

Project Summary

Restoration of Existing Building Fabric

The restoration of the existing building fabric will retain as much original fabric as possible.

Much deterioration is attributable to dampness due to sand/cement render and internal plaster. Rather than preventing dampness, these materials encourage its retention. Buildings of this type 'breathe' by absorbing moisture and allowing it to dry out before it penetrates to the interior, and by allowing moisture generated within the building to pass through its walls to the outside. These proposals will reinstate this balance of wetting and drying by replacing these materials with breathable lime-based render and natural insulation. Specifically:

Walls – drylining removed and replaced with natural breathable insulation, sand/cement render replaced with lime-based render

Windows – concrete window frames will be retained and repaired

Stained-glass windows - will be refurbished and retained.

Roof - will be reinstated with salvaged and new slates

Rainwater Goods – refurbished and retained although minor repairs required

Bell Tower – repointed with lime and stone cleaned

Trusses – to be repaired and refurbished

Refurbishment of Interior

The interior will be renewed and freshened up by redecoration and new internal finishes making the interior an inviting environment to be in. Seating will be replaced, and the sanctuary will be reorganised to provide more space to be more suitable for modern liturgy. Lighting will be completely replaced to provide new energy efficient fittings and heating will be upgraded to provide a warm interior in an energy and cost-efficient way.

Provision of a new extension

Potential for extension is severely restricted by the presence of graves in close proximity to the church building. The existing sacristy and a temporary toilet block occupy the only space available for expansion. Consequently, the replacement extension is in the same location as the existing extensions but with a slightly increased footprint of 67m² to facilitate a better internal layout and to provide for a new meeting/community room. The parish needs a dedicated meeting space for the benefit of parishioners, for their well-being and for the development of their faith. The new pastoral space will be very useful for accommodating mourners and other activities associated with specific services. It can be used as overspill seating for Easter ceremonies, Christmas, and funerals. Very importantly, it will accommodate various parish groups and community. This will be a wonderful and necessary facility to have.