



# For future generations

## Knowle Parish Church

mission | heritage | renewal

### .... a building to support our vision statement and goals, to be a house of God's Light for all peoples and generations.

Our beautiful 15th century Grade 1 listed building has been at the centre of our village for more than 600 years. It has seen generations of people worshipping together, being baptised, married, buried and lives celebrated.

It is a living building, changing over the centuries to accommodate the needs of the times and the community but can feel dark and unwelcoming.

It is increasingly unsuited to the ways we worship God and the ways that we and the wider community could use such a majestic building.

For future generations is our response to this desire: plans for a building that provides a welcoming experience, accessible to all and adaptable to be used 7 days a week by the church and the local community for many generations to come.

In making these changes we will be following in the footsteps of many previous generations who have adapted the building to ensure that KPC remains a vibrant Christian presence in the village.



The view of the church from the Kenilworth Rd will not change.



The proposed new seating and opening up the chancel will create a more welcoming and usable space.

#### How have the plans come about?

The limitations that the existing building places on the amount it can be used have been understood for a long time. In 2024 the PCC agreed to launch a project to look at how the building could be changed to support our missional objectives better.

A broad Statement of Needs was developed and architects appointed to help us develop our thinking. A series of consultation meetings have been held with the church family and other community groups.

These consultations guided the architect's work in developing a number of options and from these, the PCC approved the plan which is shown on the back page. These have now been shared in detail with the Church Authorities, whose approval, amongst other groups, we must obtain before we can make any changes.

#### The key elements of the proposals are:

- ☐ Changes to the interior and seating to make the building more welcoming, accessible and adaptable.
- ☐ Improvements to the heating, lighting and sound systems.
- ☐ Reopening the northern entrance and adding an extension containing a reception area and accessible toilets.
- ☐ Retaining the iconic view of the church from the Kenilworth Road.



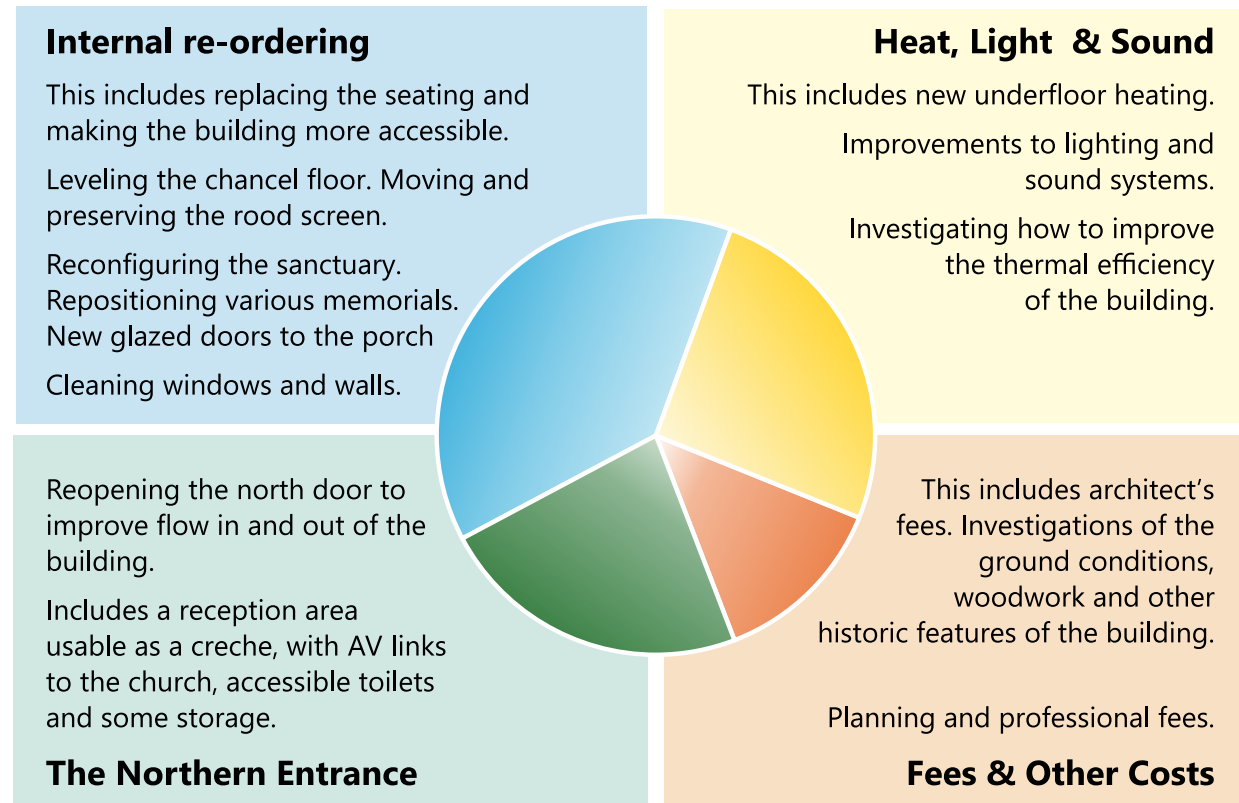
Proposed view from the south aisle showing the re-opened north entrance and rood screen

