

These documents have been produced and published for St Peter's Churches in Chester and Congleton, Cheshire, by St Peter's Churches Live Project 2016, School of Architecture, University of Sheffield.

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St Peter's Churches Live Project, as part of the Sheffield School of Architecture, University of Sheffield.

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ST PETER'S NAVIGATOR

THANKS TO...

St Peter's Live Project Team would like to thank the Emily Allen at the Diocese of Chester for allowing us to undertake this research project, and her help in communicating with other churches beyond St Peter's in Congleton and Chester.

We would like to thank the teams at St Peter's Chester and St Peter's Congleton, especially Curate Jonathan Phillips and Richard Drew who were our points of contact throughout this six weeks. We sincerely hope the work we have carried out has been of benefit and we look forward to seeing where your churches will take it.

In addition, we have developed a relationship with Empowering Design Practices throughout the process and would like to extend our thanks for their support and encouragement, and we hope this research proves useful for their future work.

We would lastly like to thank our mentor, Dr. Jo Lintenbon for her time and effort in assisting us in the production and evaluation of this Navigator and supporting documents.

COMMON ISSUES

How can churches maintain relevance in their communities?
What conservation issues and provisions are out there?
What can churches do to enhance their community role?
How can the cultural, historical and civic significance of churches be emphasised?
What funding routes are available?

IMPORTANCE OF ENGAGEMENT

What can you do to get your community involved?
How can you promote a sense of ownership and responsibility?
What methods can be employed?
On-going participation techniques
Reflecting on improvements to services
Ongoing evaluation of performance

WHERE ARE YOU NOW?

What is 'Church'?
What is your church used for?
What spaces do your users require?
How efficiently is your space being used?
What skills does your Core Team have?
What are your Churches strengths?

WHERE DO YOU WANT TO GO?

What does your community want from your space?
What potential user group could use the church
What can you learn from other mixed-use places of worship?

FIRST ACTIONS

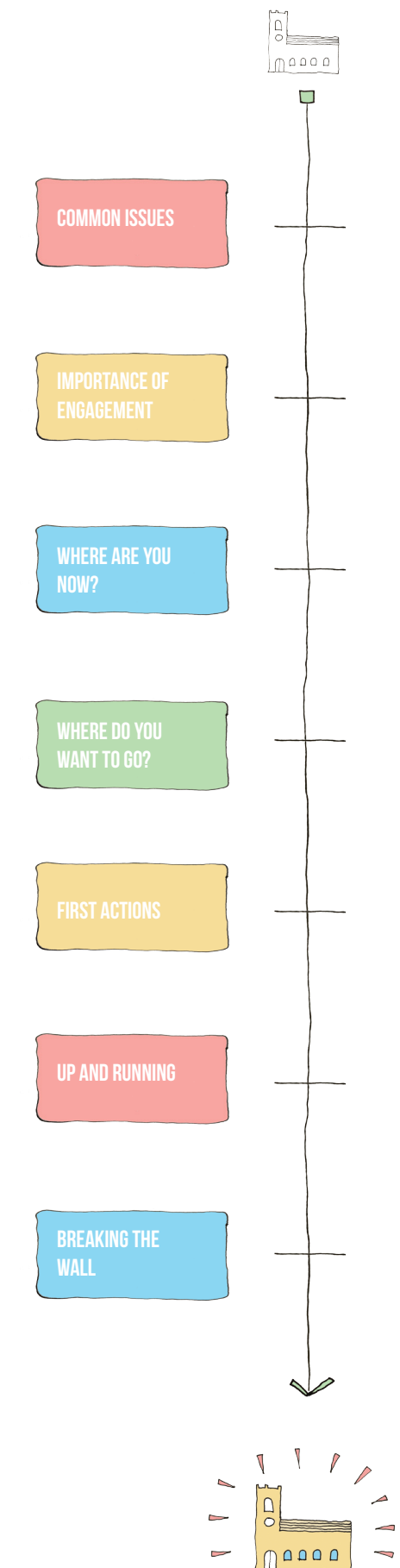
What professionals may you need to consult?
How can you use your space more efficiently?
Initial Spatial designs
Legacy Activities
Revisit your Core Teams skills?

UP AND RUNNING

Agreeing on a design agenda
Developed spatial designs
How should the design look and feel?
How can you begin to use the space today to start to realise your vision?

BREAKING THE WALL

Does your design strategy work?
Moving towards construction
Advanced design



SHEFFIELD SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE LIVE PROJECTS

Now in their 17th year as of 2016, Sheffield School of Architecture's Live Projects offer students a on opportunity to work with live clients over a six week period, working with real people on real projects, in real time.

Live Projects mix the academia of University research and theory with real world practice, allowing students to develop skills and techniques in-line with the collaborative ethos of the School.

The projects also allow for the provision of valuable tools, ideas and built designs for community clients that would otherwise be unable to obtain them. These products very often continue to have a life and be of use long after the end of the Live Project.

RANGI



JOSH



SIMONA



LUCY



ST PETER'S NAVIGATOR LIVE PROJECT TEAM

Our Live Project team was commissioned by the Diocese of Chester to work directly with St Peter's Congleton, and St Peter's Chester, to propose design solutions and ways of working to improve the overall facilities and use of these churches. The project time-frame runs alongside a 5 year study by Empowering Design Practices and the Open University, working with places of worship across the country who have previously collaborated with both St Peter's churches, and Sheffield University School of Architecture.

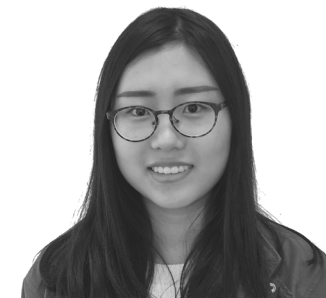
Comprising 12 students from 6 countries and 2 masters courses, St Peter's Live Project Team is a collaboration between student designers with a wide range of backgrounds and experience.

