



A bid for funding from the Truro Town Deal for:

# Truro **Community** Hub





# Truro **Community** Hub

The Towns Fund Prospectus highlights that social investments – such as community hubs – can create spaces for people to meet and build on a town’s pride of place. This transformational, high quality and deliverable project, Truro Community Hub, located in the heart of Truro, will enable community cohesion and resilience through the provision of exceptional, adaptable facilities, accessible for all, cementing the role of this landmark Methodist building as part of a more resilient, culturally alive community.

“ The relationship (we) have built with the venue over the years is a testament to the team you have working there ”

Jo-Anne Rigby, Senior Fundraising Manager,  
Macmillan Cancer Support



The Trustees of Truro Methodist Church have adopted the ‘Five Steps to Wellbeing’ framework (Connect, Be Active, Learn, Give and Take Notice - developed by the NHS and adopted by MIND) as the core principle guiding the programme development on the city-centre site and are excited by the prospect of developing further partnerships in resourcing and supporting the whole spectrum of community life.



Truro Community Hub is a **transformational, high quality** and **deliverable project**



# Truro Community Hub is a **transformational** project

A more resilient community needs a thriving voluntary sector, which in turn needs facilities where people can meet and get support in a safe environment. Truro Community Hub builds on a community focus established on the site over many decades. From childhood experiences, to educational, social and recreational groups, through to friendship and support groups, the site has been and continues to be a key focus for community cohesion in the locality. Prior to the pandemic more than 1000 people used the current premises every week, and there were always more people and groups wanting to come than could be accommodated.

The Truro Community Hub project repurposes a significant part of a Grade II heritage asset in Truro town centre. The low carbon, modern design will add value to the buildings aesthetics and will provide a significant community focus to the locality. There will be a community café, outdoor terrace and roof garden, along with multi-purpose meeting rooms and spaces for the arts, education, health and recreation.

An extensive, professionally conducted, community audit undertaken in 2018, shaped the development of the Project alongside a diverse range of existing users, as well as identifying opportunities for developing uses in the future.

“ Having a community hub in the city centre would be a huge benefit to the men, dads and families of Truro and its environs ”

Julian Bose, Director, Inspire Cornwall (DadPad)

“ The potential benefits that such a state-of-the-art community space could offer our young people are enormous. The emphasis on a safe space for young people to hang out, research re-training and employment opportunities, access café facilities and have a space for youth events would be so beneficial ”

Caroline Keech, Team Leader Student Services, Truro and Penwith College





## The Truro Community Hub seeks to provide:

- a community cafe and gathering place
  - community meals with facilities to cook for up to 120 people
  - a base for Truro Foodbank and Street Pastors
  - a “Changing Places” toilet
  - soundproof music area with AV facilities
  - medical room for community health initiatives
  - creativity zone – art, crafts and music
  - large spaces for concerts, lectures, teaching, meetings and conferences
  - Instrumental, band and choral rehearsal space
  - education space to supplement out of city provision
  - toddler groups
  - space and support for those experiencing bereavement or loneliness
  - youth groups
  - recreational activities
  - bike parking and secure internal lockers
  - dementia friendly events
  - internet access
  - counselling
  - adult education provision
  - digital literacy
  - occupational therapy
  - informal work spaces
  - ‘Drop in’ places for social interaction
  - focused work on good mental health
  - healthy living support
  - friendship and conversation spaces
  - community art displays areas
  - electric vehicle charging points
- ... and so much more.

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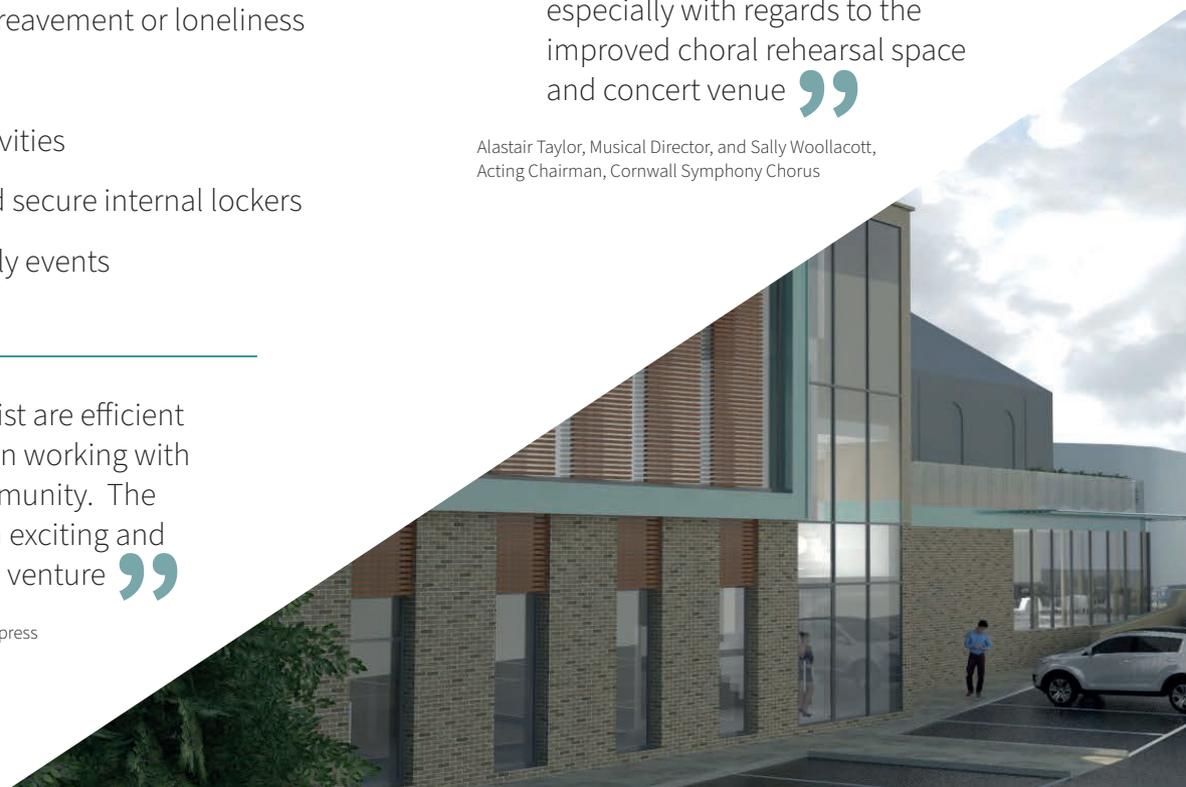
“ The Cornwall Symphony Chorus would also benefit from the planned improvements, especially with regards to the improved choral rehearsal space and concert venue ”

Alastair Taylor, Musical Director, and Sally Woollacott,  
Acting Chairman, Cornwall Symphony Chorus

