

St Andrew's Community Hub

Another update on the creation of the community space for us all, the St Andrew's Community Hub.

As ever I wanted to start with the good news. We are now within £55,000 of our funding target having identified over £180,000 of funding so far. Your efforts recently on-line at the Crowd Funding website and with the Buy a Brick campaign, started by Bill Sharp and Chris Peat, show how committed Carlton villagers are to getting this new facility. Thank you.

The website closed during October (it was hosted by Aviva), but the Buy a Brick campaign is still going. I will be putting notices up around Carlton to let you know how you can donate to this campaign. Any donation of £2 or more will be added to a scroll of donors displayed in the new Hub. My thanks to Simon Cooper for selling 104 'bricks' recently. We have met with the stonemasons who will build our small extension to the church, remove some of the pews and refurbish and redecorate the affected areas of the building. They are ready to start work once all of our funding has been obtained. If you are interested in purchasing one or more of the pews once they have been removed, please contact Bill Sharp or Murray Lockwood. Some of you may also have noticed that we have already removed the small ramshackle shed to the rear of the church, as this would have been in the way of the extension.

Sadly, there is still mixed news on funding. As in the previous update, many funders are understandably and rightly prioritising Covid-19 initiatives. Unfortunately, this has meant that they are deferring decisions on projects such as ours. During the summer we wrote to many smaller charities to see if they would support us. As I write we are waiting on decisions from 11 of these when their trustees meet during the autumn.

At this critical stage of our project, we would be very grateful if you decided to support the creation of our Community Hub by making a donation to the project, either through Buy a Brick or direct to our charity, The Friends of St Andrew's. In either case I would be happy to pass your donation on. If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to contact me, either around or about in Carlton, or on the email address below.

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