We have developed these documents over a period of intense design, discussion, meetings and making with the intention of providing visions for the future for these churches, whilst providing guidance and tools for others in similar situations. We hope they demonstrate the value of collaborative and iterative design processes in the potential transformation and modernisation of Church spaces, with the aim of promoting community engagement and active participation in the 21st Century Church.

GARY



MI



DARIA



GUY



CHRIS



BETTY



ELLEN



SIMEON



ST PETER'S CHESTER PROCESS DOCUMENT

The University of Sheffield - School of Architecture
Live Project 2016

Introduction

This document outlines a series of work carried out as part of a six week Live Project at The University of Sheffield. The wider project was given the aim of working with two churches in the Diocese of Chester:

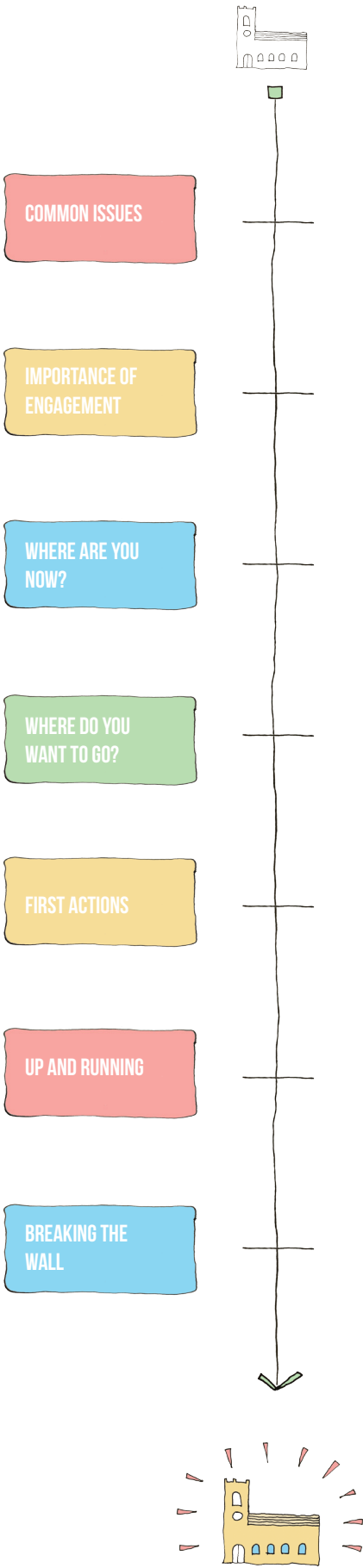
- St Peter's Chester
- St Peter's Congleton

The aim was to enable these churches to use their spaces in more communal and social ways. It quickly became clear that the two churches were in very different stages of the design process.

As a result the Live Project addressed each church's requirements seperately through design workshops. The activities that were used in these workshops and the information gathered has informed the development of a Church Design Process Navigator. St Peter's Chester was a case study for the early stages of this Design Process and St Peter's Congleton was a case study for the later stages of the Design Process.

The Design Process Navigator is outlined in a separate document and should be read in conjunction with the following pages for a complete understanding of the Live Project Team's work.

This St Peter's Chester Process Document summarises the projects work specifically associated with St Peter's Chester. The following pages will explain the projects' work with the church, the suggested design options and the potential on going workshops which will enable St Peter's Chester's further development.







COMMON ISSUES

IMPORTANCE OF
ENGAGEMENT

WHERE ARE YOU
NOW?

WHERE DO YOU
WANT TO GO?

FIRST ACTIONS

UP AND RUNNING

BREAKING THE
WALL



HOW WE BECAME INVOLVED

Church of England

The state church in England is the Church of England, part of the Anglican Communion. Struggling with decreasing congregation numbers and growing need to find more uses for churches across the country to preserve traditional role as community heart.

Province of York

One of two Ecclesiastical Provinces in England along with the Province of Canterbury. Broken down into 12 Diocese.

Diocese of Chester

Diocese within Province of York within which both Chester and Congleton are located. Both churches are under the central jurisdiction of the Diocese at a wider level.



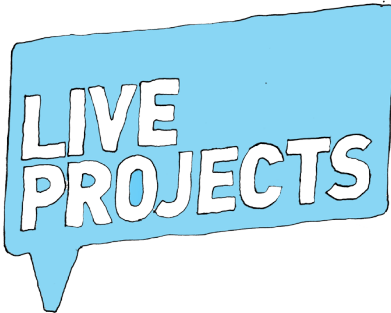
St Peter's, Chester

Low Anglican church in the heart of Chester, centrally located by "The Cross", a medieval landmark in the centre of the city, practicing a more evangelist approach of Anglican Christianity, with original construction over 1000 years ago.



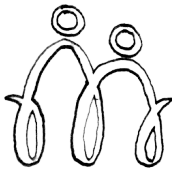
St Peter's, Congleton

Anglican church in the town of Congleton, roughly 40 miles East from Chester, influenced in layout by more Methodist practices originating in the mid-18th century.



