

September 25 Halls update

With the costs confirmed and the funding in place we are now able to confirm that the project will start in October. Our thanks go out to everyone who has made this possible, especially those who have been praying for this project, those who donated to the appeals and all the grant funders to have helped make this possible.

The funding package includes:



St Martin's Church reserves	£49,050
Individual donations and fundraising	£41,250
The National Lottery Heritage Fund	£230,000
The Church of England Demonstrator Project Funding	£50,000
The Benefact Trust Demonstrator Church Match Funding	£36,000
Garfield Weston	£30,000
The Listed Places of Worship Scheme	£25,000
The Congregation & General Charitable Trust	£15,000
The Aviva Community Fund (Climate Fund)	£13,000
The Beatrice Laing Trust	£5,000
Cornwall Climate & Nature Fund	£5,000
Cornwall Community Foundation (Business Fund)	£2,000
Sabina Sutherland Charitable Trust	£1,000
Cornwall Councillor Fund	£500
United Charities of Liskeard	£200
Sub-total	£503,000
Diocese of Truro 5-year interest-free PCC loan (if needed)	£25,000
Project total	£528,000



Our separate Give to Go Green campaign towards installing secondary double glazing raised £25,000, including the maximum £10,000 grant from the Church of England's Give to Go Green.

We were also awarded £5,000 from the National Grid to allow us to switch over the remaining non-LED lights in both the Upper and Lower Halls to LED lighting.

We started work on this project in December 2021, so it has taken nearly four years to get to this stage. So, once again, we are so grateful for everyone's support and generosity in helping us get this project off the ground.

October 25 halls update

After more problems with our bat licence and some last-minute asbestos issues, the halls project has at last started. Hallelujah! The east, south and west sides of the Upper Hall have been scaffolded, and the roofers arrived on 14 October and started stripping the roof slates.

The plan is to strip slates during dry weather, inserting the roof insulation and then felting and battening the exposed sections to make it watertight. While the weather holds, they will continue stripping the roof. If rain is expected, the roofers will start re-slating the roof.

Access to the Upper Hall is now restricted, but we still have access to the Lower Hall and the Cellars (the Upper Hall basement area). The church office is now in the small room in the Lower Hall. As part of the project, we switched from normal broadband to a leased line, and Wi-Fi is now beamed from the Upper Hall to the Lower Hall. As a result, we now have fast Wi-Fi across the whole site.



On site parking is very limited during the current works, with just a dozen spaces in the lower hall car park. Please car share whenever possible, and park offsite if you are mobile.

Originally, we were expecting the work on the north roof slope to start in the New Year. However, the new plan is to aim to complete this work this side of Christmas. That will involve adding scaffolding in the drive from the Lower Hall car park some time in November. Whilst the north scaffolding is in place we will lose all on-site parking. We will still have pedestrian access to the Lower Hall and Cellars down the south side, beside the boundary wall. The north scaffolding will be removed as soon as the north-side roof work has been completed. The east, south and west side will remain for the duration of the project work to all the solar panels to be fitted and some high-level repairs to some windows and stonework. We expect the project to be finished in February or early March.