

Committee minutes

Both committees produce minutes which will be available on the St Bride's web-site and displayed in the Lady Chapel. We aim to be as transparent as possible about our activities.

Web-site

Tom Hendry is working with Norman Sawers to develop the **Building** section of the web-site.

Involvement of schools

Norah Jardine, the Principal of Art at St Andrew's and St Bride's, came with 10 fifth year students last Tuesday to sketch and photograph the church. We hope to display some of their work in the church. We would like to extend this invitation to the pupils of Calderglen and Duncanrig High Schools.

We have approached Mrs O'Hanlon, the Principal of St Kenneth's, proposing a project about the architecture of St Bride's for their more senior classes. This would take place in the new academic year, before the church closes. We would also propose this to St Hilary's.

Visits to the church

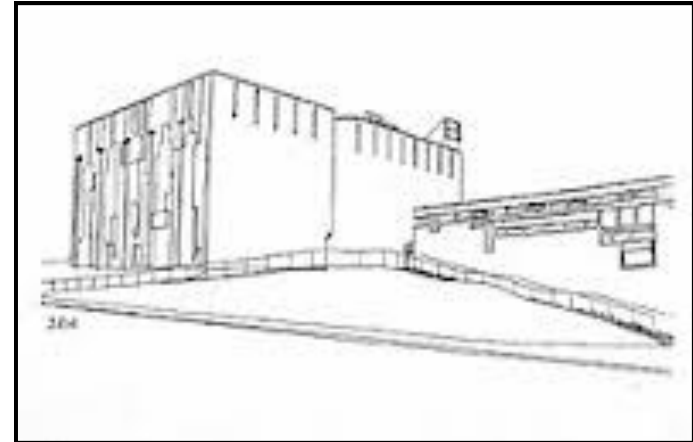
Chris Carr has been approached regarding a potential visit by a group of students from Lucerne University on 9th of September. St Bride's continues to attract interest from architects and students in the UK and abroad.

Your views and opinions

We are always keen to hear from parishioners with questions and views on the re-constructions and the financing. If you have any questions about the project, you can speak to John Hastings or Deacon John.

Please continue to support your parish at this important time!

ST BRIDE'S CHURCH EAST KILBRIDE



REPORT ON REPAIR PROGRAMMES AND FUNDRAISING

June 2015

Background

This is the third update on repair programmes for the church buildings.

Grant-funding

St Bride's is a Category A listed building (a building of significant national or international interest). The authority for listing rests with Historic Scotland, which also monitors any building work and repairs carried out, in order to ensure the architectural integrity of the building. On Thursday, we heard from Heritage Lottery Fund that we had passed stage 1 of our application for funding. This means they have ring-fenced sums of up to £250,000 for Repairs and up to £40,000 for Development (fees, archive, architectural guide, etc.) for St Bride's. We need to submit a further application (Stage 2) by September to secure the grant. The grant will come half from Historic Scotland and half from the Heritage Lottery Fund.

Fundraising

The parish is making good progress in meeting our initial target of £102,000. We welcome donations at any level and, if they can be gift-aided, we will achieve targets more quickly. Other activities:- the Sportsman's Dinner will take place this Sunday evening, Tea in a Basket will be in the Parish Centre on Wednesday 1 July, and we are planning a "Buy a Brick" scheme targeted at the children. We are also pursuing other grant funding bodies.

Parish Centre Extension (funding in place)

The contractor (Braidwood) was due to break ground last Friday - this update was written in advance. Much of the work will take place external to the hall so that it can remain in use over June and early July. The kitchen area will be enlarged and the bar will be lengthened and widened. There will be more storage. The hall itself, the side room and the entrance area will remain the same. The Parish Centre is an important facility for the wider community, not just the parish, and generates significant income to support parish activity.

Minor works programme (funding in place)

The contractors' quotations for outstanding elements of this programme (new external doors, piety stall, wheelchair ramp, removal of glass partitions, new pews in the elevated area and some masonry repairs) have been approved. Historic Scotland's sign-off on design elements is needed. This work, which will likely be carried out in early September, needs to be completed before December this year to secure the grant funding.

Major works

Planning is proceeding on a number of fronts. The lead architect, Stallan Brand, has identified a principal contractor, who will guarantee the work on completion. John Hastings and Peter Kidd attend fortnightly meetings of the Design Team to monitor progress. The specialist contractors meet on alternate Tuesdays to discuss details with the architect and Jim Martin, the project coordinator who is a quantity surveyor. The other specialist areas are mechanical and electrical engineering (e.g. electrical, heating, lighting), civil and structural engineering, construction design and management coordination (what most of us call Health and Safety). The next contractor meeting will take place on site at St Bride's on Tuesday 16 June, with a roofing contractor attending.

We are trying to source specialist bricks (imperial size with the correct colour and texture) which Historic Scotland need to approve. Brickworks are at full capacity at present, so this is taking time. Masonry repairs will not start until early 2016; the first stage of the project will focus on the roof. The roofing contractor proposes to work on the roof in stages with the roof sealed after each day's work, so the interior is never exposed to weather overnight. For safety reasons, work on the ceiling and roof will need a crash deck, a safety platform at high level, which means erecting scaffolding inside the church. This is why the church will need to be closed for safety reasons.

The target date for closing the church is the week of the October school holiday, when traffic on Plathorn Drive will be limited. Before then, we will need planning approvals, the issue of tenders, formalising appointments and the sign-off from Historic Scotland on the proposed works.

Committees

Parish Together Committee

The first meeting was held in the Parish Library on Tuesday 9 June. Various topics were discussed including venues for weekday and Sunday masses and obtaining permission to hold a special second collection for the Renovation Fund. Several ideas were mooted for Fundraising Events. The next meeting will take place on Tuesday 23 June in the Library after 10 am mass. Minutes are on the Display Board in the church.

Fabric Committee

The first meeting will take place in the Parish Library on Tuesday 16 June at 7pm. Agenda items: progress on the building works, fundraising and grants, parish archive (web-site, visitor guides, etc.) and involvement of schools.