Live Projects

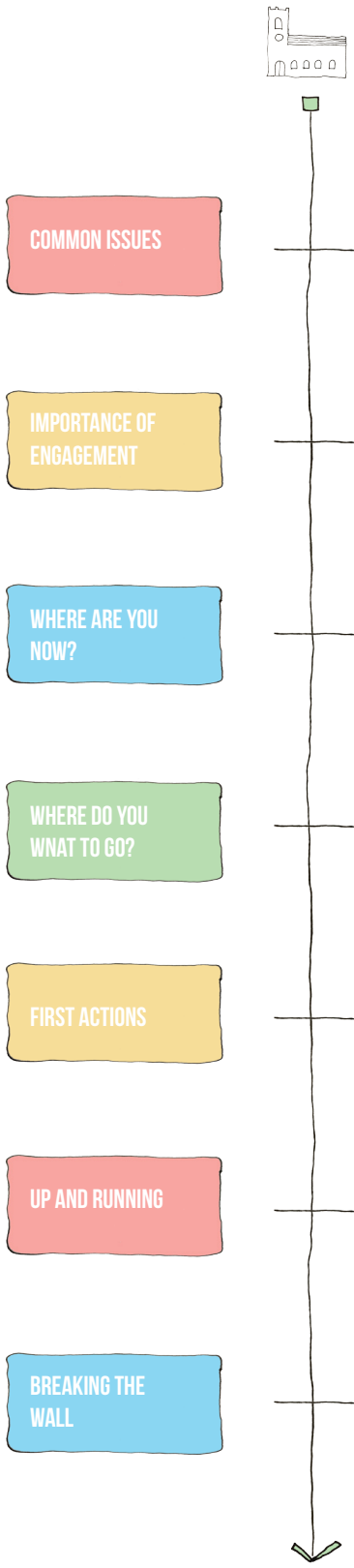
Live Projects approached as part of an on-going research by Empowering Design Practices to deliver proposals for increased community engagement and more efficient space usage within the St Peter's churches.



Empowering Design Practices

Empowering design practices is a research project that aims to explore how community-led design can help empower those who look after historic places of worship to create more open, vibrant and sustainable places that respect and enhance their heritage.

Through this research they have identified St Peter's Churches in Cheshire and Vestry Hall in Sheffield, used by the ISRAAC group, as clients for Live Projects at the University of Sheffield.



ST. PETER'S CHURCH CHESTER



Chester population

81000

Grade I Listed Church

City Centre church with history dating back over 1000 years, alleged to be founded by the daughter of Alfred the Great, Æthelflæd, in the 10th Century.

Current building built between 14th and 16th centuries, with extensive renovation and internal changes since.



ST. PETER'S CHURCH
CONGLETON



Congleton population

26000

Grade I Listed Church

Built on the periphery of Congleton, this church is one of 4 in its parish. Originally built as a 'Chapel of Ease' for nearby Astbury St Mary's, the current building was erected in the 18th century.

Built in a more Methodist style, this church currently has one of the best preserved church interiors in the north of England.

COMMON ISSUES

IMPORTANCE OF
ENGAGEMENT

WHERE ARE YOU
NOW?

WHERE DO YOU
WANT TO GO?

