keep-fit)	1	2	3	4	Don't Know
Pre-school	1	2	3	4	Don't Know
Revenue raising (as a venue for hiring out)	1	2	3	4	Don't Know
Other aspects? (please write in)	1	2	3	4	Don't Know
	1	2	3	4	Don't Know
	1	2	3	4	Don't Know

# WHAT DO YOU THINK?

## Part B

**8 Please give your views on options for possible future features/uses for a substantially redeveloped Hall/Social Centre.**

1 = Very Important; 2 = Important; 3 = Nice to Have; 4 = Not Important.

Modern meeting / prayer rooms	1	2	3	4	Don't Know
Reception area linking entrance to church with Hall/Social Centre	1	2	3	4	Don't Know
Integration of parish and priest's offices into Centre	1	2	3	4	Don't Know
Meeting place for Catholic and other youth groups	1	2	3	4	Don't Know
Modern kitchen facilities	1	2	3	4	Don't Know
Centre for the Community (inc fellow churches)	1	2	3	4	Don't Know
Comfortable social areas (eg coffee, lunches etc)	1	2	3	4	Don't Know
Drop-in centre	1	2	3	4	Don't Know
Environmentally friendly	1	2	3	4	Don't Know
Other aspects? (please write in)	1	2	3	4	Don't Know
	1	2	3	4	Don't Know
	1	2	3	4	Don't Know

**Or if you consider we should not be undertaking a substantial redevelopment, please indicate your reasons, e.g.:**

<p>The Hall used to be our church – it should be preserved</p> <p>We should not be spending a large sum of money</p> <p>We should be content to use what we have</p> <p>Other</p>	
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**9 There may be exciting opportunities for the Church in the community; you may also have concerns about any change. Please identify up to three 'opportunities' and three 'concerns'. Add another sheet or leave your contact details if you can't say here everything you need to**

Opportunities	Concerns

**10 Do you believe that this questionnaire has given you sufficient scope to put your point of view at this (early) stage? If not, what more would you like to add?**

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# WHAT DO YOU THINK?

(optional)  
Name

Phone number

Part B

Email address



Supplementary questionnaire for Parish Groups

Name of Group .....

**A** *Does the Group use the Hall/Social Centre? If so, please describe which parts (Hall? Kitchen, Bar, Other Rooms?), how often and in what numbers.*

**B** *Does the Group ever use the Stage? If so, for what purpose?*

**C** *What storage facilities in the Hall/Social Centre does the Group have?*

**D** *It has been suggested that the Hall/Social Centre is in need of some fairly substantial redevelopment. What best describes your group's opinion at the present stage?*

- a. Firmly agree;
- b. Agree;
- c. Not sure;
- d. Don't agree;
- e. Firmly disagree.

**E** *What aspects of the Hall/Social Centre does the group consider should be improved as a priority?*

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**F** *If the parish as a whole considers that the Hall/Social Centre is in need of substantial development, does the group consider that now is a good time to be getting on with it?*

- a. Yes
- b. No
- c. Not sure

**G** *If a substantial development were to take place, what facilities would the group:*

- a. Need
- b. Want
- c. Like to have

Please make your response to this question as detailed as you wish.

**H** *If a substantial development is undertaken there could be significant disruption to the use of the Hall/Social Centre for some time. What particular needs does the group think it may have during that period and how does it think it would cope?*

**I** *Without any commitment at the present stage, would the group be willing to play its part in raising funds for a redevelopment of the Hall/Social Centre if the parish as a whole agreed that this was something that should be done?*

**J** *Does the group believe that that this questionnaire has given it sufficient scope to put its point of view at this (early) stage? If not, what more would it like to add?*

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# WHAT DO YOU THINK?

Part C

Group contact

Name

Telephone

Email address