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“ Truro Methodist are efficient and effective in working with the local community. The proposal is an exciting and much needed venture ”

Simon Allison, Director, Drama Express





# Truro Community Hub is a **high quality** project

CPL, a highly respected firm of architects, with vast experience of renewing traditional church buildings, designed a modern, flexible, welcoming, safe and eco-friendly development to the rear and side of the current Methodist Church site. The poor quality 20th century single storey extension to the north of the property will be demolished to make way for a high quality extension which better reveals the high quality historic fabric of the chapel and schoolroom extension. The existing buildings, with the exception of the main church building, have significant shortcomings which need to be addressed, including lack of visibility from the city centre, a poor internal layout, outdated facilities which create accessibility, security

and safeguarding issues, poor acoustic separation of spaces and the lack of a welcoming entrance space. The new extension provides an exciting contemporary face to the church visible from the city centre. The interior is redesigned to provide an entrance foyer, contemporary café, medical suite, commercial kitchen, offices, meeting spaces, halls and storage all linked in cohesive and safe way. The new design is as open and transparent as possible, with a balance between security, access control and safeguarding for activities involving children and vulnerable people. The building will be a safe environment for all, being a Safe Place and providing a Changing Places facility. There is a range of meeting spaces and some will have an enhanced acoustic design making them suitable for rehearsals and performances. Digital and audio visual facilities will be provided, essential for modern working practices and also enabling the facilities can be used for face to face and online conferences.





# Truro Community Hub is a **deliverable** project

An Options Appraisal has been undertaken with CPL, after extensive community consultations. Further consultation by the architect have informed the options presented and the Trustees have selected a preferred option. A costed project plan is in place for the architects to develop an architectural Concept Design which aspires to be BREEAM “Very GOOD” to RIBA Stage, submit formal Planning Application (RIBA Stage D), Building Regulations (RIBA Stage E), Production Information (RIBA Stage F), Tender (RIBA Stages G-H) and project manage the construction of the project (RIBA Stages J-L). This can be achieved within 18 months, and construction is planned to be completed during Summer 2023.

The benefits of the Truro Community Hub are extensive. The COVID pandemic has highlighted the importance of community resilience in mitigating the negative social and economic impact on people and businesses. For many, employment is a long journey, starting with training and experience in the third sector, and the Truro Community Hub will be part of that experience.

This project has been developed over the past four years to address a proven need within Truro for a community hub. This **transformational, high quality and deliverable project** will ensure that people are at the heart of its regeneration and vision for the future.

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“ I am not a Methodist myself but I see and appreciate the good work that takes place at TMC, reaching people of all ages and many walks of life. Over the last 12 years I’ve been consistently impressed by the management of the building and the church’s ability to create a warm and safe environment ” Tim Boulton, Music Ability





# Truro **Community** Hub



**What** we  
can offer...





# Letters of support



## Cornwall Diabetic Eye Screening Programme

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Revd Mark Dunn-Wilson  
Truro Methodist Church  
Union Place  
Truro  
TR1 1EP

19 November 2020

Dear Mark

On behalf of Cornwall Diabetic Eye Screening Programme, I am writing to thank you for your ongoing support of our service by offering us a base in Truro.

The use of your premises has been much appreciated. It was particularly useful that you enabled us to provide screening to our patients when many other establishments were not as forthcoming. The risk assessment we agreed, and the practical support offered to let us operate safely and efficiently, opened the door to other similar venues when they saw how well it worked.

The central venue and disabled access are already great assets. It would be really useful to have a dedicated clinical room, waiting area and limited parking for our disabled patients. We would be happy to use this on a sessional basis with other Health and Social Care Providers. We hope that your bid for a Truro Community Hub proves successful.

Kind regards and best wishes,

Jake Mills

**Cornwall Diabetic Eye Screening Programme Manager**

Cornwall Diabetic Eye Screening, Pendragon Annexe, Royal Cornwall Hospital, Truro, Cornwall, TR1  
3XQ  
Tel: 01872 254674  
Email: rch-tr.DESP@nhs.net  
[www.rcht.nhs.uk](http://www.rcht.nhs.uk)

Rev Mark Dunn-Wilson  
Truro Methodist Church  
18 Union Place  
Truro  
TR1 1EP

Dear Rev. Mark

I am writing to express our support of your proposed redevelopment of the Wesley Hall at the Truro Methodist Church. I have had the pleasure of being talked through your proposals by Jon Summers.

Jon is a very valued member of our Truro Macmillan Committee who have used your venue for a number of years for their committee meetings and AGM. The committee have also used the venue on a number of occasions to hold fundraising events to raise much needed funds for people living with cancer in Cornwall.

I understand from the committee that they fully support the proposed changes as they believe that this will really improve the experience of visitors and the ability to hold some fantastic events at the venue. In the past I know that there have been concerns raised that the facilities could do with being improved. Especially when holding larger events (Male voice choir concert) when you have a full audience and only an intermission to use the facilities, more toilets would be welcomed. I understand that your plans are vast and we believe that they will make for a brilliant venue going forward.

The Truro Macmillan committee favour using the facilities at the Wesley Hall as the location is so central and provides them with flexibility and the space that they need. The relationship they have built with the venue over the years is a testament to the team you have working there.

I hope that you secure the funding that you require to make these amazing improvements to your facility. I know that should you be able to proceed that the benefit to the wider community will be immense.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you and your team for your continued support of Macmillan Cancer Support in Cornwall. With over 3680 people per year in Cornwall being diagnosed with cancer. Macmillan is working hard to raise the funds needed to provided the much needed support. We look forward to being able to host some great fundraising events at the venue in the future.

I would like to wish you well with your plans and look forward to hearing about your progress.

Kind regards

Jo-Anne Rigby  
Senior Fundraising Manager  
Macmillan Cancer Support  
Cornwall

**For information, support or just someone to talk to,  
call 0808 808 00 00 or visit [macmillan.org.uk](http://macmillan.org.uk)**

Macmillan Cancer Support, registered charity in England and Wales (261017), Scotland (SC039907) and the Isle of Man (604). Also operating in Northern Ireland. A company limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales company number 2400969. Isle of Man company number 4694F. Registered office: 89 Albert Embankment, London SE1 7UQ. VAT no: 668265007



33 Rendells Meadow, Bovey Tracey,  
Newton Abbot, Devon. TQ13 9QW

18/11/20

Dear Sir/Madam,

### TRURO COMMUNITY HUB

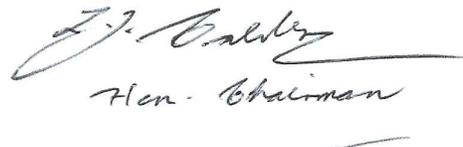
I am writing as the Chairman of Benenden Health (Devon & Cornwall Branch) to offer whole hearted support to the endeavours of the Making Room Project to deliver a community and church resource centre as outlined in their plans detailed in the Projects, Heritage and Future pages.

