

St Ives Parish Rooms – New Proposals

Press release

Exciting plans have recently been unveiled for the revitalisation of the St.Ives Parish Rooms in St.Andrews Street. An exhibition illustrating the project has been on display inside the church entrance since Easter and will continue to be displayed throughout the coming week. Questionnaires are available for public comment and these will then be analysed and feedback taken on board before plans are submitted to Cornwall Council for planning approval. It explains the objectives of the scheme which involves upgrading the fabric of the original building, improving the public face of one of the town's oldest community buildings, introducing new facilities, supporting the St.Ives Archive Study Centre who occupy the first floor, improving access for the elderly and disabled and generally creating a sustainable, self-financing centre. This project comes as the parish church celebrates it's 600 year anniversary and will hopefully provide an exciting step into the next 600 years.

Sustainability will also play a significant role in the development of the project. We are currently investigating alternative renewable energy sources, perhaps incorporating bio mass, ground or air source heat pumps and solar energy. The thermal performance of the building will be upgraded and energy saving measures included where practical. Carbon reduction will be a reality!

The Parish Rooms Committee are keen to hear the public's views on designs for the building prepared by St.Ives architects, Poynton Bradbury Wynter Cole. The work will involve the demolition of the flat-roofed 1960's extension and construction of a new extension incorporating a prominent new entrance. A new mezzanine floor is being introduced at high level to create a residential apartment providing much needed rental income and a permanent presence for improved security. The new facilities will include a lift providing access to all floors, a community meeting room, new kitchen and toilets, better circulation / fire escape, a new gallery for the Study Centre and extra storage. The architects have prepared two different external design options for the appearance of the extension and the committee would be grateful for your views on either scheme. If any members of the public would like to see the building before passing comment open days will be arranged and the Study Centre is open to all on a regular basis.

Parish Priest, Father Andrew Gough said, ' I hope as many as possible will take the opportunity to view these exciting plans for the Church Parish Rooms. If these plans are approved it will add a fresh look to St Andrews Street and especially the lane which looks rather dilapidated leading to the ambulance hall and vicarage. But importantly it will continue to promote the Church and particularly our town as having a vision for the future alongside existing and successful projects like the Tate Gallery and the public Library'.

PICTURE : The Vicar of St Ia , -The Parish Church of St Ives, The Reverend Andrew Gough BA (right) points out to Church wardens Wendy Francis and Bob Jenkin the ambitious plans to completely re build the Parish hall situated just off St Andrews Street

