

# CHURCH HILL LEASING ORDINANCE



## Good news to report!

On Monday 7th March, the Standing Committee of the Diocese passed the 'Church Hill Leasing Ordinance 2022', agreeing with the vision and prayer of our Parish Council with respect to resolving long term space and access issues at both our churches.

## Why is it good news?

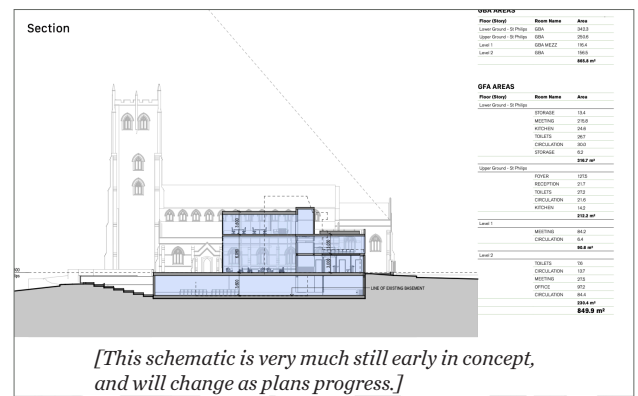
It is good news because it is an important step in the renewal of St Philip's and the Garrison Church according to our 'Mission Goal 4: Presence and Property' adopted at our AGM in 2020. It has been a long time coming -- more than 50 years in the making.

## What is the Church Hill Leasing Ordinance 2022?

It is an agreement with the Synod of the Diocese to split the income of 1 York Street for 20 years, so that the parish council can have some certainty around the amount of funds we may expect to receive over the coming decades. This Ordinance effectively splits the income 45.3% to the Parish and 54.7% to the Diocese over 20 years through to 2041.

## What will we be able to do with this income?

We will be able to build a ministry centre with a modest, fit-for-purpose hall on the site of St Philip's in the place of the current building known as the Parish Hall. Our hope is that this will last for many decades, with many uses as determined by successive rectors, parish councils and ministry teams. We will be able to install new accessible bathrooms and kitchens at both St Philip's and the Garrison church. We are planning more room for mission, community, kids' and youth at both churches. We intend to use both sites for evangelistic events, conferences, hospitality for our church and for other churches and ministries, and for our work with the homeless. Since the plans involve the demolition of the current Parish House, we will lose a ministry residence and plan to buy another one for the use of clergy in the parish. There is room in the Ordinance to support and expand our City Ministry Outreach over the next 20 years.



[This schematic is very much still early in concept, and will change as plans progress.]

## Are the plans fixed?

The Parish Council has a broad plan, and those plans were presented to the Parish on 2 December, 2021, and to the Standing Committee of the Diocese. That said, there are many challenges ahead and decisions to be made, and many more chances for members of the parish to speak into the process. We welcome such dialogue. All the schematics are still early in concept, and we will look to refine and improve these as we develop final designs.

## Are there any checks and balances to the distribution of the income?

In response to some valuable feedback by some objections, the Standing Committee amended the Ordinance to give the parish 5 years to make progress towards the plan. If we are unable to do so, we will need to amend the Ordinance.

## Will we be asking for money from the congregation?

Since this project is largely using the resources from what became 1 York Street, we hope to cover the bulk of the cost with the income from 1 York Street. This will mean we will need to make sure that the regular ministry expenses are paid for by the congregations, and not subsidised by this income. There will be opportunity for further building works (beyond the Ordinance plans), and we will let you know this from time to time.

## What can we expect next?

Not a lot for a while. The Parish Council will turn its mind to resolving the facilities of the Garrison Church as the first stage of building works, while preparing for the rebuild of the Parish Centre at 3 York Street. This means that you may not hear from us for a little while. Certainly, you'll hear from the Wardens at the AGM. But there is still so much to plan and pray about.

## Can I pray?

Yes! The Parish Council welcomes your prayers. It is an exciting time, but there is much to do. We need to maintain our mission and vision to fill the city with the Gospel, ahead of God filling the whole earth with the knowledge of his Glory.



[This schematic is very much still early in concept, and will change as plans progress.]