Our Benenden Healthcare Society (Devon & Cornwall) have been delighted to make use of the Wesley Hall and Kitchen within Truro Methodist Church for our annual meeting over a period now of more than 10 years. We are a mutual healthcare society of around 800,000 members nationally of which 9,000 (approx) live in the Devon & Cornwall area. At our only meeting in Cornwall at the Methodist Church invitations to those in the area produce around on average 80-100 attending now. In the past this has been up to about 200 so there can be quite a variance.

As we have to initially consider catering for the attendance of several hundreds we must always in the first instance invite all those living in Cornwall and Devon and then depending on requested responses we plan for the net figure of around 100 remaining. It is therefore essential to accommodate those living in the Cornwall area that we hold such a meeting in Truro and ideally with the potential numbers the Methodist Church Wesley Hall has adequately suited our means. There is in Cornwall a vast lack of suitable premises, especially when larger numbers may be required to attend and we therefore utilize this venue which could be improved however under these new plans.

As a former resident of Truro (I lived in the area for nearly 45 years) I am well aware of the need for the Truro Community Hub as described so that numerous organizations, big and small, can meet in a comfortable healthy environment which this will produce. This "new" venue would be ideal for our Society to continue helping our healthcare members in Cornwall and also of course provide an essential place for those other organizations in need of continued support in the Truro and Cornwall area. We fully endorse this plan.

**Leslie Calder, Volunteer Devon-Cornwall Branch Chairman**  
Benenden Health, Holgate Park Drive, York, YO26 4GG  
E: [devon-cornwall.Chairman@branches.benenden.co.uk](mailto:devon-cornwall.Chairman@branches.benenden.co.uk)  
W: [www.benenden.co.uk](http://www.benenden.co.uk)

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Leslie Calder", with the words "Hon. Chairman" written below it in a cursive style.

Member services: **0800 414 8100\***

Add family and friends: **0800 414 8470\*\***

Visit: [www.benenden.co.uk](http://www.benenden.co.uk)

**Benenden Health, Holgate Park Drive, York, YO26 4GG**

\*Lines are open 8am - 8pm, Monday to Friday (except Bank Holidays). \*\*Lines are open 8am - 5pm, Monday to Friday (except Bank Holidays). Please note that your call may be recorded for our mutual security and also for training and quality purposes.

Benenden Health is a trading name of The Benenden Healthcare Society Limited and its subsidiaries. Benenden Healthcare is offered by The Benenden Healthcare Society Limited, which is an incorporated friendly society, registered under the Friendly Societies Act 1992, registered number 480F. The Society's contractual business (the provision of tuberculosis benefit) is authorised by the Prudential Regulation Authority and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority and the Prudential Regulation Authority. The remainder of the Society's business is undertaken on a discretionary basis. The Society is subject to Prudential Regulation Authority requirements for prudential management. No advice has been given. If in doubt as to the suitability of this product, you should seek independent advice. For details of our privacy policy, please visit [www.benenden.co.uk/privacy-policy](http://www.benenden.co.uk/privacy-policy)  
Registered Office: The Benenden Healthcare Society Limited, Holgate Park Drive, York, YO26 4GG.

Truro College, College Road, Truro, Cornwall TR1 3XX

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f: 01872 267100

e: enquiry@truro-penwith.ac.uk

w: www.trurocollege.ac.uk

November 16<sup>th</sup> 2020

Dear Reverend Dunn-Wilson

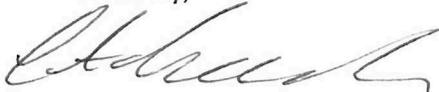
I am writing in support of the proposal from Truro Methodist Church for their project to be included in the schemes being considered by the Truro Town Fund.

At Truro and Penwith College our chaplaincy service provides our learners with non-denominational, non-judgemental support which is available across campus on a weekly basis. They also provide meditation sessions, exercise groups, are involved in cross college groups such as the eco council and bereavement drop-in group and as such are an invaluable addition to the support systems we are able to offer our students.

As such the proposal is completely in line with the established link our chaplains currently have with the college, our learners and the outreach work that they do within our learning community. The potential benefits that such a state-of-the-art community space could offer to our young people are enormous. At a time when young people's mental health and opportunities are challenged like never before, there could not be a better time to look at how to support them within the community, and this would be entirely complimentary to the services currently offered in education. The emphasis on a safe space for young people to hang out, research re-training and employment opportunities, access cafe facilities and have a space for youth events would be so beneficial.

In short, we fully support this proposal and feel the impact and benefits of this proposal coming to fruition would be very significant for our young people.

Yours sincerely,



Caroline Keech

Team Leader Student Services

Truro and Penwith College

carolinek@truro-penwith.ac.uk





Registered Charity Number 1176281

[www.truro.foodbank.org.uk](http://www.truro.foodbank.org.uk)  
Affiliated to the Trussell Trust

**c/o All Saints Church Highertown, Tresawls Road, Truro, TR1 3LD**  
**trurofoodbank@gmail.com 07721 711669**

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Mark Dunn-Wilson,  
Truro Methodist Church,  
Union Place  
TRURO, Cornwall  
TR1 1EP

Dear Mark,

I write further to the plans to redevelop Truro Methodist Church (TMC). Before the Covid situation hit in March Truro Foodbank ran two distribution sessions every week out of TMC. These were essential to help people in the Truro area that are in food crisis. TMC is ideally situated for this due to its central Truro location, the fact it has parking and because it is situated right by the library, where the CAB used to issue foodbank vouchers, and close to the Job centre. Our data from pre covid times show that these sessions were well attended by people coming in for two reasons. Firstly, to collect food and secondly, to receive advice because we worked with Bryan Homegroup, Livewest and Action Plus to allow them to work alongside us during food distribution times to offer specific advice and guidance.

Unfortunately, due to the covid situation we have had to risk assess the locations we operate from and due to the current layout of the TMC building we have had to cease foodbank distribution from there since March. This is because of the lack of a well-ventilated area, the number of pinch points where social 2m distancing would be an issue. The peak demand during distribution saw nearly 100 people being fed in a two hour session. It was absolutely fantastic that TMC allowed us to use a small room as a store but because of its limited size this meant that in busy sessions like that we had to drive up to other storage areas to get more stock.

We are really looking forward to working with TMC again and being able to distribute from a central location. If it possible for any redevelopment works to assist with addressing the constraints of the current building that would be a major help for our customers, volunteers, staff and advice agencies alike. What would certainly assist would be rooms that are well ventilated, easily accessible and a secure store area that would be more user friendly.

I attach a couple of photos of the store area and distribution space we used to use. If you, or any other person involved with the redevelopment design or funding, would like any further information they are most welcome to contact us.

