



CONNECTED

April 2024 Update

Finances

We are very grateful that our financial position has taken another significant step forward, with money in the bank now over £2.1 million. Some pledges are yet to be completed, and we expect bank interest and grants to help towards the estimated £2.6 million target. If you would like to contribute for the first time, please [complete the form](#), knowing that every gift is valuable, whatever its size.

Moving forward

Members of our committee recently had an in-depth meeting with the team from our contractor Hystar, in preparation for a planning application shortly. We have invited neighbours to look at our plans and we are liaising with the Diocese, from whom permission is also necessary. The design process is continuing, with attention to internal layout of toilets, offices, storage and the connecting doorway with the church. Externally, roof space has been set aside for solar panels to contribute to the sustainability of the new building, which will also be much more efficient in its use of energy through modern standards of construction and insulation.

Thinking ahead

Initial contact with the Local Authority was slower than the builders hoped, and their plan to start work on site in the Autumn will be delayed a little. Our recent meeting was encouraging, however, in showing the commitment of the whole team to making this project happen soon.

All the groups that hire rooms in our present Church Centre know about our planned move out of the building, and conversations are taking place with church groups about how their ministries may be able to continue during the building period. An inventory has been taken of the equipment and resources in the present Centre, and some are already being sorted, moved or recycled.

We are planning for our 10 O'clock Sunday service to move to St Bede's School in the Autumn, where the headteacher has kindly offered the use of their main hall, as well as several classrooms for children and young people to meet. We are hoping to be able to use the church building for other services and as a flexible space for some groups.

The rate of progress on a project of this scale depends on many factors, including those outside our control, but the direction of travel is clear and encouraging. Please pray for God's guidance and help with the next steps.



Please pray

Please **stay and pray** after morning worship on Sunday 5th May, for this and other areas of church life, and take part in a **Day of Prayer** on Saturday 11th May.

To receive regular prompts for your prayers **at home** by email or WhatsApp, send a request to connected@htredhill.com, or contact the Church Office.



To communicate with the Connected Committee, please use the email address connected@htredhill.com or contact the Church Office.

Members are Cynthia Buchan, David Buchan, Lesley-Anne Clegg, Sarah Dyer, David Heppenstall, David Keiller, Tim Menary and Paul Taylor