



Vision Group

The church has created a new “Vision Group”, to plan what we want Hillsborough Trinity to become over the next few years. The group has already had two meetings, and some have visited other churches to explore their ideas. We’ll be thinking and planning around four themes which are set out inside.

We are conscious that these are times of change, and our church needs to encourage new members, new ideas, new activities, new partnerships to share the story of Jesus with the people of our community, and to live out our commitment to Jesus as disciples for our time.

Everyone is invited to think about these themes, and the Vision Group would like some more members and friends of the church to join one or other of the Vision Group “Teams”. Please think if you could be part of one of the Teams, talk to someone you know in the Teams, and volunteer to join a Team.

We want to tap into everyone’s ideas and feelings. Ian Lucraft, our new part-time minister, and Maurice Stafford, will be jointly leading this work with us.

Being like Jesus in Hillsborough

What would this mean?
What things might we do, or share with other groups?
How might we develop as a worshipping congregation?

Things we will think about will include:

..... who is hurting in our neighbourhood, and can we see a way to stand alongside them?

.... how could this church be a sanctuary for vulnerable people?

.... who is the community of Hillsborough Trinity?

.... how can we develop our relationships with other Christian groups?

.... how can our worship be empowering for all the members of our congregation?

....how do we stay in close touch with our members and all those who are part of our church community?

The initial members of this group are Maddy, Sheila, Yannie, Maurice and Ian.

Trinity's connections with Hillsborough

If we want to develop and grow we will need to work more closely with other groups in the area.
Who could we work with to our mutual benefit?

Things we will think about will include:

..... what community groups are already active in the area and what are they doing?

.... what other groups would like to work with us, or use our premises?

.... what services to our community could we offer from Trinity, either run by others, or in partnership with others?

.... how can we exploit our wonderful location opposite the park?

.... how can we invite others to join in with our activities?

.... what does our community want of us?

The initial members of this group are Yannie, Rita, Maurice, Sheila and Ian.

How can our buildings work more effectively?

We have a wonderful building, but we would like to make it more useful and adaptable, and be less of a financial burden. What could we do?

Things we will think about will include:

.... how can we make the buildings more flexible so that more groups can use them at the same time?

.... how can we connect our main entrance to the street level on Middlewood Road, and provide a lift access to all floors?

.... how could we make the worship area into a wonderful venue that others would want to use, and still keep it as an uplifting worship space?

.... how can we have more attractive and informative information at the street level?

.... can we have modern toilets?

The initial members of this group are Maddy, Rita, John P. and Ian.

A sustainable financial future

Trinity has had the great benefit of old legacies, but the days of depending on that old money are disappearing and we need to think how we can pay our way in future and use the legacies wisely.

Things we will think about will include:

.... now we have sorted out the legacies into a more manageable set of trust funds, what money have we actually got, what is our income, from all sources, and what do we need for regular running?

.... how much money do we want to spend on running costs, on community work, and on changes to the premises?

....how can our buildings pay their way, through community use, concerts, and other uses where users pay rentals?

....what part does every organisation and member in the church have to play in this sustainable future?

The initial members of this group are John P, Judith Jessop, John Banham and Ian.

Words of our Future

To help the Vision Group set a context, we explored the words that we hope will describe Trinity and its people and activities in the coming years. Here they are, in no particular order, but they might trigger your thoughts

loving *tolerant* confident **community**
youthfully active **engaging** **family oriented**
trailblazers **connected** **compassionate**
space *non-pious* **hospitable** life-enhancing **busy**
a place for all *flexible buildings* *contemporary buildings*
responsive to change *servicing needs*
theologically open **open in all senses**

Arrangements for the Vision Group

The Vision Group has created four “Vision Group Teams” set out inside this leaflet, and has asked each group to meet once a month in September and October, and then the Vision Group core members will collate the interim thoughts and plans at a meeting in November. We expect to have another round of meetings up to March, to draw up a “Road-map” that will take us forward.

If you want to get involved, please speak to any member of the Vision Group Teams listed, or Rev Ian Lucraft; you can call him on 234 7153, or email him on ianlucraft@btinternet.com. He’s keen to hear your ideas.