

PLANS & PLANNING PROGRESS

We expect the final planning application to be before the Planning Committee in February.

Historic Scotland has objected to the development plans, in particular to the new welcome area. The architects (Lee Boyd) have responded to the objections and Dave Richards has written a response on behalf of St Paul's and St George's. Copies of the Historic Scotland letter and our response can be seen at the Project 21 Information Point.

A computerised walk-through of the glass entrance area has been commissioned. It will be submitted as part of the planning application, to show how the church elevation will be affected. This will be completed by the end of January.

Historic Scotland were also invited to a church service, to show them why we want to do the work, but this has been declined for the time being.

Latest versions of the plans are on display at the Project 21 Information Point.

GIVE AS YOU EARN

Many employers run a Give As You Earn (GAYE) scheme and some are very generous. For example, the Royal Bank will add £2 to every £1 given, for gifts up to £100. If your employer runs GAYE please consider it as a channel for your Project 21 pledges and your regular church giving. If you want to register St Paul's and St George's on your employer's system, the charity number is CR22836. If your employer matches your funding, let us know so we can tell others.

PRAYER POINTS

Please pray for the planning process this month and the people involved:

- pray that the council officers can work with all interested parties to reach an amicable solution
- pray that Historic Scotland's objections can be overcome and the application processed soon
- pray for the design team, for their creative skills and imagination as they look at possible compromises
- pray for Vestry and the Executive team, for good stewardship and wise decisions
- and that through it all we don't lose sight of God and his vision, that we may discern his will and act appropriately.

FUNDRAISING

Fundraising activities are focussing on large events which will encourage us to work together as a community. The first event will be in May: a day of adventure activities for individuals to seek sponsorship. Further details to follow.

Other plans include an Arts & Crafts Fair to coincide with the Edinburgh Festival in August/September. If you want to contribute your wares to this event, contact project21@pandgchurch.org.uk who will forward your details to the organisers.

Before May there will be a major dinner party event, being held as part of our current sermon series. If you wish, you'll have the opportunity to donate money to Project 21 through this event.

Individuals doing their own sponsored fundraising can ask the office for an official Project 21 Sponsorship Form. We are also registering the church on the justgiving.com website, which has the advantage of claiming back Gift Aid where appropriate. Email project21@pandgchurch.org.uk for more information.

BULLETIN

#01 February 2005

TIMELINE

We are currently appointing the Project Design team. Once this is completed we will agree the overall project timeline.

RELOCATION

Two possible options for relocation are currently being explored: St Mary's Cathedral, in Palmerston Place, and St Stephen's Centre, Stockbridge. Meetings are taking place with the appropriate people for both venues and we hope to have a decision in February.

PLEDGE STATUS

Current total pledged now stands at £2,206,845, which with basic rate Gift Aid hits £2,838,025. It's not too late to pledge if you haven't already done so. Forms are available at the Project 21 Information Point.

TAX YEAR END

The current tax year is coming to an end, so if you are planning to give to Project 21, you have until April 5th to Gift Aid this year's giving. If you are in the 40% tax bracket and want to donate your extra 12% Gift Aid amount to St Paul's and St George's/Project 21, then the code you need for your tax return form is WAA03DG.

NEW TO THE CHURCH?

Are you new to St Paul's and St George's and wondering what Project 21 is? If so, please visit the Project 21 Information Point in church and the website at www.projecttwentyone.net