Very best wishes,

Simon Fann, Truro Foodbank Manager



Registered Charity Number 1176281

[www.truro.foodbank.org.uk](http://www.truro.foodbank.org.uk)  
Affiliated to the Trussell Trust

**c/o All Saints Church Highertown, Tresawls Road, Truro, TR1 3LD**  
**trurofoodbank@gmail.com 07721 711669**

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Registered Charity Number 1176281

[www.truro.foodbank.org.uk](http://www.truro.foodbank.org.uk)  
Affiliated to the Trussell Trust

**c/o All Saints Church Highertown, Tresawls Road, Truro, TR1 3LD**  
**truurofoodbank@gmail.com 07721 711669**

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## Truro Street Pastors

**Address:** Truro Methodist church  
Union Place  
Truro  
TR1 1EP

**Co-ordination Mobile:** 07429 887889

**Home:** 01726 882 768

**Email:** [truro@streetpastors.org.uk](mailto:truro@streetpastors.org.uk)

[www.truro.streetpastors.org.uk](http://www.truro.streetpastors.org.uk)

18th November 2020

Dear Members of the Truro Town Deal Board,

**Re: Support for the Truro Town Deal and Truro Community Hub - alongside support for Truro City Centre student accommodation for Exeter University.**

Having read through your vision for the redevelopment of Truro Town Centre, I offer our support for the wider proposals in general, and for the proposed Community Hub in the Heritage and Future section. I have detailed these separately, as there is a significant - but hopefully helpful - caveat regarding the wider vision.

### Support for the Truro Community Hub

To provide context for our support, since 2010 Truro Street Pastors have been funded by Truro City Council to provide the street-based vulnerability service for the Night-Time Economy (NTE) on Saturday nights. Our activities are primarily focussed on the 18 to 30 age group using the pubs and clubs - providing drugs and alcohol first aid, mental and emotional support, ensuring safety, de-escalating violence, and signposting those in need to other agencies. We also keep an eye on the rough sleepers frequenting the NTE and provide an informal chaplaincy service to the venue staff.

We are grateful to Truro Methodist Church for hosting our base, having used their side-building for the whole ten years. The proposal for the Community Hub would greatly enhance this facility and house our support team along with their radio base station, radio mast, our store and break facilities. The Community Hub also plans to host mental health support facilities into which that aspect of our work might link.

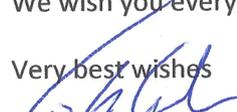
It is our primary focus on the student-aged young people that brings me to my second point:

### Support for the wider vision of the Town Deal.

The wider vision is very exciting, but with one significant caveat. The proposals for the City Centre need to be seen in the context of the equally significant proposal (unmentioned in the Town Deal proposals) of the expansion into Truro of the student accommodation for Exeter University's Penryn Campus. Irrespective of the Covid-19 situation, the NTE in Truro has been gradually dying for many years, with a resultant slowly rising age profile and reducing footfall. Bringing the 700 plus students into Truro Town Centre: an annually renewed source of youthful vigour and optimism, powered by their parents' cash, would not only change the dynamic in the NTE, but far more importantly, would create the momentum needed to make the daytime proposals a success for our local young people, residents, and businesses. They would lower the 24/7 age profile, broaden the racial and religious demographic, increase and attract footfall in the town and hopefully ensure the proposal's long-term viability. Having been introduced to Truro, some of these young people may stay on to add their youthful perspective and new-found knowledge to the skillsets of our local community, businesses, and services. I therefore wish to offer our support for both the Town Deal proposals and for the student accommodation - along the university facilities required to bring the associated courses into the town. Each is likely to be vital to the other's success.

We wish you every success in your endeavour to revitalise the City Centre.

Very best wishes

  
Jonathan Creber M.A. (Mission)

Co-ordinator – Truro Street Pastors.

Truro Street Pastors is a registered charity No: 1150543



Mr David Woolcock  
67 Church View Road  
Probus  
Cornwall  
TR2 4JH

November 2020

Dear Mark,

Thank you for the opportunity to write this letter in support of a Truro Community Hub and the application for funding support from the Town Fund. I write as one of the key organisers of The Well. Meeting on the premises each Thursday, 'The Well' includes a whole range of activities, run for the benefit of older and more socially isolated members of the community.

We offer a varied, whole day programme with a core of activities including Music for Well-being, a hot meal, craft activities and board game sessions, as well an occasional outside speaker. The Well offers opportunity for support, conversation, and social interaction, all of which are key factors in the wellbeing of people today.

In any given day we may have around 50 people sharing in all or part of the day.

We are extremely fortunate to be able to have the use of such a large building in the centre of Truro which is available to the community. Unfortunately, the building is rather dated; particularly the rear of the church where most of "The Well" activities take place. The rear entrance is totally unsuitable, particularly for the more elderly and anyone with mobility problems and generally not very inviting. The inadequate toilet provision creates difficulties.

However, it is very exciting to contemplate the possibilities and opportunities that investment in the Truro Community Hub could provide. There is no denying the demand for such provision both now and, for sure, in the future and on behalf of the committee and members of 'The Well', I offer our enthusiastic support to the development of this new facility at the centre of Truro.

Yours sincerely,

*D. J. Woolcock*

David Woolcock

Co-ordinating Secretary and Treasurer, The Well Community Group, Truro

**CORNWALL RURAL COMMUNITY CHARITY**

2 PRINCES STREET, TRURO  
CORNWALL, TR1 2ES  
01872 273952  
INFO@CORNWALLRCC.ORG.UK  
**WWW.CORNWALLRCC.ORG.UK**

Rev Mark Dunn-Wilson

Truro Methodist Church

Union Place

TRURO

TR1 1EP

13<sup>th</sup> November 2020

Dear Mark,

I was very interested to hear this week of the Truro Community Hub project and I am writing to you in support of this project. Cornwall Rural Community Charity has made great use of your facilities in the past and we would be very keen to continue to do so in the future, particularly after any regeneration.

It is vital to have such wonderful space in the centre of Truro which is available to all groups and organisations.

I do wish you all the best with Truro Town Fund and wholeheartedly support you with this. Please let me know if there is anything further we can do to support you with this.

Kind regards,



Katherine Nissen  
Chief Executive



Inspire Cornwall CIC  
The Health & Wellbeing Innovation Centre  
Treliske  
TRURO  
Cornwall TR1 3FF

04 November 2020

**Re: Truro Community Hub Proposal**

At Inspire Cornwall C.I.C. (trading as DadPad®), we aim to provide help to families by giving dads-to-be and new dads the knowledge and practical skills that they need in order to be able to support themselves and their partner, so that their baby gets the best start in life. We do this by developing resources which dads-to-be and new dads can use, either as individuals or alongside health professionals, in order to become engaged and involved with their babies and children. In particular, we encourage men to become aware of the mental health difficulties that either they and/or their partner could suffer during the perinatal period, where to go to seek help, and why it is important to do so. We also encourage dads to learn how to build a bond with their baby, so that that child grows up with the benefit of a securely-formed attachment with its parents.