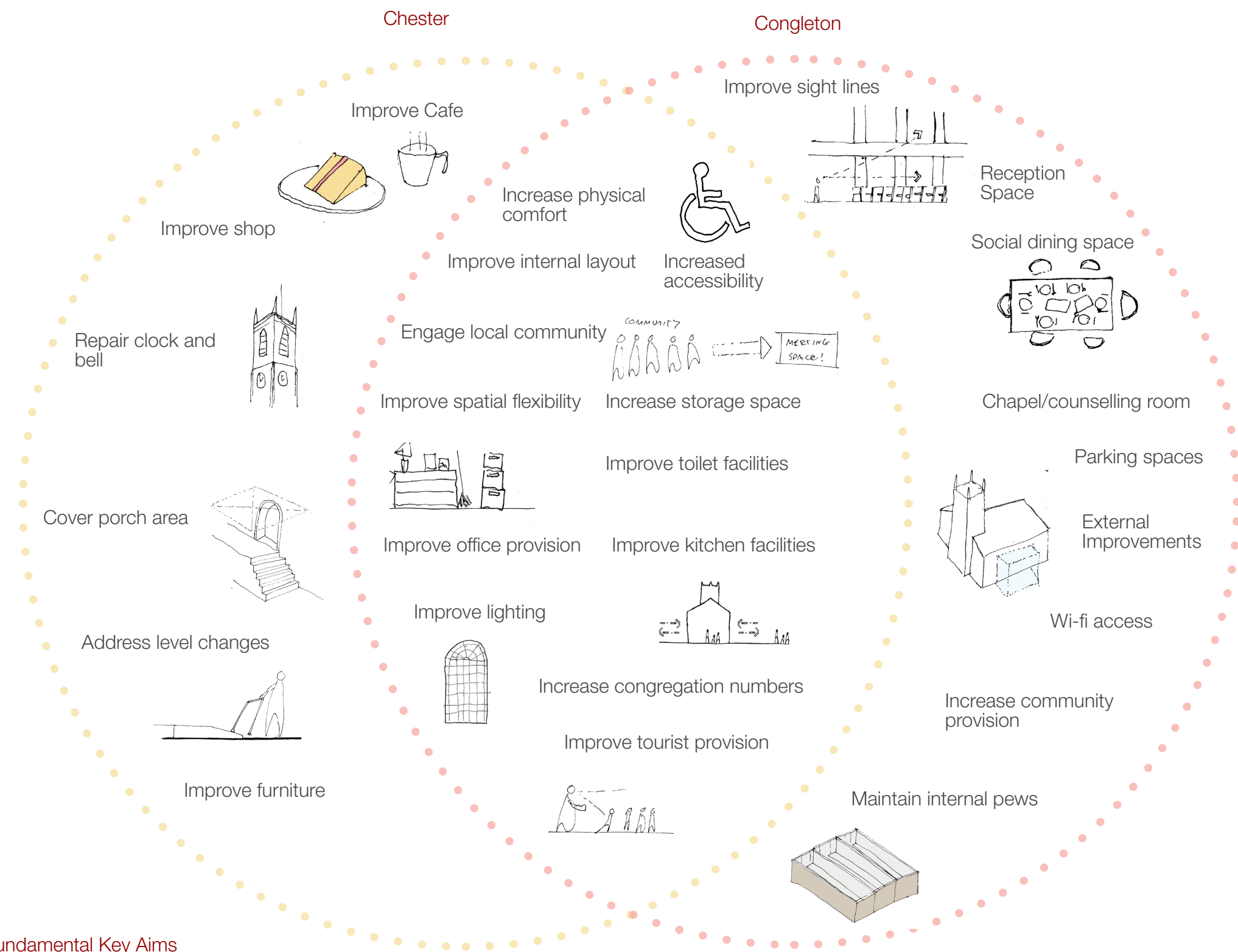
FIRST ACTIONS

UP AND RUNNING

BREAKING THE
WALL



CLIENT'S DESIRES AS DESCRIBED IN THE INITIAL MEETING



Fundamental Key Aims

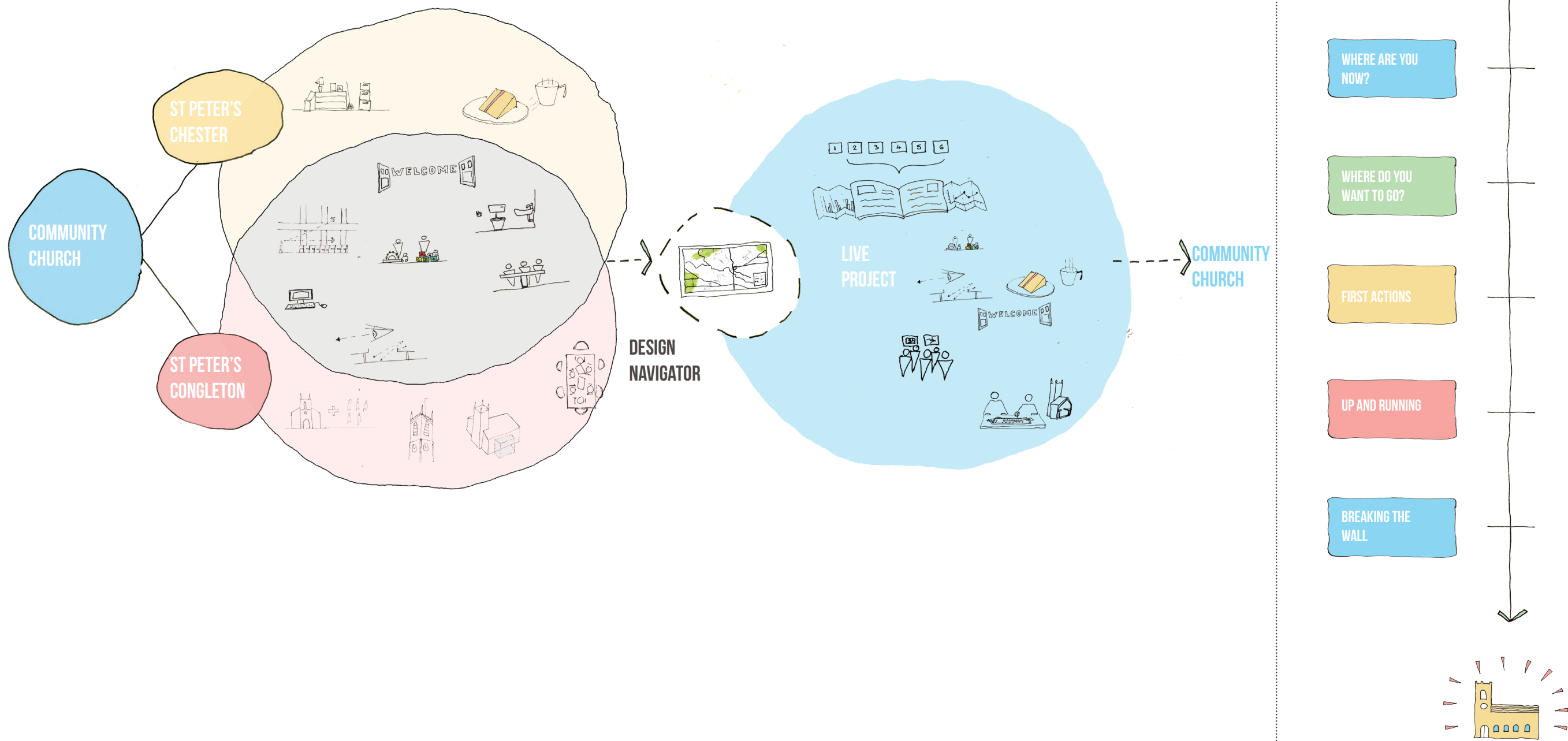
Improve the use of the Churches through design

