

Project Arclight – Community Drop-In Sessions

Dear friends and neighbours,

It has been some time since we updated you about Arclight, our church transformation project enabled by the redevelopment of our site here in South Woodford. Plans are moving forward - we have now received pre-planning advice from Redbridge and would like to get feedback from our church and community ahead of our main planning application which we hope to submit in October this year.

We will be holding two drop-in community consultation sessions. The first will be on **Saturday 20th July 10am to 1pm** and the second will be on **Wednesday 31st July 6:30pm to 8pm**. There will be an opportunity to view the latest plans, meet the architects, ask questions, and provide feedback.

The plans include the construction of a new single-storey church hall adjoining the existing church building, as well as a community café and a much-needed public playground in the open space adjacent to South View Drive. The new hall features a dedicated youth room and a large flexible space for hire by members of the community and local clubs, including Trinity Hall Kindergarten and our Uniformed Organisations. To enable the development, the scheme includes some residential housing units, almost half of which will be family homes. Current plans feature an apartment block with 18 flats along with 9 townhouses. In addition to the above, we also hope to make some minor changes to the church interior to improve access and sight lines, including the creation of a new enclosed creche space and the all-important church-accessible toilets!

Once the consultation sessions have taken place, details of the scheme will be published on our website at www.htsw.org.uk/arclight

In terms of timelines, we hope and pray that construction work will start in early 2026 but this largely depends on planning approval and fundraising. Once planning permission is in place we will consult further with our church members, hirers, and immediate neighbours in relation to the practicalities of the construction stage to help ensure things progress as smoothly as possible.

We will of course keep you updated by email. If you know of others who would like to receive these updates, just send their name and email address to hello@htsw.org.uk and we will add them to our distribution list. If you would prefer not to receive any further Arclight updates, please reply to this email with the word "unsubscribe".

We continue to pray that our project will be a blessing to the community, bringing the love of Jesus to those around us and providing practically for the community.

With my prayers and best wishes,
Abi Todd
Vicar, Holy Trinity South Woodford