Having worked in this area for a number of years now, we believe that we have a good awareness – via academic research and via our contacts with those who are working ‘on the ground’, having direct contact with new dads – of the areas where dads are in need of more support. In particular, one of the most common complaints that comes from new fathers is the lack of community groups that have been formed exclusively for them. Having a community hub in the city centre would be a huge benefit to the men, dads and families of Truro and its environs.

There is much that we could say, but in summary the Truro Community Hub could enable new dads to obtain a number of services which they so greatly need, including:

- The opportunity to make contact and form connections with other new dads, enabling them to share their stories and experiences, feel the support of others around them, reduce their isolation, and thus reducing the likelihood of those dads experiencing severe perinatal mental health difficulties, which can have a huge impact on that father, his partner, their child and the wider family, as well as a not-insignificant cost to society;
- The opportunity to learn how to become a positive father to their child, practice key baby care skills on their own and thus gain confidence in their own abilities, all of which will help the dad to form a secure attachment with his child(ren) and give his partner/the baby’s mum much-needed support at a very stressful and tiring time in that family’s life; and
- The opportunity to become aware of and potentially access higher level support and services with relative ease, as needed.

From:

Julian Bose  
Director – Inspire Cornwall C.I.C.

Hannah Bose  
Head of Quality – Inspire Cornwall C.I.C.

phone: 07403 274757  
website: [www.thedadpad.co.uk](http://www.thedadpad.co.uk)

email: [hello@thedadpad.co.uk](mailto:hello@thedadpad.co.uk)  
twitter: @dadpaduk

**Inspire Cornwall CIC – Company Number 07307740**  
**Registered Address: The Old Carriage Works Moresk Road Truro Cornwall TR1 1DG**

Patrons  
Dame Evelyn Glennie CH  
Steven Isserlis CBE  
Chi-chi Nwanoku OBE

0 1 7 3 6 3 5 0 8 8 7  
0 7 4 2 2 9 7 2 6 2 2

tboulton@phonecoop.coop

18<sup>th</sup> November 2020

To whom it may concern

### Re. The development of Truro Community Hub

Truro Methodist Church sits close to the centre of Truro, accessible by road and public transport, yet just off the main arteries and free from immediate noise or danger from traffic. MusicAbility has been a regular user of the church facilities for about 12 years, running the Music For Youth Regional Festival in partnership with Cornwall Music Education Hub. The festival attracts many hundreds of youth musicians performing each year. The Sanctuary, the main body of the building with its balcony running in an oval, is a beautiful and sympathetic venue for making music and is ideally suited to our needs. We are able to accommodate several hundred young people downstairs plus families and friends on the balcony, creating a safe yet shared space. But we do stretch the Sanctuary to its limit, and we get significant problems when groups arrive with large instruments in even bigger cases, requests for somewhere to warm up or rehearse after a long journey, finding a space for a school group of 60 to eat lunch, or just being able to accommodate large numbers of people trying to use the toilets at the same time.

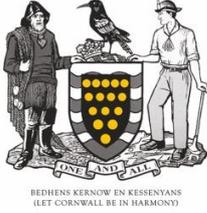
The areas and rooms behind the Sanctuary have probably hardly changed for 150 years. The layout was not designed for the numbers of people now using the building. The situation for anyone with mobility issues is tolerable but by no means ideal, and there is little flexibility built in to the structure. Built in the days before acoustic planning was a norm, some rooms are so loud and swimmy they become practically unusable if more than two or three people talk at once, yet these rooms are used frequently by community groups of all ages, by cubs and guides, people rehearsing, slimmers, addiction self-help groups and many more.

I'm very happy to support TMC's application for funding. I am not a Methodist myself but I see and appreciate the good work that takes place at TMC, reaching people of all ages and many walks of life. Over the last 12 years I've been consistently impressed by the management of the building and the church's ability to create a warm and safe environment. The building is close to the centre of town yet its facilities are available to the whole community at reasonable prices – and I can't think of another central Truro venue that can say that.

With regards,



Tim Boulton



# CORNWALL MUSIC FESTIVAL

## Truro Community Hub

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am the new chair of the Cornwall Music Festival and I have read with great interest the plans that are being put forward for Truro Methodist Church. The project looks very exciting and will add tremendously to both the facilities and the community offering for the people of Truro and its surrounding area.

As I am sure you are aware the Festival is a well-established part of the cultural calendar of the city and we have been fortunate for many years to use Truro Methodist Church as the base for the event. We feel that the Church offers us a superb venue with, as well as the Sanctuary itself, many smaller spaces to run supporting classes, Festival cafe and so on. The plan to develop the 'backstage' area sounds very promising and we would be very supportive of the project. Without access to the final details of the room sizes at this point I am sure that the needs of the Festival were laid before the planning group when Pam and Denise Sadka met with the architect in 2018.

This comes at an exciting time for the Festival as well, as we are planning to develop the Festival when it returns post COVID in March 2022.

I look forward to hearing more about your plans when they develop.

With best wishes

David Hendry



CORNWALL MUSIC SERVICE TRUST  
Patron: Charles Hazlewood



CORNWALL INTERNATIONAL  
MALE CHORAL *festival*

President: Col Edward Bolitho OBE

---

Ref: Truro Community HUB  
Letter of Support

10th of November 2020

Dear Sir/Madam,

I write to wholeheartedly support the development of the Truro Community HUB. For many years the Truro Methodist Church has been a venue for many much needed community projects and as a musician I have realised that it has such scope to support the musical community more widely with an adaptation to its premises.

Cornwall Music Service Trust employees 120 peripatetic music teachers, music therapists and early years practitioners all who have and would further benefit from this proposed development.

Cornwall International Male Choral Festival, the largest festival of its kind in the world, welcomes 60 choirs to Cornwall biennially and would also benefit from such an innovative community setting.

