

Adisham – the Village

- On the edge of the old East Kent coalfield
- 620 people
- Economically mixed – but relatively deprived
- Church of England primary school
- Village hall and rec
- Shop and pub closed



Holy Innocents' Church

- 12th Century
- Victorian restorations (which added the fixed pews)
- Grade 1 listed
- Ageing congregation
- Usual Sunday attendance – about 15
- No toilet or kitchen (or water)
- Really, really cold



Before...

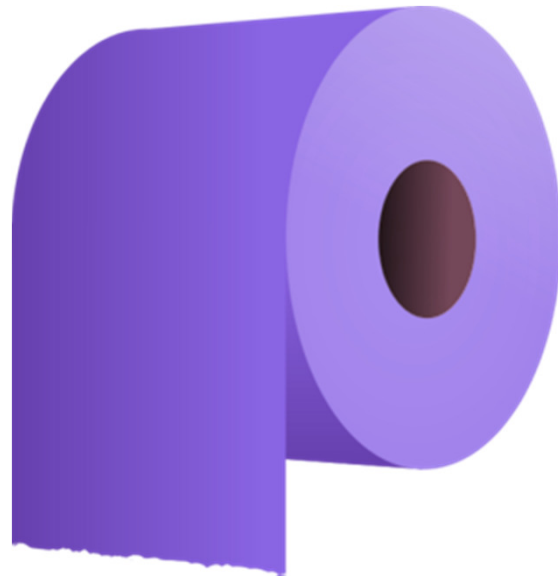


Timeline

- | | |
|-------------|--|
| 1991 | Friends group set up to modernise the church for worship and community |
| 1994 | Scheme foundered |
| 2005 – 2008 | New people in the Friends and new incumbent revived the scheme |
| 2010 | Fundraising began |
| 2013 | Work on Phase 1 began in April |
| 2013 | Phase 1 completed in November |
| 2014 | More fundraising – Phase 2 completes Dec 2014 |

The project

Re-order the church to add toilets and kitchen, and turn the building into a community space



Phase 1

- Utilities connected
- Kitchen
- Two toilets
- Meeting room



Phase 2

- Removing pews
- Raised wood floor
- Moving a 12th Century reredos and the font
- New lighting and sound system
- Underfloor heating
- Redecorating the nave



Still to come

- Chairs
- Theatrical lighting



Where the money came from

- Individuals in the village and surrounding area
- Fundraising events
- Trusts and grant giving organisations

Hits and misses

Hits

- Fundraising led by people who were influential in the village, but not churchgoers
- Effort made to win over the sceptics
- Consulted the village
- Leaflets in the village – focussing on the benefits for everyone
- Asking for donations – leadership made big donations first
- Lots of fundraising events showed the church was already being used for the community (even though it was freezing in winter)

Hits and misses

Misses

Didn't always read the guidelines –

- Missed out on Lottery money because they don't fund promotion of religion.
- Missed another grant because the application came from the Friends rather than the PCC

The biggest givers

Viridor	£74.4K
Individual donations and events	£62.9K
Garfield Weston	£17.5K
Other trusts	£27.2K

Events since the re-opening

- Bring and share village party to celebrate the completion
- Village carol service (best attended for more than a decade)
- Celebration of the life of David Pickup
- Talks from village residents,
- art exhibition
- performance from the village school
- drumming workshop
- Coffee concert with the Eclectics choir
- Performance from Canterbury Cantata Choir
- Recital from Sioned Williams – an internationally acclaimed harpist

- Regular Service every Sunday

















