

Update number 3 - the third in our series keeping you informed about your C21st Project Phase 2 and where we are with it now.

What has happened since our last Nuts & Bolts?

Our architect has submitted three planning applications to Gravesham Council for approval of the materials to be used on the outside of the building and we await their decisions. More interestingly, he has been out to tender and has received back prices from four Kent construction companies. He is now in negotiations with the potential successful company to reduce the length of time proposed for the works and make a few reductions to bring the project back within our budget. It is hoped that these discussions will be over in the next week or so and we will then be able to let you know who will be doing the works.

As mentioned above, the tenders came in over budget and that is one of the reasons for carrying out negotiations. We have offered to do some of the work via DIY to make savings and have potentially sold some of the items to be removed to an architectural salvage company i.e. glazed screens, doors, pews and light fittings + some doors left over from phase 1 and roof ridge tiles recovered from when the church was re-roofed many years ago.

The Finance Committee met recently and agreed that we may use bequest monies, if necessary, to meet any shortfall following negotiations. It will be seen from this that our fund raising efforts need to continue, especially as you never know

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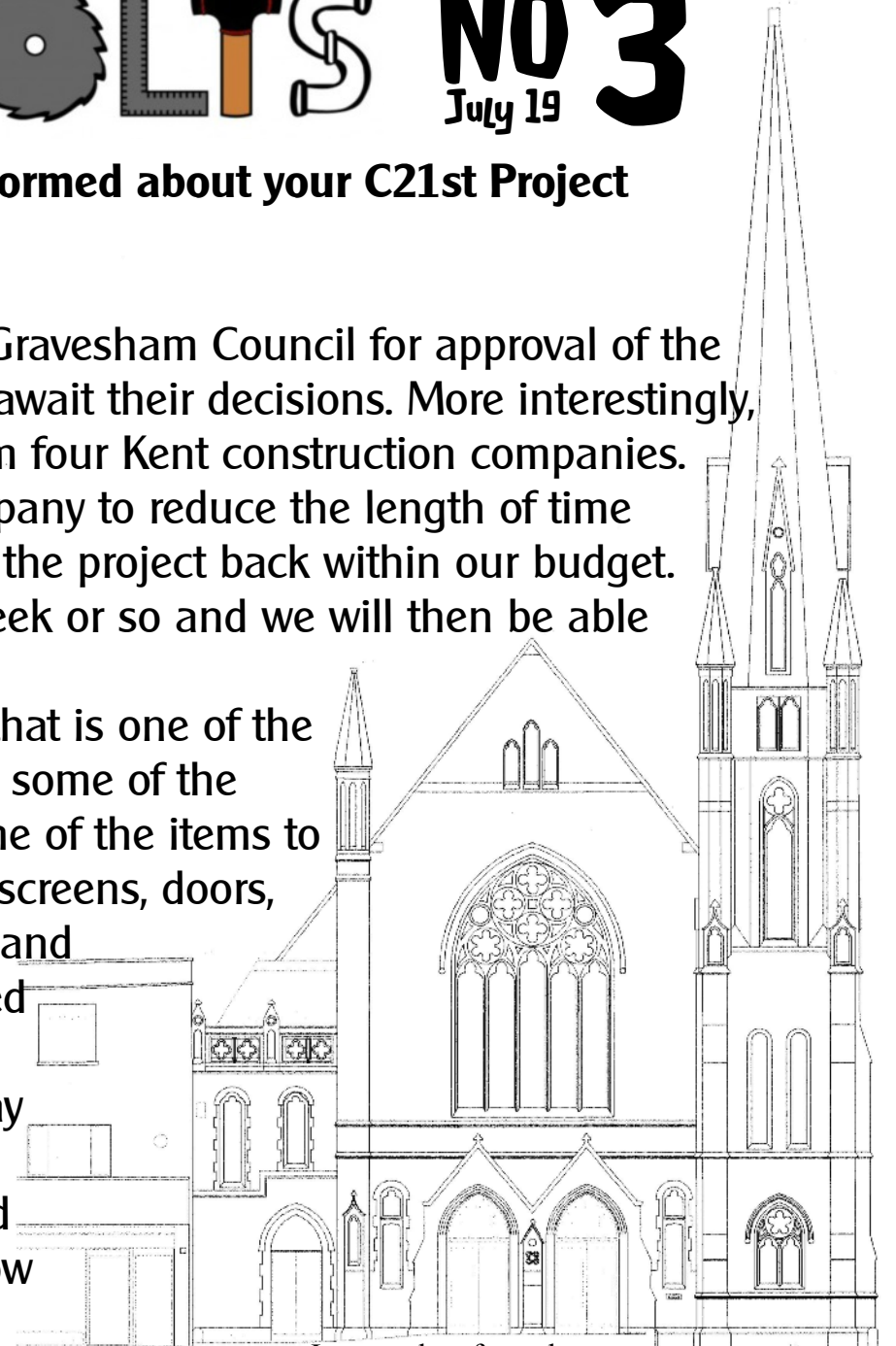


Image taken from the survey

Update number 2 - continued...

what unexpected costs will come our way. We have already come across one, which is that we have a legal requirement to obtain an independent condition and materials survey to give to the builder to identify any hazardous substances before they come across them.

So please will you pray about our situation and consider whether you are able to contribute further to the project finances. Please will you contact either our Church Treasurer - Mike Butler tel. 01474 362740 or C21st Fund Raiser - Robert Hardy tel. 01474 357681

What is needed of you/us?

Well, we need to get storage areas in the community centre cleared of unnecessary items and this has started. We will need to remove from the worship area any item needed by us whilst the builders are here (as the church is out of bounds to us during construction). We also need to wrap anything which could be affected by dust during the works. Deconstruction of the sound system has started and this is but one of the areas needing DIY intervention.

We need volunteers to do anything from removing and stacking books, to wrapping furniture/cushions etc. in pallet wrap and removing notice boards. So, please will you think about when you may be able to volunteer for such works during the two weeks commencing 5 and 12 August ready for the builders to arrive - presently scheduled from Monday 19 August.

Sunday services during the building works.

Our Sunday services will be held in the Wesley Hall, with Explorers in the Parlour/Upstairs office, from Sunday 11 August.

The Sunday Stewards would like help in setting up each Saturday and taking it apart after the service on the Sunday; so please will you volunteer to them if you are able.