Yours sincerely,

Gareth Churcher MA, LTCL (Hons), MAAT  
Head of Service - Cornwall Music Service Trust  
Festival Artistic Director - Cornwall International Male Choral Festival

---

**President**  
Col Edward Bolitho OBE

**Vice Presidents**  
Michael Galsworthy CVO CBE  
Dr Roy Wales  
David Peters  
Ellen Winser MBE DL  
Peter Davies

**Festival Registered Office**  
Peat House  
Newham Road  
Truro  
Cornwall TR1 2DP  
www.cimcf.uk  
Company Reg No 4509936  
Charity Registration No 1099924

**Artistic Festival Director**  
Gareth Churcher MA LTCL  
MAAT  
CMST  
Truro School  
Trennick Lane  
Truro  
Cornwall TR1 1TH  
director@cimcf.uk

*Registered with the Charity Commission for England and Wales (number 1159622)  
and a company limited by guarantee (number 09268124) registered in England.  
Registered office: Cornwall Music Service Trust, Truro School, Trennick Lane, Truro TR1 1TH*

# City of Truro Male Choir



*Russell Pascoe  
Musical Director*

*Hilview  
Quenchwell  
Carnon Downs  
Truro  
TR3 6LN*

*Tel. No. 01872 865431  
07968 515673*

*[john.larke2@btinternet.com](mailto:john.larke2@btinternet.com)*

15 November 2020

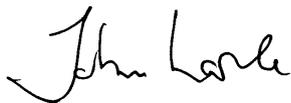
Rev. Mark Dunn-Wilson,  
The Manse,  
32 Hurland Road,  
Truro  
TR1 2BU

Dear Mark

## **Redeveloping the Wesley Hall Buildings – Truro Community Hub**

Our choir has had a long association with your church and its buildings in respect of concerts, practice and music festivals. It offers a much needed space with a variety of rooms which allow concurrent activities to take place. That said, the space is of a design era which by today's standards leaves much to be desired. Your proposals for redeveloping the space are therefore most welcome. Community activity in Truro has been growing over the years but it needs affordable comfortable spaces to flourish. Your plans will help provide this and we think they are essential for the long term community enhancement of Truro. We therefore have no hesitation in supporting your proposals.

Yours Sincerely



John Larke MBE TD  
Choir Chairman



## TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

The Cornwall Symphony Chorus in general, our Musical Director, Alastair Taylor and I, as Chairman, have been made aware of the plans that Truro Methodist Church has been working hard to bring to fruition; to refresh and expand the social contribution they make to the community of Truro and surrounding areas.

On a personal level, Cornwall Symphony Chorus, as a long-term user of the church for concerts, has always found everyone friendly, approachable, organised and professional from the moment we book the church to the final encore on concert night! Nothing is ever too much trouble for them when supporting us with our event, with the volunteers happy to assist wherever they can in an unflustered and composed manner.

This same dedication has been observed by us in other areas of charitable work undertaken by members of the church community including the lunches they deliver in the church foyer, the sterling service they provide with their Street Pastor set-up and the food donations collected and organised to provide aid and support to families at a time when it is sorely needed.

Indeed, at one of our concerts, members of the Cornwall Symphony Chorus requested that the proceeds of our retiring collection should be donated to the Truro Foodbank in recognition of the wonderful work they undertake, thanks to information provided to us from one of the members of the Church.

It has been obvious on occasions that there is a lack of available appropriate space within the building to enable them to achieve everything they wish to accomplish. Despite all this their commitment to serving the community is unstinting and undertaken without complaint and with a smile on their face. To provide them with an opportunity to expand on their current programme of valuable community support and enabling them to offer even more services to increased numbers in the district would be marvellous and, I can only imagine, a blessing to them.

Obviously, and quite selfishly, the Cornwall Symphony Chorus would also benefit from the planned improvements, especially with regards to the improved choral rehearsal space and concert venue as we will happily continue to use the church facilities for future concerts.

However, whilst there are many very worthy causes requiring assistance, we genuinely believe that after the many years' dedication to their local community, it is time for that community to return the favour and most heartedly wish to offer our support to Truro Methodist Church for their future Truro Community Hub endeavours and their bid to benefit from a Town Fund financial contribution.

Kind regards

Alastair Taylor; Musical Director & Sally Woollacott, Acting Chairman  
CORNWALL SYMPHONY CHORUS



## Philip L.Davey B.Ed(Hons) LTCL

Organist, Accompanist, Teacher

Hillside Cottage  
Twelveheads  
Truro  
TR4 8SH

Tel: (01209)821778  
[phil@pdavey.co.uk](mailto:phil@pdavey.co.uk)  
[www.pdavey.co.uk](http://www.pdavey.co.uk)  
mobile 07792528927  
19/11/2020

### Re: Truro Community Hub

Dear Rev Mark,

I have had associations with TMC for the past 50 years and have seen a lot of changes and improvements during that time. Modifications to the sanctuary in recent years has changed the role in serving the community. The coffee shop 'Sambells' has proved a great success in welcoming members of the community to a safe and friendly environment.

The prospect of redeveloping the rear of the premises, 'Wesley Hall' into a building which can serve the community to a greater extent is an exciting prospect.

From my experience in a wide range of capacities the rear of the premises struggles when hosting larger community events. Accommodating larger groups strains the current facilities needed for events such as the County Music Festival, and several other musical events which take place during the year. The church is well-used for concerts of great variety, accommodating the users in the Wesley hall building does cause some problems.

At present the rooms used date from when the building was constructed with some modifications (installation of a lift, new stairs), access is not good for those with mobility issues.

Plans put together allow for a greater range of activities to take place on the site in a safe and friendly environment. Much needed facilities such as a 'Changing places' toilet, rooms for community health/bereavement/counselling, areas for youth, the provision of good AV facilities integrated with teaching facilities. Space for instrumental, band and choral rehearsals with sound proofing along with the necessary requirements to cater for up to 120 people.

An exciting project with benefits for so much of the community, I continue to lend my support to all the work being done at Truro Methodist Church.

Philip L.Davey  
Director of Music  
Truro Methodist Church

# sambellscafe

Good for you. Good for your neighbour. Good for your world

Sambells Cafe  
Truro Methodist Church  
Union Place  
TRURO  
TR1 1EP

23rd November 2020

Dear Mark

I am writing as Secretary of Sambells to offer support for the Truro Community Hub project at Truro Methodist Church. Sambells trades as a community café within the vestibule of the church. It is run by volunteers serving good food and drink which is fairly-traded, locally-sourced and ethically-produced wherever possible.

Many people know it as a place where they can enjoy time with friends in a safe and secure environment. It is open from 10am to 2pm on Mondays to Fridays and 10am to 12.30pm on Saturdays. Any profit is donated to charity.

Space is a problem. The café can only seat around 25 people and the kitchen is only big enough for two. Potential customers are often turned away. An added problem is that the café has to close whenever the sanctuary is used for meetings, funerals and any other events – on average one day a week. We give advance notice whenever possible but it is inevitable that some customers are disappointed when they arrive to find the café closed.

Plans for the Truro Community Hub provide space for an expanded café in a newly built extension on the side of the church. There will be more seating, including some outside, and a bigger kitchen. This will enable us to enhance our offering in terms of food and opening hours. We will be also able to remain open when there are events in the sanctuary. This should enable us to meet existing and future demand. Residents of the Pydar development will find the café to be a convenient place for food and drink on the pedestrian route between their homes and the City Centre shops.

