



“ROOM FOR GROWTH”

PUBLIC CONSULTATION FEEDBACK AND ANALYSIS

Introduction

The Public Consultations were held on Friday, 8th July 2016 in Holy Trinity Church, Bosham between 1900 and 2100 and on Saturday, 9th July in St Nicholas Church Hall between 1000 and 1200. All attendees were invited to sign an attendance book and record their comments by filling out a 'Comments and Feedback' form.

252 attendees recorded their presence by signing the attendance book or submitting feedback forms during the consultation and 182 (71%) of these completed and returned the form.

Other comments have been received by letter and email but this document refers only to feedback received at the Public Consultation.

The events were advertised in Bosham Life (the parish magazine), by flyers distributed around the village and by notices posted on both the church and the village noticeboards. Invitation letters were sent to members of the Parish Council and to all village organisations. The Bosham Association notified all of its members.

A summary of the responses received is as follows.

Q1: Do you live in the Parish of Bosham?

| | | |
|-----|-----|-----|
| Yes | 167 | 92% |
| No | 15 | 8% |

An overwhelming majority of respondents live in the Parish of Bosham

Q2: Are you on the Electoral Roll for Holy Trinity?

| | | |
|-----|-----|-----|
| Yes | 78 | 43% |
| No | 104 | 57% |

This is not the Electoral Roll held by Chichester District Council. Rather, being on the Electoral Roll for Holy Trinity indicates that those respondents are members of the congregation.

Q3: Roughly how often do you attend church services in Holy Trinity?

| | | |
|-----------------|----|-----|
| Weekly | 78 | 43% |
| Monthly | 15 | 8% |
| Occasionally | 50 | 28% |
| Seldom or never | 26 | 14% |
| No response | 12 | 7% |

Over half of the respondents attend church regularly. Of the remainder, a small percentage chose not to answer the question.

Q4: Of the two designs, which do you think the most appropriate for the site?

| | | |
|--------------------------------|----|-----|
| Traditional | 68 | 38% |
| Modern | 37 | 20% |
| Other (please elaborate below) | 26 | 14% |
| No response | 51 | 28% |

Of the two designs presented, the traditional design was favoured by the majority. However, there were a number of responses which did not provide a clear cut answer to this question. In view of this, additional options will be considered.

Q5: Do you feel that the tower rooms are safe and suitable for our Sunday School children?

| | | |
|--------------------------|-----|-----|
| Yes | 27 | 15% |
| No | 116 | 64% |
| Maybe | 2 | 1% |
| No response / Don't know | 37 | 20% |

A clear majority feel that the tower rooms are neither safe nor suitable for our Sunday School children

Q6: Is the space in the church comfortable for gatherings?

| | | |
|-------------|----|-----|
| Yes | 58 | 32% |
| No | 92 | 51% |
| Maybe | 4 | 2% |
| No response | 28 | 15% |

Whilst a majority of respondents thought that the church was not comfortable for gatherings, the replies may reflect the wide variety of events that can be held in the church.

Q7: Has this event helped you to understand the proposal?

| | | |
|-------------|-----|-----|
| Yes | 161 | 88% |
| No | 5 | 3% |
| Maybe | 1 | 1% |
| No response | 15 | 8% |

An overwhelming majority found the Public Consultations helpful.

Q8: Please share with us any comments you have on the “Room for Growth” plan

Many, varied and lengthy comments were received from the attendees, some of which represented strongly held views; both for and against.

From an interpretation of the replies, around 22 attendees were against any development to the church or within the churchyard, whilst around 91 attendees agreed with one or the other of the current proposals. A further 23 attendees would prefer an attached building.

Whilst this leaves 44 attendees whose responses cannot be easily classified, the following suggestions were noted.

- The proposed building is too large
- Put the extra space somewhere other than in the churchyard
- Use the vicarage in some way, either by adding to it or by re-housing the vicar
- Increase the use of St Nicholas Church Hall
- Improve the office facilities within the vicarage
- Restructure the timing of the church services
- Use other existing community facilities eg Sailing Club

Members of the PCC (Parochial Church Council) who hosted the Public Consultations fielded many questions and heard many comments and views about the proposal. Some concerns that attendees raised were:-

- Is St Nicholas Church Hall going to be sold to pay for this project?
- Will the use of the new building be controlled?
- Will there be extra traffic?
- What about noise & light pollution

Conclusion

The PCC has taken the survey answers and all comments into consideration and, as has been stated in 'Update No. 3' which can be found on the church website (www.boshamchurch.org.uk), will study all available options in detail and provide updates on the church website as regularly as possible.