Manage change in a way that is sympathetic to the heritage

Improve the way in which the buildings can be used by the community

PROJECT BRIEF DEVELOPMENT

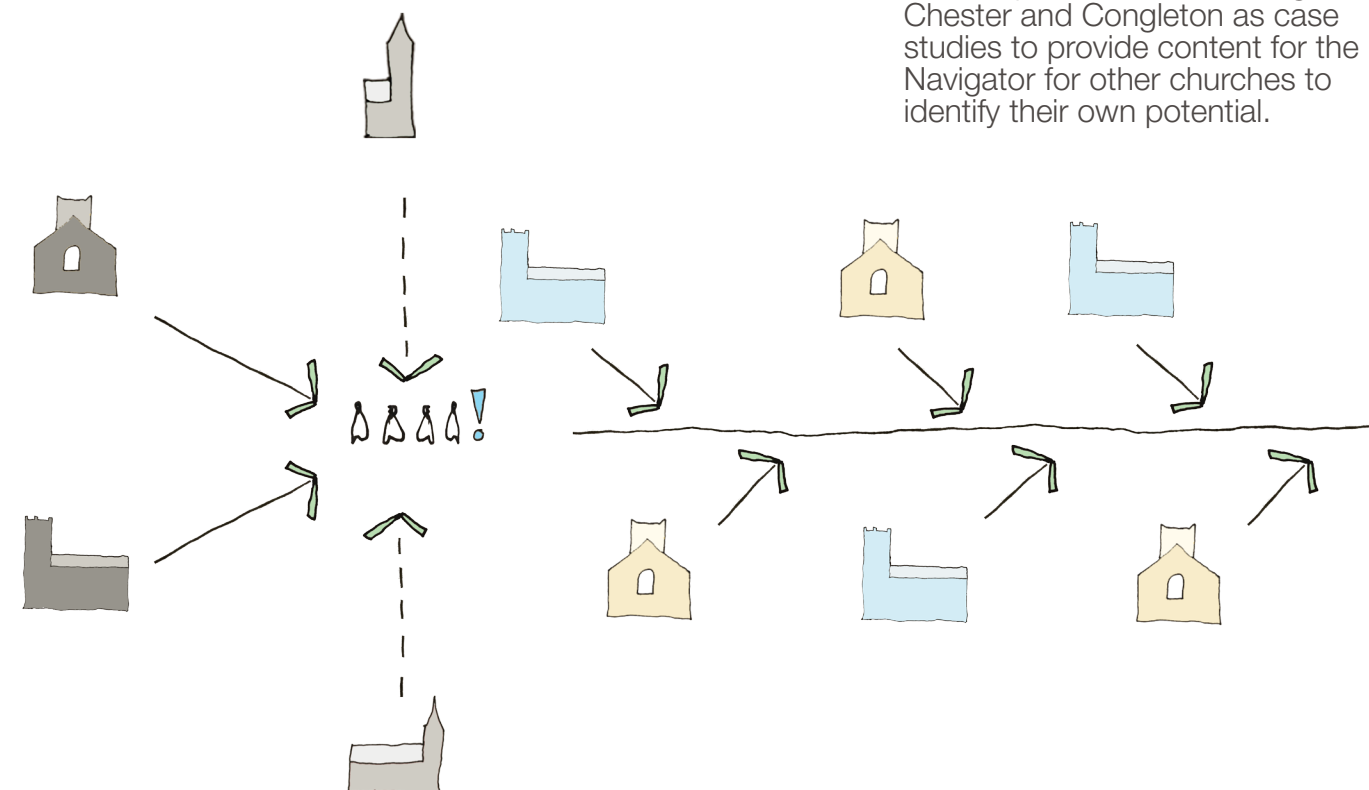
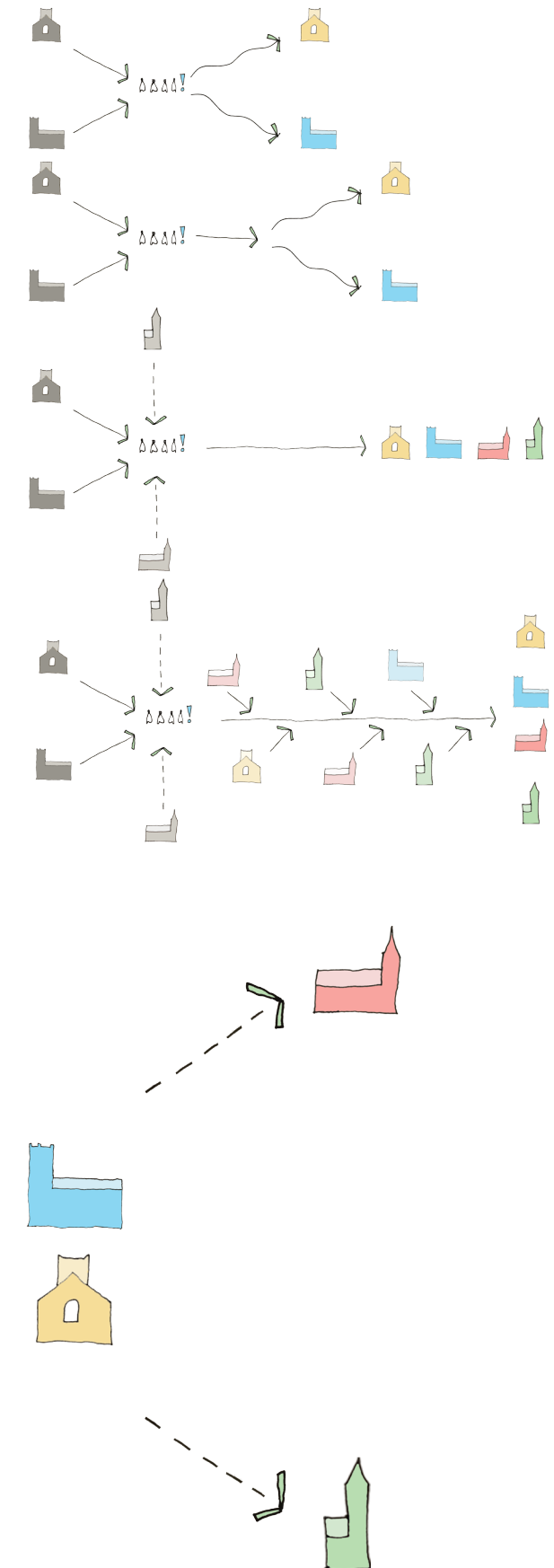
By identifying the common issues of the two churches, and issues that other churches may have, common design tools can then be established. It is these tools that form the Navigator, learnt from the community church, and informing the future of the community church.



