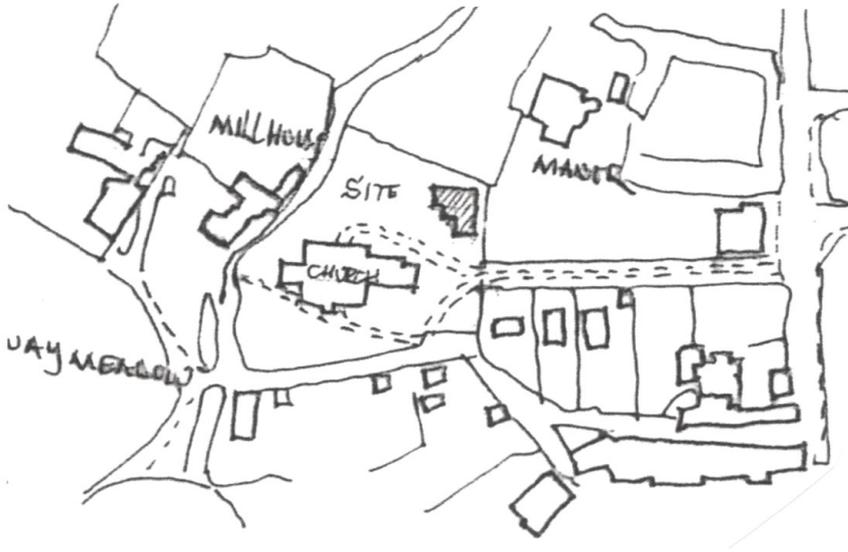


# Room for growth

## Holy Trinity Bosham



We've found a way to grow by having a separate building that will nestle in the North East corner of the churchyard.

**This is exciting and challenging**

Our church family is an active part of the local community. Our aim is to share our faith and we invite the village to join us on our journey as we grow.

*"We want to grow numerically and spiritually"*

But our shortage of space holds us back.  
As a church we are not a 'one-day-a-week-wonder'.

We need to develop our building to meet our mission and outreach needs.

This means better facilities for education, catering and events. Specifically:

- More flexible meeting space
- A fit-for-purpose parish office
- Improved lavatories
- Welcoming facilities for visitors

We urgently need growing room for our Sunday school. There are often more than 40 children crammed into three rooms in the tower. All those rooms are unsuitable and only one is accessible.

In 2013, English Heritage (now Historic England) said:

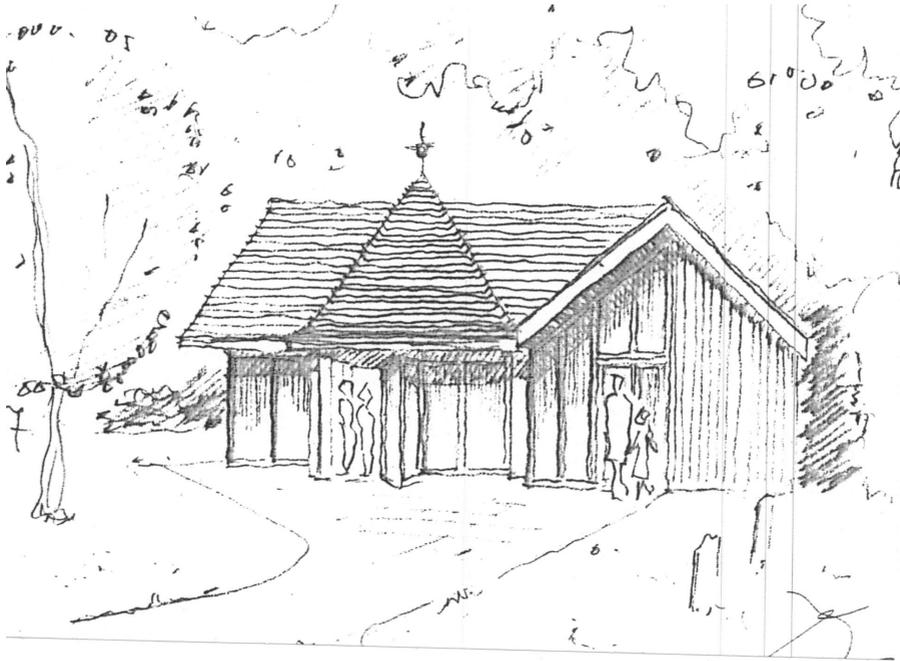
*“We acknowledge that the existing arrangement, which makes heavy use of the tower for Sunday school, robing for the choir, and kitchen facilities is far from ideal...”*

Five years ago the Parochial Church Council (PCC) said: *“We must retain the feel and setting of the building”*.

We have talked informally to:

- Church Buildings Council
- English Heritage (now Historic England)
- Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings
- Chichester Diocesan Advisory Committee
- Chichester Harbour Conservancy
- Bosham Parish Council

We have tried to balance their comments as we sought to find a solution.



*A first impression*

There are three possible solutions

- 1. Make space available within the existing structure**  
Collective opinion said: *“Don’t change the inside of the building, don’t even think about partitions across the nave or the north aisle”*.
- 2. Extend the building**  
The experts thought this risked spoiling the building and we agreed. We saw several sketches, but none seemed right.
- 3. Build a separate structure**  
Miles of red tape precluded this, so we were between a rock and a hard place.

But this summer, ecclesiastical law changed and it is now much easier to put a detached building into a closed churchyard.

The PCC like the idea and voted to pursue this. We have some early outline sketches that show how a suitable building *might* look in the North East corner of the churchyard.

We plan to explore the idea of a 'stand alone' building and present more detailed information to the parish in March. In addition, we will appoint a planning consultant to prepare papers for a formal planning application.

You will have lots of questions and we need to know what you think of these ideas.

**Please talk to, write, or email the churchwardens:**

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December 2015