



St Matthew with St Paul
Pilgrims on a journey

Dear local resident,

Summer 2018

A community hub for Fulflood

We want to let you know about exciting developments at St Paul's Church as we plan changes that will make us even more of a community hub over the coming years.

Many of you will be familiar with our site as you pass on your way to the station or into town. You may have had children at our highly rated pre-school or attended our recent Community Day. Perhaps you've joined us for school carol services or attended a wedding or funeral? On average, over 1,300 people a week visit our site to worship, play, learn, dance, sing, meet, exercise and to enjoy concerts and other events.

We have a lovely venue, but if you have visited recently you'll be aware that the standard of our facilities is poor: lack of decent loos, very basic kitchen facilities and uneven floors! Our outdated premises mean we cannot make the best use of our buildings. Yet they are still in great demand locally – frequently bookings have to be turned down.

We really want to play our part in preserving the vibrant community feel in this part of Winchester. We want our buildings to be enjoyed and used more and to be a focal point for people living in Fulflood and Weeke. To achieve this we have launched a project called *Building for Life*. The first phase is to improve the facilities in the main church building and enable its greater use for shows, concerts and community meetings. Our detailed plans are on display in the church, or you can view them on our website, www.stmatthewstpaul.org.

St Paul's at the heart of the community:

- Anyone living in the parish can be married or have their funeral in this, your parish church
- Our trained parish visitors will visit if you're in need of friendly support for whatever reason: perhaps bereavement, illness, depression or loneliness. They may be a sounding board, someone to share memories with, a link with the outside world or the organiser of help for a specific, short-term need. Please contact the parish office to be put in contact with someone
- We are delighted to have excellent links with our local Western Church of England Primary School, where Peter Seal and Mary Copping take regular assemblies and Peter and two church members are school governors. Children from Western are often involved in church events, such as the Community Day last month
- You'd be warmly welcome at our monthly coffee mornings. St Paul's Coffee Pot runs on the second Friday of the month, 9.30 am–noon in the church
- There's a lovely, friendly drop-in toddler group on Thursday mornings in term-time for families with children up to age three, 9.30–11.30 am; refreshments provided
- St Paul's Pre-school welcomes children aged 2 years 9 months up to school age; currently serving 41 local families
- Pastoral support for residents of Berewecke Court nursing home and Eastacre is offered every month
- Since 2017 the parish's pastoral team has linked up with Friarsgate medical practice as an approved visiting network for patients wishing for support within the community.

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We are absolutely committed to our outreach within our local community and now seek a base equipped for the needs of the 21st century. We have already received the necessary planning consent from Winchester City Council and the Diocese of Winchester for the work we want to undertake. We have already raised over £500,000 (towards our target of £910,000). **But now we need your help!**

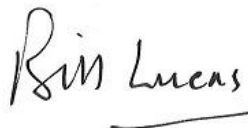
We'd welcome your help, interest, contact and ideas! We also need financial support and are asking all those who value this community of Fulflood to consider supporting our vital outreach project. We know that there are many competing pressures on your budget, but we hope that you might be able to include us on your list.

You may like to make a one-off donation of £50–£100; if this was gift-aided it would add 25% to the value of your gift. You may prefer to make a regular weekly or monthly donation to our *Building for Life* account. However you may choose to give, please complete the form below, and thank you so much for reading and giving consideration to this letter.

With best wishes



Canon Peter Seal
Parish priest, St Matthew with St Paul
Chaplain, Peter Symonds College



Prof. Bill Lucas
Chair, Building for Life Project

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Building for Life donations

Direct bank transfer

Sort code 55-81-26 Account name St Matthew's PCC Account no. 94359024 Quote full name as reference

Cheque payment

Please make cheque payable to 'St Matthew's PCC' and drop in or post to:
Parish Office, St Paul's Church, St Paul's Hill, Winchester SO22 5AB

Gift aid

Full name (in capitals)

Address

Postcode Date

I would like to enhance my donation through Gift Aid. I am a UK taxpayer and understand that if I pay less income tax and/or capital gains tax than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations this year, it is my responsibility to pay the difference.

Any enquiries to the Parish Office, 01962 844878, admin@stmatthewstpaul.org.

Thank you