

Minutes of village meeting - 12 March 2015

Present Representatives of LCCC, PCC, LCM, WI and Friends of Langley Church (17 in all)

#### Item 1 Proposed plans for feasibility study for Langley Church

Mike North introduced the meeting as an ideal opportunity for the village groups to come to an agreement as to how the process of planning future facilities in the village should move forward.

Jane W opened the meeting with the background to the three plans suggested by the architect.

Scheme one has a glazed link and a meeting room/reception area opening out onto a terrace facing West. LCM had asked the architect to adjust the toilets from the first draft to be near to the main body of the Church.

Scheme three only differed from one in the addition of an extra storage room thereby moving the toilets closer to the main Church next to the glazed link.

Scheme two is connected directly to the main body of the Church the idea being that this could be done in two stages if funding dictated.

The Architect is of the opinion that the planners would prefer the glazed link. Margaret reported that the DAC preferred the extension on Scheme 2 as it was integral to the church.

Discussion around the room, there was a general feeling of preference for Scheme one, the meeting room was in an ideal place with the servery opening into the meeting room the kitchen was then separated from the main hall this was felt to be an advantage. Robyn V commented that there were not sufficient toilets, this was agreed to be discussed at a later stage. Ann R added a request that the glazed link could be widened to accommodate prams, wheel chairs and coats.

Phil R voiced concern that this was a very large structure and would be very costly. David G did not feel it would be a significantly greater cost than the stage 1 option for scheme 2. A small meeting room would be cheaper to heat up for smaller meetings than the larger Church Hall. Alex R, Doug C and Tracey M commented that the meeting room may be an unnecessary expense. Liz C commented it needed to be attractive enough for people to want to hire it although Phil R commented that this was a facility for the villagers to utilise without a requirement that it be used all the time. Jane W and Viv G said the meeting room could be useful for children during church services.

It was generally agreed that we should aim for the best option – Scheme 1. Consideration to be given to the overall storage capacity in more detail at a later stage.

#### Item 2 Village Support

All in agreement that village support was needed for the Church project. Suggestion put forward by LCCC that there are two options to developing a village facility. One being the Church reordering and a complementary facility on the Green, the other being a sports pavilion and community centre on the green funded by an enabling project.

If the first option is preferred by the village Doug C and the LCM group stated the Church project should be funded first before starting to fundraise for the cricket pavilion or else the first project would not have sufficient support from grants. Mike North agreed that it was vital not to have 2 projects competing for grant funding and fund raising at the same time.

Andy C stated the village needed a facility on the green in order for the whole village to be supportive of the Church project. Viv G reiterated the Church needed to survive as a Church and Phil R pointed out the green needed a pavilion to survive as a village green but that this could follow the Church project even if this was several years later.

Ann R thought it was an emergency to replace the pavilion as it was unsafe. She suggested some future fund raising could possibly be a joint venture, between the church and the pavilion. Pauline L commented that the WI would prefer a facility on the Green but it was important to have good lighting for their needlework. Many WI members live in Clavering and would be therefore unable to have a say in their preference.

Robyn V asked whether car parking had been considered at the Church. Jane W had raised this issue at the very beginning of the process with Gerald and he has given permission to use the area to the right of the church along the path which would accommodate 12 cars. An area to the left of the church has been suggested suitable by the DAC. David G said that matting over grass was not suitable and a more permanent surface needed to be used. To be investigated further. LCM

Mike N agreed it would be sensible to have the Feasibility study displayed w/e before the village was asked to vote on the options. The pavilion plans could be displayed at this event. Plans could also be displayed on village notice boards.

Phil R and Andy C are looking into the options for a cricket pavilion and costings for the next joint meeting of all committees present.

Mike N agreed the Parish Council would manage the coordination between the committees of preparation of a written presentation laying out the options for the village, to accompany a voting form. This would be delivered and collected by the Parish Council. The LCCC and LCM group would each prepare their part of such presentation and this will be discussed at the next joint meeting, to take place once the costings had been obtained for both options.

Paddy R asked those present, as this was a representative group of the village, whether anyone had strong preferences for the community centre on the village green route. Phil R would prefer to see this happen and Robyn V said she also would prefer a centre on the green but would support it at the church if that was what the village preferred.

Mike N closed the meeting thanking everyone for attending and stating he was pleased that the village was making some progress towards planning a facility for the future.

Next meeting to be planned once costings from both the Church plans and a cricket pavilion were available.

Meeting closed at 9.00pm.