St Nicholas Church, Stevenage
Seeking to know Jesus and make Him known

A growing parish church, which seeks to proclaim the unchanging message of God's love and mercy revealed in the Bible and in Jesus Christ.

Anthony Taylor: Honorary Project Manager
A place of worship for more than 900 years.

Building Development is part of the history of St Nicholas.
St Nicholas Church Issues/Needs

for the encouragement of worship and growth of gospel mission

Unsafe flooring; Trip hazard in places

Poor and dim lighting; Limited daylight

Poor heating and dead flies in the Tower

Running out of space:

Each room is used twice on a Sunday morning
Restricts children's work
   Difficult to set-up and clear-up
   No space for a separate crèche

Max 30 seated for catered monthly lunches
   “Snack & Chat” and other parish events

1/3rd of the sanctuary space is difficult to use
   Due to restrictive medieval wooden screens and pews

Unsightly storage

Church attendance is growing
   The site is not suitable to build a new church hall
St Nicholas congregation:

What do you like best?  What would you like to improve?

Green dot/cross = What I like best
Red  (pink) dot/cross = What I would like to improve
New stone floor with efficient **under floor heating**
Low energy lighting; more than 200lux throughout
Relocated medieval wooden screens to
form east end chapel
open up the chancel and side chapel for use
create a crèche
**Improved heating & light in the tower**
Extra floor in Parish room:
Glazed arches with bi-fold doors
Pews re-arranged to open up South Aisle
**Increased Seating capacity:**
Services & concerts: from 150 up to 200
Lunches seated at tables: from 30 up to 60
Learnings

• Vision for the people who are going to use the building,
  • Including how they will use it.
  • Engage them in the design

• Architect is the key appointment
  • Architect must share/agree with the church’s vision
  • Feasibility study:
    • Explore options to deliver the vision
    • Development Strategy for next 25-50yrs

• Diocesan Advisory Committee are your friends!
  • Other statuary bodies and amenity societies may not share your vision
    • Understand why; respond appropriately
  • Statement of Need:
    • Include your vision and what you need to deliver it.
  • Statement of Significance:
    • Include the views of congregation and parish as well as national experts

• Nehemiah: a biblical case study
  • Prayer; vision; action
  • Rebuilt the nation of Israel and the walls of Jerusalem.