We regard Sambells as being an important part of the overall development of the Truro Community Hub

Yours sincerely

John Wallace  
Secretary  
Sambells Cafe

Professor Alan Livingston CBE DL & Mrs Isabella Livingston  
Cotham The Avenue Truro Cornwall TR1 1HR  
07756260010

23 November 2020

Rev Mark Dunn-Wilson  
Minister  
Truro Methodist Church  
Union Place  
Truro  
Cornwall TR1 1EP

Dear Mark

The exciting proposals for developing a much enhanced community facility at Truro Methodist Church are imaginative, sensitive and will greatly improve upon the drab facade which currently fronts onto the carpark. The existing building is without any architectural merit. The new plans represent a welcome visual improvement to this vibrant quarter of the city centre.

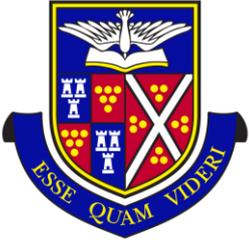
As regular users of the current community cafe, Sambells, we much enjoy the special atmosphere of this unique facility. It genuinely is a place where all sections of the Truro and wider Cornwall communities can and do meet. It is extremely welcoming to all comers, including those who are not part of the regular church going community. As such it brings together people of all age groups and backgrounds and needs. It is obvious to observers that the cafe reaches out to those who need extra assistance because of challenging circumstances. Run by caring volunteers, the cafe is a haven which provides a pleasant and relaxing environment, offering good, inexpensive, locally made food. Some of the proceeds of sales are also used to support aid work in the developing world.

We wholeheartedly support these plans, knowing that a successful outcome will allow Truro Methodist Church and Sambells cafe to continue and expand the valuable and important social and cultural contribution they make to the life of the city.

Yours sincerely,

Professor Alan Livingston CBE DL

Mrs Isabella Livingston



TRURO  
SCHOOL

via email

Dear Mark,

I was very excited to read of the possible redevelopment of the Wesley Hall as a super, multi-functioning space for the community. Over the past 15 years we at Truro School have been regular users of Truro Methodist Church's spaces for rehearsals, concerts, services, recitals, music festivals and so forth.

Being right in the heart of the town, the building is ideally placed to be a huge community resource. Its largely untouched C19th structure has, however, not always enabled the space to 'work' as well as it could, and so a development such as this could really help it to become a wonderful, practical, whole community resource.

Good luck with the project.

Martin Palmer

Director of Music

*Truro School is part of the Methodist Independent Schools Trust.*

*Registered Office: Methodist Church House. 25 Marylebone Road, London, NW1 5JR.*

*Charity No. 1142794. Company No. 7649422*



Simon Allison  
Drama Express Registered Office  
17 Chapel Terrace  
Hayle  
Cornwall  
TR27 4AB  
15th November 2020

Registered Charity Number 1188250

To Whom it may Concern,

I wish to offer my full support of Truro Methodist Church in their proposal to create and develop a Truro Community Hub space.

Drama Express is a registered charity of which provides opportunities for young people with complex disabilities to access the performing arts in Cornwall.

There are numerous factors to which the proposed community hub would be ideal as a base for Drama Express. The location is central to our membership of which many members use public transport situated nearby to the church. Secondly the draft design plans of the hub building are fully accessible to the complex needs of the young people.

Having previously used the existing facilities at the church it is without doubt that Truro Methodist are efficient and effective in working with the local community. The proposal is an exciting and much needed venture of which would offer a lifeline to Drama Express as they seek a premises to continue their vital work in supporting young people with complex disabilities

Please do contact myself should you require any further information

Yours Sincerely

Simon Allison – Founder and Director Drama Express

Email [dramaexpress11@yahoo.com](mailto:dramaexpress11@yahoo.com) Phone 07724 930 744

Website [www.drama-express.org](http://www.drama-express.org)

Drama Express is a member of the Council for Disabled Children



Research & Development  
Royal Cornwall Hospital NHS Trust  
The Knowledge Spa  
Truro  
Cornwall  
TR1 3HD

Monday, 16 November 2020

Truro Town Deal  
C/O Agile Deal  
Kernow House  
Gas Hill  
Truro  
TR1 2XP

Dear David,

**Re: Support Letter for Community Hub Project**

On behalf of the Research & Development Department at the Royal Cornwall Hospital NHS Trust in Truro, I am writing to confirm that we would fully support this community based project and utilise the Community Hub whenever possible.

We wish you every success.

Kind regards



Mike Visick  
Research & Development Manager

November 2020



## ToddleAlong.....on Tuesdays

Dear Mark

As the leader of the Parent/Carer group, ToddleAlong on Tuesdays I am writing to express my support for the proposed creation of the Truro Community Hub.

This group uses the existing premises of Truro Methodist Church for playtime, companionship, and musical activity.

Over the past decade that we have been in existence we have welcomed many, many local families. We haven't had the most favourable or ideal space – very little storage facility, small cramped meeting areas, poor kitchen area, lack of good ventilation etc but we have maintained a lively, friendly atmosphere which people have, at times, crowded into. Occasionally even, with regret, we have had to put signs outside to say that, due to compliance with safety standards, we were full to capacity. We can cope with up to 30 families – at a push! Over the last 10 years that is quite a cumulative total of 'clients'!

We have noticed that we particularly appeal to grandparents who find that group provision for adults and the pre-school children they find themselves caring for is lacking in the community.

Often Grandparents are caring for children in order to let their own children return to work.

The city centre position of the church is a big advantage and I feel that the new development would significantly enhance the appeal of this group and would have wider benefits for the community of Truro. For us to be able to offer much more space, and a greater variety of larger toys/equipment etc would enhance our work in this central position. I wholeheartedly support the bid and can't wait for it to be up and running!!

Yours faithfully

*Janet Tredrea*

*ToddleAlong leader*



Telephone: 01872 225189  
07790475061

Email: [trurorainbows@gmail.com](mailto:trurorainbows@gmail.com)

1 Tremorvah Court  
Trevithick Road  
Truro  
Cornwall  
TR1 1RL

### TRURO COMMUNITY HUB PROJECT

To Truro Town Deal

I am the District Commissioner of Girlguiding Truro Boscawen District, responsible for several Units of Rainbows, Brownies, Guides, and Rangers. Five Girlguiding Units with about 125 girls - two Rainbow Units (ages 5-7), two Brownie Units (ages 7-10), and a Guide Unit (ages 10-14) - currently meet at Truro Methodist Church.

Although we are very grateful for use of the present ancillary rooms at Truro Methodist Church, these premises are somewhat dated and not ideal for community use. Our Girlguiding Leaders were delighted to be involved in consultation for the Truro Community Hub Project in 2018, because this offers an exciting opportunity to create a purpose-built venue which would be much more suitable for community use in the 21st Century.

