

# ST. THOMAS CHURCH LANCASTER

## HEART OF THE CITY PROJECT

**BUILDING FOR MISSION – JANUARY 2018 UPDATE**

**Finance update:** thank you to those of you who are continuing to support the Heart of the City/BFM project. By 8<sup>th</sup> December, the amount given had grown to £497,074. We had also received Gift Aid payments on top of this, which brought the total raised to £569,958, a fantastic base for us to build upon, as our fundraising campaign continues in 2018.

**Leadership team for BFM:** our Heart of the City building project is being led by Jon Scamman, Tim Parsons (project manager), Chris Park, Tim Purcell, Andrew Drummond, Naomi Elliott and Karen Shackleton. We meet once a month, so if you have any comments, suggestions or questions relating to the project, please let Tim Parsons know by e-mailing [BFM@st.tees.org.uk](mailto:BFM@st.tees.org.uk) or speak to one of the leadership team directly.

**Spire:** the chosen contractors for this work are Maysand who will be starting work at the end of February. The total cost is expected to be around £114,000 plus VAT. The Diocesan Public Notice about the scheme has been displayed inside and outside church for the necessary 28 days, and we are now waiting for the certificate which is required for the work to proceed. Scaffolding will be erected from the end of February onwards and the building work will commence once that is ready. The project (including clearing the scaffolding) should be completed by the end of June. The work involves taking down and re-fixing the top of the spire, installing a new finial at the top, re-pointing most of the tower and spire, and installing pigeon-proof barriers on the windows. Our aim is to minimise disturbance to activities in church, and to access around the site, while the work is underway.

**Updated costings:** in our last newsletter, we said that the BFM Leadership Team and PCC were reviewing the best way forward for the project, taking into account the updated surveys that we had received which reported that the structural concerns over the existing church centre were less serious than we had originally been led to believe. We therefore asked Dan Brown (our project architect) to update the costings for the proposed new-build Centre, and then to draw up costings for remodelling and extending the existing Centre, both at projected 2019 prices. This allowed us to make direct comparisons between the two possible schemes, which indicate that it will be less expensive to build a new centre

