

the BIG 'OUR CHURCH' *Project*

Playing our part in the ongoing story of St. Mildred's



Update May 28:

This week on the BIG 'Our Church' Project we continued to work on our DAC responses, and presented an update of the project to the PCC.

The various delays to our approvals now mean that we will not be in a position to commence the project in July 2017, and the large cost of the tender returns means that it is now more important than ever that we secure the majority of our funding before commencing work. As decisions on our larger applications are due between June and October, and qualifying for other funding is reliant on DAC approval, we now believe that we will not be in a position to commence works until after Christmas 2017. This gives us additional time to raise funds, and also means that the run-up to Christmas our services, school concerts, Christmas market and other events are not affected by the works. This is obviously disappointing for everyone, but is the right decision to ensure that the project is properly financed before committing to the works. Please continue to pray for the project, and let us know if you have any questions or comments.

Update May 21:

This week on the BIG 'Our Church' Project we presented our project to Viridor Credits Environmental Company, who will hopefully be a significant source of funding for our project. The presentation included a tour of the Church, and was very well received. We now wait for the decision making process to take place, and a decision on funding is due around June or July.

This week we also received news of the DAC meeting last week. Whilst it is not yet a recommendation, the queries raised relate to only three areas of the project, and our DAC letter acknowledges that much progress has been made in our application. The team continue to work on our responses with our advisors and Architects, and will resubmit as soon as we are ready. We also received the contractor's resubmissions this week, and are working with our architects to analyse the revised figures.

Finally, preparation continues for the PCC meeting on Monday night, when the new PCC will be given an update on progress so far, and the challenges ahead. Please continue to pray for the project, and let us know if you have any questions or comments.

Update May 14 2017

This week on the BIG 'Our Church' Project we received confirmation that we have been granted planning permission by Croydon Council for the external works. This is great news, and my thanks to our Architects and Lighting Consultants for their work in getting us to this point.

Our resubmission to the Deanery Advisory Committee (DAC) was also discussed on Tuesday and following some clarifications prior to this, we remain hopeful that our application will be approved. We expect to hear the results of the meeting by Wednesday 24th May.

Following our application to the Viridor Credits Environmental Company, they have requested a visit to Church next week. This is a first but positive step in the application process, and the team are busy preparing for this.

We continued some reviews on efficiency savings, this week particularly looking at the Lighting and Electrics which is one of our largest costs - our re-priced tenders are due back by Wednesday 17th May at 12 noon, so we will review this further when we receive them.

As always, please let us know if you have any questions or comments.

Update May 7 2017

This week on the BIG 'Our Church' Project we have continued to scrutinise the tender returns, and challenge where we can save costs. The revised scope for the first project phase has now been finalised and sent back to a smaller number of contractors for re-pricing. Following this we will choose a preferred contractor for the works.

We have also submitted three key funding applications this week to Viridor, Veolia and the Arts Council. A lot of work has gone in to these very detailed applications, and I would like to thank everyone who has contributed to this. Our applications are reviewed in June.

We also received news of a grant this week from Ashburton ward councillor Maddie Henson of which we are extremely grateful.

Please continue to pray for the project, and in particular the DAC meeting on Tuesday when our responses will be discussed at their May meeting. Please let us know if you have any questions or comments.