DEVELOPMENT OF METHODOLOGY

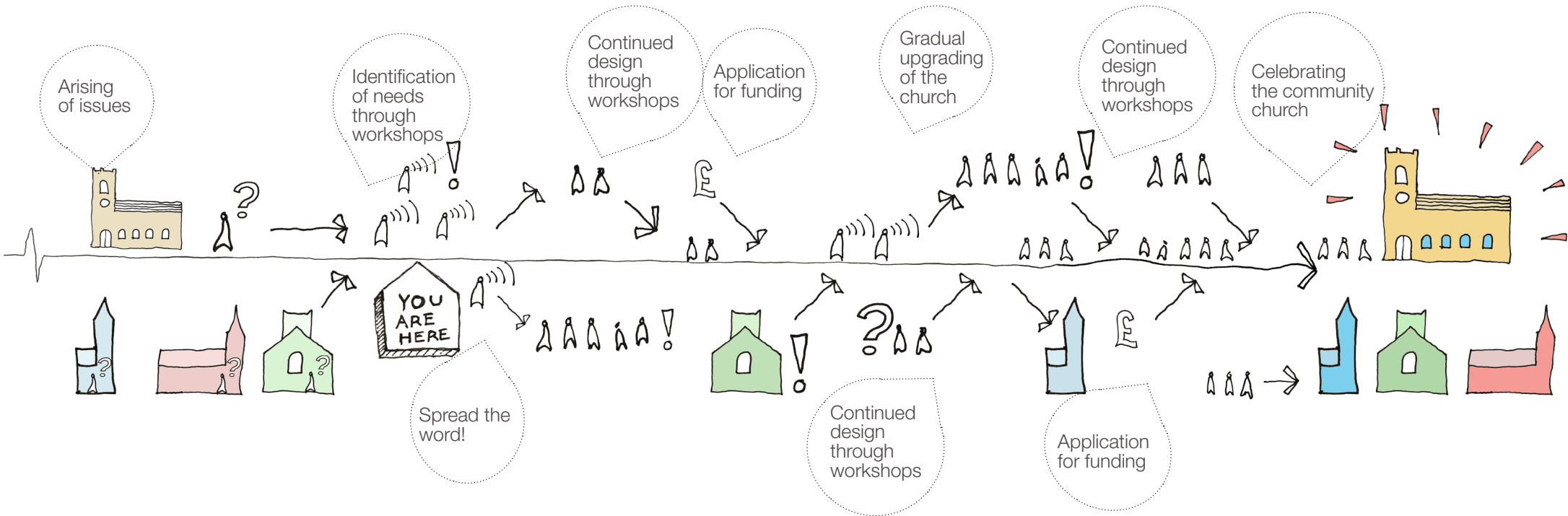
Due to the challenges of having to work with two separate client bodies, we feel it is important to understand how we arrived with the set of outputs produced for this project; we felt it imperative to work as closely as we could with both churches, whilst providing an output which would be beneficial to both. Therefore, a common ground needed to be identified, and in doing so opportunity arose to produce a set of documents which could be further used by churches in similar situations across Cheshire and possibly beyond.

- 1 Two discrete outputs working with different client groups independently
- 2 Combined initial work-flow, splitting to produce discrete output for individual churches.
- 3 Incorporating wider issues but address no specifics of individual churches, only providing overarching framework for later work-flow.
- 4 One outcome which draws upon experiences of various churches at various stages as case studies.
- 5 One output drawn from using Chester and Congleton as case studies to provide content for the Navigator for other churches to identify their own potential.

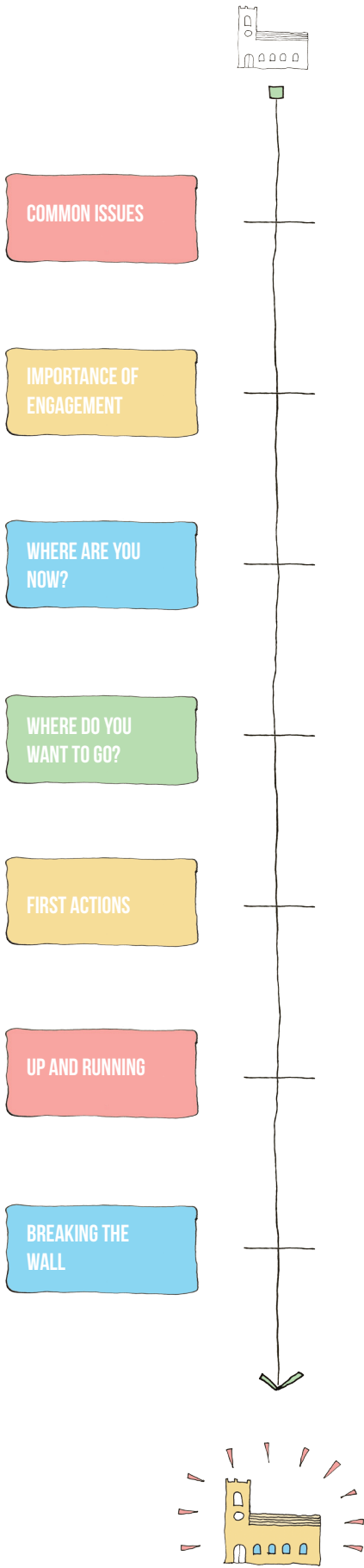
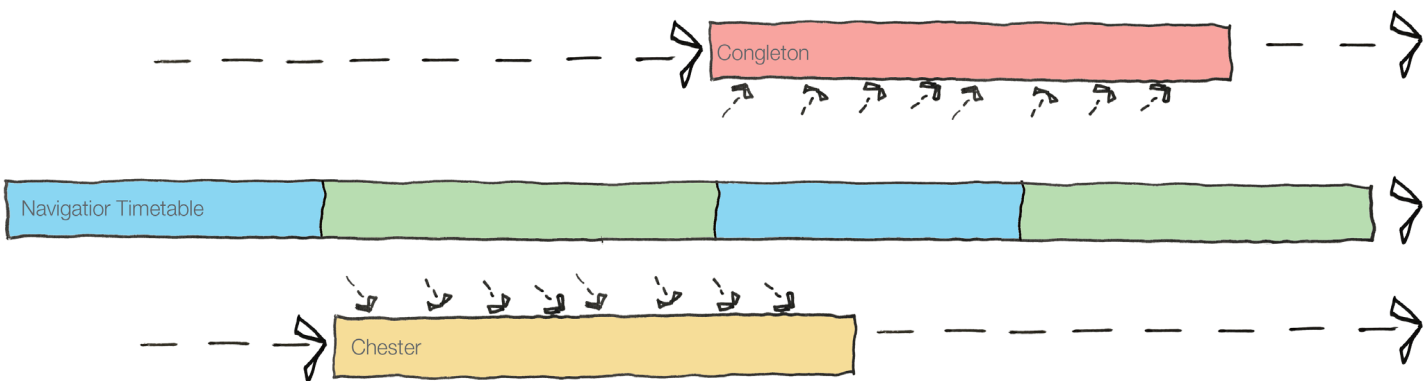


