



Forward Momentum

BI-MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FOR THE WAY FORWARD PROJECT

In this first issue of *Forward Momentum*, we decided to look back at all that was accomplished on the project last year. We hope this encourages you that we are getting ever closer to the planned renovation work.



Late 2021 - the culmination of 8 years of discussions, brainstorming, workshops, and honing of the details as we completed the "**First Round Bid**" with the National Lottery Heritage Fund (NLHF).

Early 2022, the church applied for a Faculty with the Diocese of Chelmsford, a requirement for permission to make changes to the building.

Springtime, and the project was awarded with its first tranche of money and we moved from the First Round Bid phase to the "**Development Phase**".

We could now appoint an architect (to draw up detailed designs) and a mechanical and engineering consultant to refine the technical scope of the project, specifically the new heating proposal.

By the summer, work was done on determining the source of energy for the proposed new heating system, moving from oil to a greener alternative. Recruitment began for an Activity Coordinator and Project Administrator. And 'The Way Forward', was added to the church website.

First Round Bid ✓ **Development Phase** **Second Round Bid** **Delivery Phase**

Autumn: a project administrator was appointed along with Tricolor Associates, to create an Activity Plan which will be one of the (many) documents required for the "**Second Round Bid**". This is a fundamental part of the "**Development Phase**". It involves consulting with individuals, groups, clubs and educational institutions and will detail plans for community events and activities to encourage people to visit and learn about the heritage of the church.

In the run up to Christmas, Rev. Sue Hurley uncovered more details about the history of the church, resulting in a change in focus for the proposed celebrations post-renovations. Work on the documents continued. Surveys were sent about how best to serve the church and community.

And in 2023 we have:

- Conducted an **update meeting** for all involved
- Hosted a **site visit** by the diocesan archaeologist
- Met with a **conservation specialist** regarding the crumbling wall painting
- Taken part in a **workshop** by Tricolor Associates
- Commissioned an **access audit** and **bat survey**...and.... you're invited to:

