

St Martin's Church Fangfoss - Proposals to Promote Community Use - Update

St Martin's is a well-loved and well maintained village church and plays an important part in community life in Fangfoss, Bolton and Spittal. The regular congregation is not large but we know that people are drawn to St Martin's to mark memorable times in their lives – christenings, weddings and funerals – as well as to celebrate major events in the church year – Christmas, Easter and Harvest.

Much needed masonry work and roof repairs were carried out at the church in 2015 and attracted widespread community support. As a result, the church will be in sound repair for many years to come. Local residents and visitors then took part in a survey in 2017 and supported the idea of improving access to the church and upgrading interior facilities to offer greater use of the church to the local community, there being no village hall in the parish.

We're now taking forward the proposals covered in that survey and seeking permission from the Diocese to install an access ramp, interior sliding doors, a level floor inside the church, an accessible loo/baby change and basic kitchen facilities. This would mean that in future the church could offer a small meeting/activity area at the back of church, together with facilities for refreshments.

Over coming months we want to re-consult with local community representatives as to how this space might be used, as well as making grant applications to appropriate funding bodies. If you or your group have any ideas for consideration or would be interested in using St Martin's for your activities please get in touch with the Church Warden, John Greenwood - greenwoodj6@msn.com