

ST. PAUL'S CHURCH – REORDERING



At the request of the Building Development Group, Archdeacon Penny has granted a Temporary Reordering Certificate, valid until the end of 2016, for the temporary removal and storage of 6 pews currently placed at the rear of the two blocks of pews at the south side of the church.

This is a non-permanent trial of how we may create more social space in the church. It will provide an additional 14.28 sq.m. of space (c. 154 sq.ft.) in front of the “coffee table” at the rear of the church and give us an idea of how this would look and what additional space – and where – we may need in the longer term.

The intention is to move the three forward-facing pews from the rear of each block; one from each block will be turned round at the back of the fifth pew from the front to face the rear, and one will be placed sideways (against the wall and the existing radiator) to face into the roughly square space being formed. The pews will be fixed firmly (but not permanently) to the floor to avoid accidents. The remaining two pews will be stored unobtrusively in the building pending a permanent reordering.

This additional space will be most useful for the forthcoming programme of social events in the church, centred on Harvest, the Christmas Tree Festival and the 5th December Fair, and for the serving of food at our regular lunch-time concerts. It will help alleviate Health & Safety concerns with the movement of hot tea and coffee around and above attenders at these events. There will be a reduction of some 15 seats in the church but we can still accommodate the numbers expected for the major services of Remembrance Day and Christingle.

There is a plan up on the notice boards of the church showing the proposals in detail and the churchwardens and other members of the Committee can give additional explanation.

This will be a useful – and reversible – exercise as we develop our ideas so that our main church building may play a fuller and more positive role in the community. Meanwhile, the Diocesan Advisory Committee (DAC) has been approached with a fuller plan of how we see our overall plans developing and their initial reactions to these proposals are awaited with interest.

