Holy Trinity Church
Rathmell-with-Wigglesworth

HERITATGE LOTTERY FUND GRANT TO HOLY TRINITY CHURCH, RATHMELL WITH WIGGLESWORTH

The Parochial Church Council of Holy Trinity Church, Rathmell, has received initial support from the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) for a major programme of repair to the fabric of this important centre of Rathmell and Wigglesworth village life. The programme will be in two phases, a 'Development Phase' followed by a 'Delivery Phase'. Development funding for the project of £11,800 has been awarded to permit the Parochial Church Council to authorise the necessary detailed investigative work, together with planning and tendering processes. During the Development Phase, detailed competitive tenders will be issued to potential contractors to enable a fully costed application for a full grant to be made later in 2015. Assuming that a full grant is then awarded by HLF the major work could start in late 2015 or early 2016.

Holy Trinity Church, which was built by public subscription from the local community, was consecrated in 1843. Since being built it has always been financially supported by the local communities and has never received financial support from outside agencies. Not only does it provide a place of worship for the villages of Rathmell and Wigglesworth but it also supports the Rathmell Church of England Primary School. The slate roof, which lacks insulation, is in poor condition and leaking as are the cast iron gutters, fall pipes and lead DPCs. Three of the valuable, and nationally important, stained glass windows are bulging and in danger of collapse. The fine, locally produced, internal woodwork is at risk as is the organ. There is no safe internal or external access to the tower clock, belfry or the top of the tower. Parts of the electrical heating have been condemned and what remains is obsolete and inefficient. Without major repair and restoration this Grade 11 listed building would inevitably have to close.

The full project is to re-slate and insulate the nave, chancel and vestry roofs, repair the cast iron gutters and fall pipes, repair three collapsing stained glass windows, provide safe internal access to the clock, belfry and roof of the tower and, finally, install a modern heating system to improve the interior environment of the building. With this remedial work the Church would be sound for another 100 years or more.

In addition to these essential repairs, the Heritage Lottery Fund grant will support a programme of activities to engage more fully the community and visitors in the Church's Heritage. A new guide to the 'History of the Church' will be produced together with new Interpretation Boards outlining its building and subsequent development. The importance of the Capronnier stained glass windows will be raised through use of the internet and advertised in national and local websites as well as in the nearby tourist

information centre. A Child Friendly Trail is also being developed for younger visitors so they can explore and learn about the heritage in a fun and exciting way.

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH NEEDS YOUR FINANCIAL SUPPORT.

The total cost of the project is £201,000 of which some VAT is recoverable. The Heritage Lottery Grant is very generous but the PCC is still required to contribute in excess of £10,000, a sum which cannot be met from existing Church reserves. We are therefore asking everyone who cares about Rathmell Church to do what they can to help us meet this target. Local contribution is essential for the project to go ahead.

Please show your support by donating to our appeal. We are looking for support and funding from church members, the local and wider community and some specialist charities. A number of Fundraising events in our local community will also be taking place throughout this year to help raise funds (more details to follow).

We hope you will help us achieve our target by donating now. Whatever the size of your donation it will be greatly appreciated. If you would like to contribute please make cheques payable to Rathmell PCC and send to the Treasurer, Mrs Sue Shepherd. 2 Mount Pleasant, Wigglesworth, Skipton. North Yorkshire, BD23 4RN. 01729 840620 sueshepherd1963@btinternet.com

Gift Aid - If you are a UK tax-payer, by making a Gift Aid declaration, Holy Trinity, Rathmell can reclaim 25p of tax on every £1 you give. You must pay an amount of Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax for each tax year that is at least equal to the amount of tax that Holy Trinity will reclaim on your gifts. Please ask the Treasurer for more information if you would like to Gift Aid your donation.

If you would like to help in any other way or you would like further information, please contact the Vicar, Hilary Young at hilaryafyoung@gmail.com or on 01729 824191, Churchwarden /PCC Treasurer, Sue Shepherd at sueshepherd1963@btinternet.com or on 01729 840620 or the Project Leader, Richard Crabtree, at richardcrabtree@tiscali.co.uk or on 01729 840108.

We intend to keep everyone updated on a regular basis of our progress.

Supported by
The National Lottery®
through the Heritage Lottery Fund

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