NAVIGATOR OUTLINE

This timeline shows the process of the brief development. Both St Peters, Chester and Congleton, along with other churches, are seen as an essential part of the overall process that creates the Navigator.

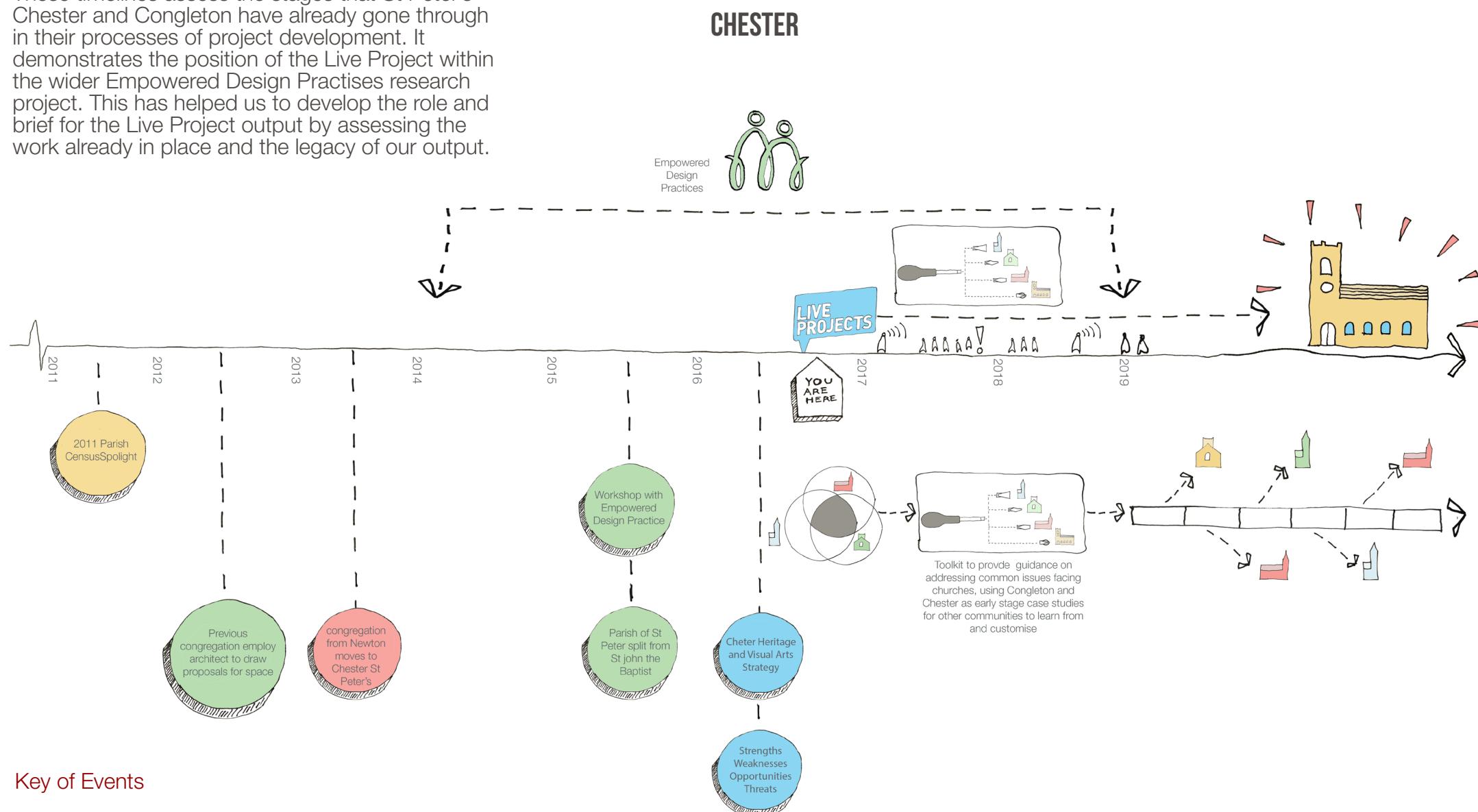


It is important to see how both St Peter's churches are situated in the brief in order to help them reach their goal for successful community church. For this Navigator we will focus on using the two projects as case studies, with output for each focusing at different stages along the timeline, relating to their individual requirements.