#### The next stage in the project includes:

- ☐ Detailed surveys of the church archeology and woodwork.
- ☐ Further detailed design work.
- ☐ Securing approval for the work from the Diocesan and planning authorities
- ☐ Planning for when the building will be unavailable
- ☐ Above all, we need to pray carefully about the proposals and our response to them both individually and as a church family.

#### How much will this cost and how will we pay for it?

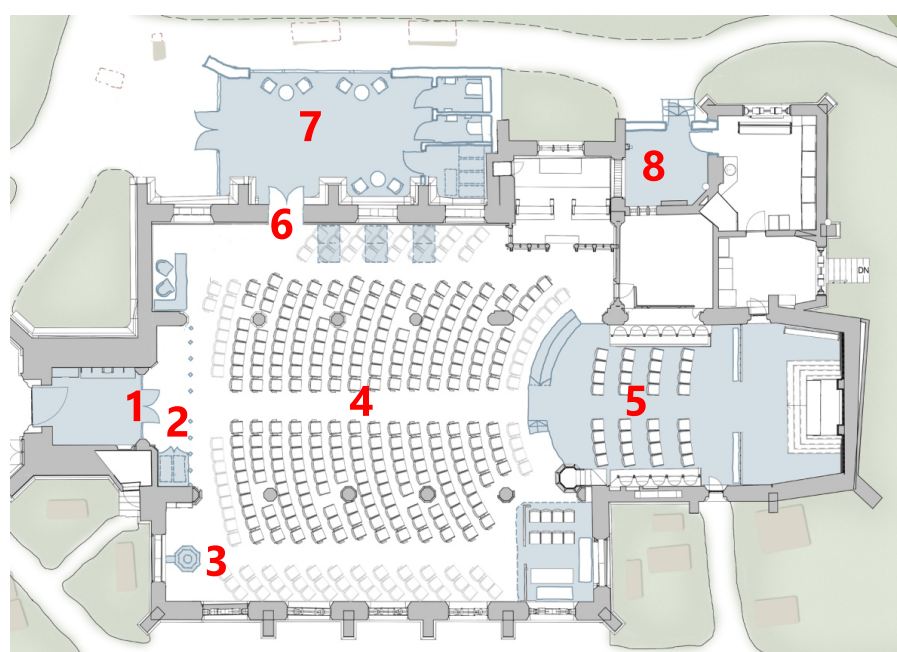
At this early stage, what we are giving to is not to a particular fixed design, but towards a concept that will develop along the lines that have been shared. The estimated costs of the work are £3.5 - £4m. We hope that at least 75% of the money will come from members of the church, but we will also approach a variety of people and organisations.



#### How can we support and pledge towards for future generations at Knowle Parish Church?

Firstly, we must pray. Our Vision and Mission are clear but to enable this we need to commence work as soon as possible. Amongst other things our heating system will require a major upgrade - whatever we do.

Secondly, we can pledge money from our own resources. Many give generously now but this will require new giving, either as a single gift, gifts over a period of years or as long-term interest free loans.



#### Index

- 1 Entrance porch with glazed internal doors.
- 2 Cleaned and repositioned rood screen
- 3 Repositioned font
- 4 Nave, with new seating, stone floor and underfloor heating.
- 5 Raised and levelled choir area, usable as a chapel.
- 6 Reopened and enlarged north door.
- 7 New north annex, with coffee area, accessible toilets and storage
- 8 Enclosed storage area.

Outline plan of proposed church layout – still subject to detailed design