



Castle Street Methodist Church

The Methodist Church

Revd Stephen Burgess
2 Mowlam Close
Impington
Cambridge
CB4 9NA
Tel: 01223 700778
Fax: 01223 503798
Email: stephenburgess@beeb.net

Revd Jonathan Dean
Wesley House
Jesus Lane
Cambridge
CB5 8BJ
Tel: 01223 506265
Email: jondean@waitrose.com

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Development Update

We are writing to try to ensure that everyone is kept up to date with the progress of the plans for the redevelopment of our church buildings.

For a long time, the church has been moving ahead gradually towards realising the hope of renewed premises. A very large amount of money has been raised by generous giving and fundraising – some £450,000. We are confident that grants of about £125,000 will be available. The present car park has been professionally valued and we anticipate that we could realise about £485,000 from its sale. The cost of the new building is currently estimated at £1,130,000, but we will have a much firmer estimate once we have gone out to tender.

On Monday 24th February, the Church Council discussed the situation, and we listened to the views of many of those present – members of the Council and others who attended as observers. By a majority of fourteen in favour with one against, the following proposal was carried:

“Council directs the Development Committee to instruct our architect to progress the development of the new church to Stages E, F and G, while all efforts are made to retain the car park but in the full knowledge that we may have to sell all of the car park.”

This means that the architect has been asked to continue his work by drawing up detailed plans, working drawings and costings. Many of us will need to be involved in this exciting next phase in specifying the facilities needed in order to realise our vision of serving God in this community.

There will be the opportunity to hear more at the General Church Meeting after morning worship on Sunday 6th April, and we will distribute **Development Updates** at regular intervals.

Stephen Burgess

Jonathan Dean