

Building, literally...

Progress

An ambitious project of this nature and scale takes time, that's why we started with the kitchen.

Our new kitchen cost:
Builder £24 000 (+VAT)
Fittings £22 000
Fees, etc. £8 000

We received the following grants:
SBC Eildon Neighbourhood Fund £8 000
National Churches Trust £15 000
Donations from Community Organisations £5 000

As a church we have raised £13 000, and obtained £4 500 VAT refund from the Listed Places of Worship Fund.

The balance of £12 000 was covered from our reserves.

Planning Permission

Our team has engaged with the Scottish Borders Council for pre-planning advice. Based on this our architects are currently revising proposals to align with planning input, whilst still meeting our needs. We aim to apply for planning permission later this year.

In addition, plans have been shared with the General Trustees for their input, as they focus on internal changes.

**We value your feedback and input.
Please complete our short survey
and hand it in at the church office or
to David Bethune.**

Building the future of our Selkirk & Ashkirk Parish Church

Our Parish Church built **by the people of Selkirk.**
Their labour, generosity, and sacrifice was a
commitment made to their faith,

...their **legacy**, to serve the needs of **future**
Selkirk & Ashkirk **generations.**



Today our Parish Church **remains at the heart of Selkirk** and the surrounding areas.

- Our **community hub “Open Door”** meets every Monday, welcoming regular walkers, crafters, board game enthusiasts and coffee drinkers, who enjoy friendship and refreshments.
- We serve hot homemade **“Pay What You Can”** 3-course lunches, catering **60-80 folk** each week.
- Well attended regular Church **Services** are held on **Wednesdays and Sundays** followed by **coffee, tea and a blether.**
- Use of the **Church Hall is at capacity, providing a range of activities** from exercise classes to fund raisers, events for local charities and business as well as private functions. Various community and health groups meet weekly providing their support.

Our vision is for Selkirk & Ashkirk Parish Church to continue as an open, praying, growing, enthusiastic and supportive Christian Community.

To do this:

- We respond to human need with practical, loving **service in our community and beyond.**
- We **welcome newcomers and nurture members.**
- We reach out with the **good news of Jesus Christ** through **practical care and service.**
- We offer a range of **inspiring worship and teaching.**

Our Aim

To evolve and adapt our Selkirk Parish Church building to reflect our vision, where the entrance is open, approachable, friendly and **welcoming to everyone from young to old, existing member, visitor and stranger**, drawing them in. A building that embodies the true warmth of our church community, where everyone is at home. **Creating a light-filled space that touches all who enter, connecting with them physically and spiritually.**

Recentring the church at the heart of our community as an “open every day” building will:

- Encourage **increased use** by community users, local people and visitors to the town.
- Allow us to **offer a more diverse range of amenities** as identified from our community research.
- Improve accessibility, **safety**, and **comfort** as well as **energy efficiency**.
- Complement other community provisions.
- Make our buildings vibrant and attractive, thereby creating a renewed sense of ownership by all in Selkirk and Ashkirk.

Over the next 5 years we envisage redeveloping our existing buildings to improve:

- **Accessibility** (entrances, walkways, lifts, toilets, internal access)
- **Capacity** by creating additional **multi-use** space (**enhanced utilisation** of space)
- **Comfort, health, safety and energy efficiency.**

Step-by-step,
we would like to walk you through
our future building.

The Kitchen

As a first stage, we have **doubled the size of our kitchen**, creating a commercial kitchen, linked to our hall and other facilities, available for hire, which will:

- Enable expansion of our existing “Open Door” programme to accommodate additional numbers.
- Provide facilities **suitable for weddings, anniversary celebrations, fundraising events** and much more.



As we build for our future, we will remain
true to our Christian mission, with quiet
spaces for reflection and discipleship via our
support services and outreach activities.

Community Spaces

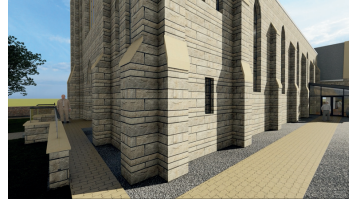
From the **ground floor welcome area**, doors and a passage will lead to a **variety of flexible spaces** for church and community use.

Creating **two medium sized and three smaller halls/rooms** on the ground floor, in **addition to the existing hall**.

- Suitable for community, private and public functions, conferences with breakaway rooms, meetings, health, and exercise classes, etc.
- Fitted with suitable **multi-media** and communication/conference **equipment**.
- **Existing panelling and finishes will be re-purposed giving visitors a sense of continuity with the church's history.**
- Including **small rooms for spiritual guidance, consultation**, and support from community organisations.

Movement through the building will be easy via hallways leading to toilets, communal seating areas and the kitchen.

Each community space, room and hall will have **independent access**, so that **multiple activities can be hosted at the same time**.



From the road...

- Driving or walking past, you will be able to **see inside**, get glimpses of **people meeting in a cosy vibrant space**.
- There's **safer disabled parking** for those who need it.
- The garden **gates are open**, decorated with, rather than guarded by, a heritage iron fence.
- As you approach the building, **paths guide you** to an "open" entrance, that you can access **easily via walkways and ramps**.



Adjustments may have to be made for planning permission.



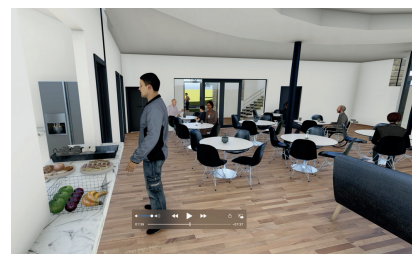
To achieve this, we'll need safer **dedicated disabled parking** on the grounds with **mobility friendly ramps**, a separate pedestrian entrance, and paths linked to all entrances.

Entering the building...

It's easy to see where you are going as you walk through glass doors via a light-filled lobby to a draught free, **warm and welcoming entrance area** to access facilities.

You will be able to:

- Step into a **social space** (seating up to 40 people), to meet up, connect and **have a quick cuppa**.
- Make enquiries at **reception** regarding an activity or visit the church office.
- Have a moment of reflection in a prayer room.
- Feel comfortable **accessing the various halls, meeting and community spaces** and toilet facilities from this entrance area.



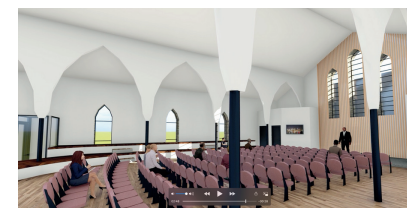
The Church Sanctuary

From the welcome area, you can move to a new 1st floor level via **improved stairs and a new spacious lift**.

The transformed worship area will allow you to relax in a space which is warm, comfortable, filled with natural light, and designed to suit formal and informal services.

The worship area will be **framed by our large church windows, amphitheatre style pews, original arches and ceilings**, with flexible central seating.

- Creating a flexible well-equipped space used for worship by our congregation.
- Use **materials and finishes** from the church to **honour our history**.
- When not in use for worship, it will be available as a well-equipped **auditorium** or **amphitheatre** type space for **community use**.
- Have upgraded **environmentally friendly heating and ventilation**.
- Include a welcome lobby where tea and coffee can be served.



By moving the church sanctuary up a floor, we will really be able to make the most of our building. We'll be able to **transform a very large, inflexible, expensive to heat space**, that is used only once or twice a week, **into vibrant functional areas for community use every day of the week**.