

St Mary's Turnastone - Virtuous Circles

Accommodation Project Update

Work continues on the project to insert overnight visitor accommodation at St Mary Magdalene Church, Turnastone.

The architects have been developing the designs and these have been submitted for pre Faculty application advice to the Diocesan Advisory Committee (DAC).

The plans have been well received with positive feedback from Historic England and other consultees. We are aiming to submit the proposals for full Faculty approval in February 2021.

The latest design elevation is shown below and really brings the project to life:



The design is a freestanding, reversible, low energy and low impact timber structure, sitting at the back of St Mary's nave, creating rentable accommodation facilities for visitors looking for a unique experience, spiritual retreat or pilgrimage.

The congregation will also benefit, with new toilet and kitchen facilities.

You can read more about the concept behind the project in an article in this year's Churches Conservation Magazine.

[https://
www.buildingconservation.com/
books/churches2020/index.html](https://www.buildingconservation.com/books/churches2020/index.html)

The Project Steering Group is made up of representatives from Vowchurch & Turnastone PCC, the Diocese of Hereford, Herefordshire Churches Tourism Group and the Churches Conservation Trust.

The development work for this national pilot is being provided by the National Lottery Heritage Fund. We will be seeking capital funding to implement the project in 2021.

If you would like to find out more, get involved or have any questions please contact Revd Simon or our Project Manager Sam Hine turnastone@visitherefordshirechurches.co.uk 07974 772840 or visit http://www.wyedoreparishes.org.uk/Turnastone_files/AccomUnit.htm