Therefore, I am writing in support of **Truro Community Hub Project**. Truro Methodist Church has always welcomed a variety of community groups to use the premises. A new community resource centre would provide additional options for new groups to be formed and for existing groups to expand and grow, thus supporting the city of Truro. As we hopefully emerge from this current pandemic, these community groups offering a range of support in numerous ways will be more valuable than ever for so many people of all ages.

Yours faithfully

*Tina Buddle*

*District Commissioner*  
*Girlguiding Truro Boscawen District*





# 1st Truro Scouts

Dear Mark

## **Truro Community Hub**

I am writing on behalf of the Scouts, Cubs and Beavers who normally meet on a weekly basis in term time at Truro Methodist Church.

The plans for redeveloping the Wesley Hall area of the building should greatly improve the quality of the meeting spaces, and provide a much more flexible space. We particularly support the design of the building as a safe space for young people as we are aware of the present shortcomings of the current layout. At present we use 2 storage areas, one of which is much drier and better than the other! Going forward we will still need these storage areas, but it would be helpful if both were dry.

We wish you every success with your application to the Town Team Fund

Yours faithfully

*Gary Olds*

Group Scout Leader



To Whom It May Concern,

I write in support of the Truro Methodist Church 'Making Room' group who are looking to develop the facilities on the Truro Methodist Church site with a view to becoming the Truro Community Hub.

I understand the hope is to expand and improve the existing facilities in order to be able to offer support and provide facilities to meet for more community groups.

At Slimming World we work with local people in groups to help them lose weight. Our groups normally meet every week and members share hints and tips as well as support for each other. The thing is, although the Slimming World eating plan itself is simple, it can prove very difficult to follow it without the support of a group of like-minded people.

We need to have community-based venues in which to run our groups and it is becoming increasingly difficult to find them, in a time when people need our help probably more than ever.

Most recently we were looking to open a new group in Truro, and initially had agreed a Tuesday evening hire of the hall at Truro Methodist Church, however the offer was withdrawn because it was felt that since we already have one Slimming World group in the venue, it would be wrong to allow another, as it may stop another group being able to use the space.

I am a local girl myself, I went to school in Truro and my dad worked for Carrick District Council (previously Truro Rural District Council) until he retired in the early nineties.

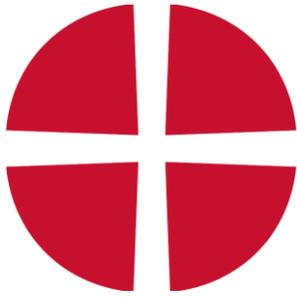
I love the City, and it's people, and would always want to support any project that is working to bring communities closer together.

Please contact me direct if I can help in any other way.

Yours Faithfully,

Margaret Roberts  
District Manager  
Slimming World Cornwall and West Devon

*PO Box 55, Alfreton, Derbyshire DE55 4SW info@slimmingworld.co.uk | www.slimmingworld.co.uk Slimming World is the trading name of Miles-Bramwell Executive Services Ltd registered in England, number 01242071 Slimming World Consultants are self-employed franchisees operating under licence from the Slimming World group of companies whose registered offices are at Clover Nook Road, Somercotes, Alfreton, Derbyshire DE55 4SW, part of the Slimming World group of companies. Slimming World Consultants have no authority to enter into any commitment for or on behalf of any Slimming World group company*



**Stephen Hetherington**

08:21 23/11/2020

To: Rev Mark Dunn-Wilson

Dear Rev Dunn-Wilson

I am writing to give my support and encouragement to the Trustees of Truro Methodist Church in the development plans they have for their church buildings. As you know, the Methodist Church is developing its new strategic property guidance which will be launched in the New Year – this type of mission driven development is the foundation for this new guidance. The church plays such an important role in the heart of its local community, as we have seen nationally during these difficult times. Therefore the exciting and innovative proposals which Truro are putting forward will allow it to continue to play this role in Truro in the present and make it ready to be a catalyst for further missional and community focussed work into the future. We are excited to see this develop over the coming years.

Best wishes

Stephen

**Stephen Hetherington DipArch MArch ARB** | Director of Property Support

The Connexional Team

+44 (0)161 235 6734 [Direct Line] 07799 900436 [Mobile]

**The Methodist Church**

Methodist Church House, 25 Marylebone Road, London NW1 5JR | +44 (0) 20 7486 5502 [Enquiries]

[www.methodist.org.uk](http://www.methodist.org.uk) | Registered Charity no. 1132208



## **Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly Methodist District**

Rev M Dunn-Wilson  
Truro Methodist Church  
Union Place  
Truro  
Cornwall

23<sup>rd</sup> November 2020

### **Community Hub Project Truro Methodist Church**

Dear Mark

I was very excited to hear about the project to develop the Community Hub at Truro Methodist Church, as both nationally and within the Cornwall, there is a real need for this type of project

Working within the community is, and always has been, at the centre of what we do as a Church, and we are constantly looking for ways to adapt and improve our buildings for this purpose. The Community Hub project is an excellent example of how this can be achieved, and I am well aware that you and your Project Team have worked very hard to get the project to it's current stage of development, and this is highly commendable.

The Community Hub will be accessible to all whilst providing a safe and secure environment to the vulnerable, and these are vital objectives that the Methodist Church strives to achieve.

As District Chair this excellent project has my full and total support, and I am very pleased that it also has the full support of the Cornwall and Isles of Scilly Methodist District together with the wider Methodist Church.

With all good wishes for the success of this essential project.

Yours sincerely

Steven J Wild  
District Chair



## **Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly Methodist District**

Rev M Dunn-Wilson  
Truro Methodist Church  
Union Place  
TR1 1EP  
Truro

23<sup>rd</sup> November 2020

### **Community Hub Project at Truro Methodist Church**

Dear Rev Dunn-Wilson

I am writing to express my total support as District Property Manager for the plans to develop the Community Hub at Truro Methodist Church.

The planning of the project has been exceptionally thorough, and the background research has involved consultation with the numerous groups that currently use the building. The project's architects, Church Projects Limited, have considerable experience through engagement with similar projects, and have a proven track record of designing high quality projects that are accurately costed and fully deliverable.

I have been very impressed with the commitment and dedication of the Project Team, as they have gone to considerable lengths to ensure that the proposed Community Hub will provide much-needed community facilities in Truro. There is no doubt that this project will transform lives, and have a very positive impact on some of the most venerable and frequently excluded members of the surrounding community.

I note that particular attention has been paid to ensure that the Community Hub will be fully accessible, and this is a fundamental objective of the Methodist Church.

The project has the full support of the Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly Methodist District, and at a national level, the Methodist Church is very keen to both support and promote this exceptional project.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can assist the project in any way.

Yours sincerely

Patrick Reynolds  
District Property Manager

# Truro **Community** Hub

