



# Sutton Bonington Baptist Church

An overview of the plan to renew our facilities & an

## What is the project?

The building work will replace the old main hall, porch and school room with a much larger single-level meeting space. The lounge, kitchen, toilets and offices will be completely refurbished and the roof repaired. The back of the building will become a flexible space for children's work, with dividers to create one larger or multiple smaller rooms, as required.

## When will it start?

The work of clearing the church has already begun and building will commence this Summer. The work should take around 30 weeks to complete.

## Where will the Church meet?

During the construction period, Church services and other activities normally held in the church will be held across the Village Hall and other village churches. [Please contact us](#) for more details.

## How much will it cost?

We estimate the project will cost approximately £1.1 million. So far our congregation has raised over 50% of this total, and the remainder of the funds will be made up through further giving, a loan and grant funding.

# A Building With a History

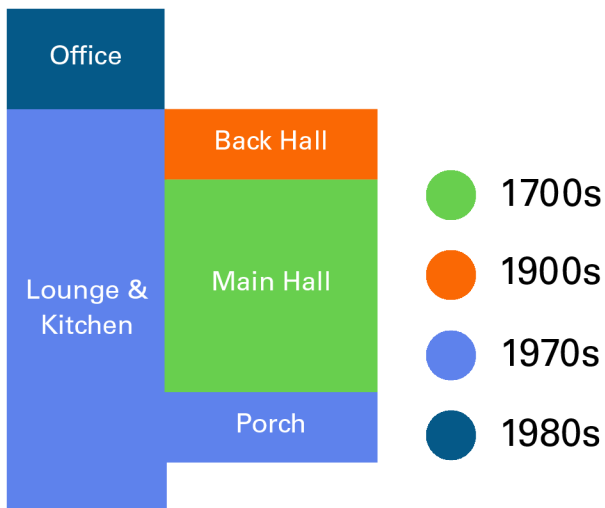


Image of the Church Building, 19th Century

The church on our site was built following a period of **Christian Revival in 1794**. Large numbers were baptised in the River Soar in the early 1800s and joined the congregation. By 1840, the once privately owned building had been gifted to the church.

In 1901, a schoolroom was added at the back of the building to cater for the younger members of the congregation.

In the 20th century, the church nearly closed, with just a handful of people remaining. However, in the 1960s and 1970s it experienced spiritual renewal under the leadership of a lay pastor who lived in the village and worked as a lecturer on the university campus. **Students became key to the church's revival** and helped dig out the old baptistry for full-immersion baptisms. It has been well used since! Thanks to the generosity and foresight of this generation, the lounge, kitchen and library were added, facilitating new groups and ways to reach out to the community, and creating the church building that we are so familiar with and grateful for today..



Layout of the church building with the years of each addition

Over the last fifteen years, our membership has **almost doubled**, and the average age of members has decreased rapidly. The building needs renewing to fit the needs of the church and in preparation **for what God will do in Sutton Bonington over the next hundred years.**



Proposed front of the redeveloped building

# Why Are We Renewing Our Building?

## And Why Now?

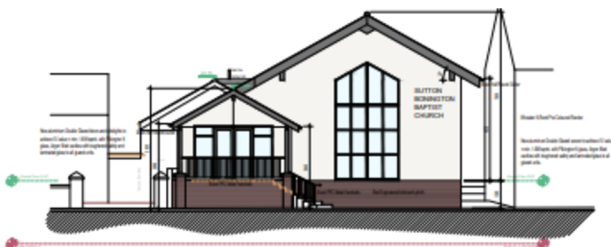
Our building has served many hundreds of worshippers in its current form for over 50 years. As we continue to grow and pursue our mission of reaching out to all in our local community, our building needs to grow with us. The new building will offer:

- Expanded one-level worship space for our growing Sunday morning congregation
- Larger, more flexible spaces for our children's work and groups
- Improved disabled facilities to ensure easy access for all in our community
- An expanded and improved kitchen facility, allowing us to provide better hospitality
- An upgraded audiovisual setup, making it possible to see and hear well from any seat
- A new, more cost-effective and efficient heating system
- Improvements in health and safety: modern electrics, proper fire doors, improved fire escape routes

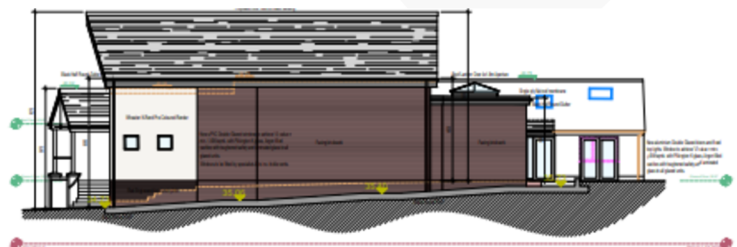


This building project has been a subject of prayer and discussion for 15 years. We now have an encouraging amount of money and momentum to complete the project and improve the church building for the next generation.

In a climate of rising prices, this project will only become more expensive, so we believe that now is the right time to proceed.



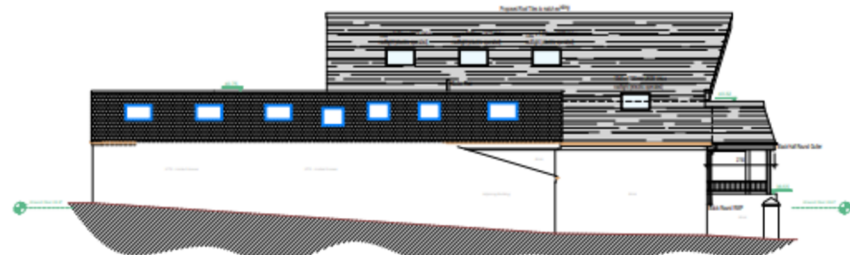
ELEVATION 1 (SOUTH WEST ELEVATION)



ELEVATION 2 (SOUTH EAST ELEVATION)



ELEVATION 3 (NORTH EAST ELEVATION)



ELEVATION 4 (NORTH WEST ELEVATION)