ST PETER'S CHESTER + CONGLETON PROCESS TIMELINES

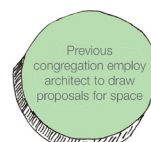
These timelines assess the stages that St Peter's Chester and Congleton have already gone through in their processes of project development. It demonstrates the position of the Live Project within the wider Empowered Design Practises research project. This has helped us to develop the role and brief for the Live Project output by assessing the work already in place and the legacy of our output.



Key of Events



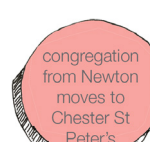
Analysis of Parish Census provides a good starting point for research into potential target groups and demographics of the Parish.



Previous Congregation employed an architect to look at potential space to be renovated. Completed prior to more recent uses and new requirements of space.



Parish splits from St John the Baptist, forming its own parish in the centre of city, reducing catchment of Parish.



A Diocese of Chester desk based research survey of the area and possible areas of community engagement.



Empowered Design Practices led participation event with church stakeholders held to identify potential for change in Church.



Self-analytical analysis of potential opportunities for change. A good document to identify what Church views as important, July 2016.

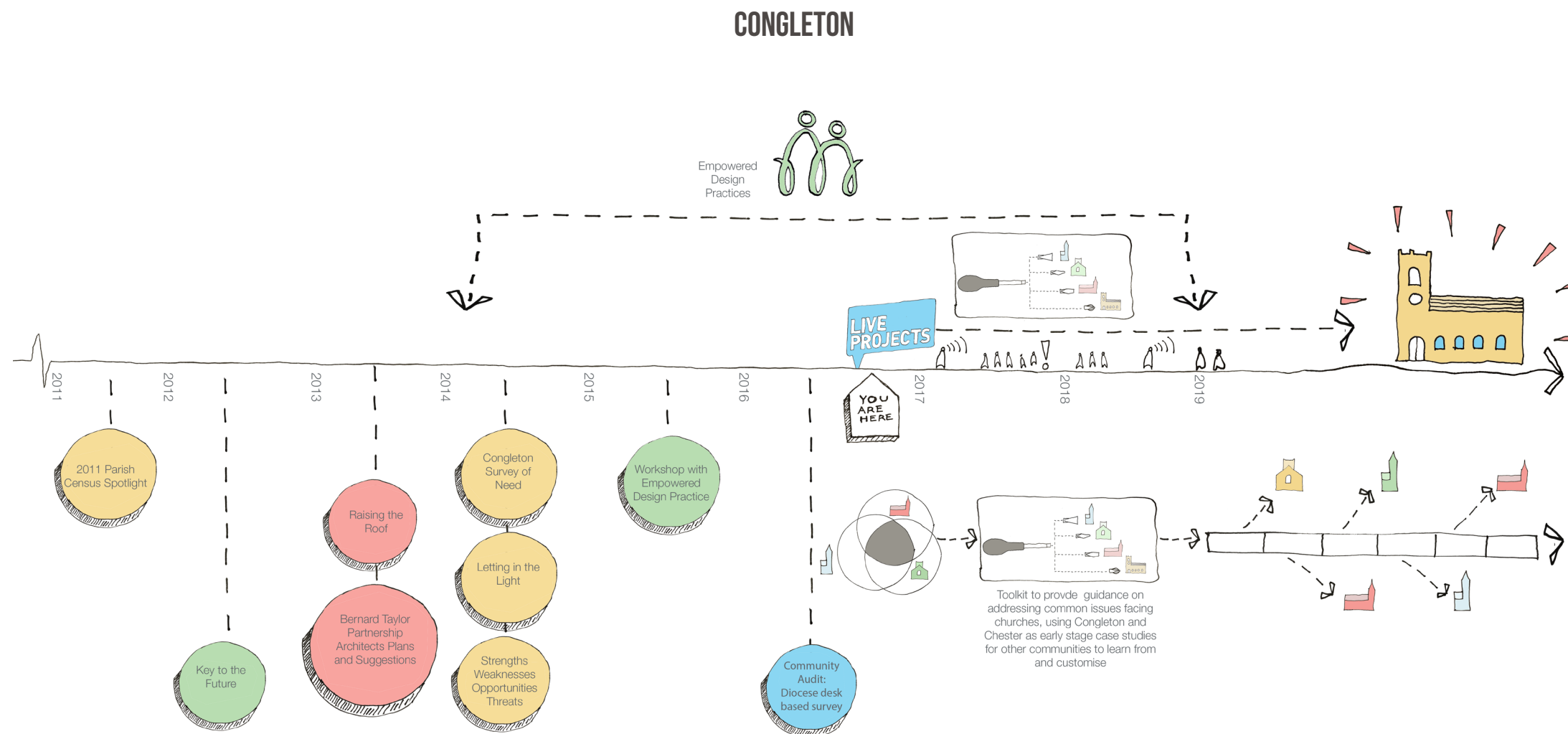


A strategic document prepared by Cheshire West and Chester Council visualizing the future and development of Chester's heritage and arts culture as part of Chester One City Plan 2012-2027.

Empowered Design Practices



Empowered Design Practises: A five year research project working with St Peter's Congleton and St Peter's Chester to enable the congregation to design space use solutions alongside their communities.



Key of Events

Key to the Future
A three stage project aimed at protecting Congleton's heritage and creating a community building fit for purpose.

Raising the Roof
Stage one of the 'Key to the Future', refitting the church roof with £136,000 support from English Heritage.

Bernard Taylor Partnership Architects Plans and Suggestions
Plans drawn to investigate options for extension to south side of Church to increase usability of internal space.

Letting in the Light
Restoration of window frames and glass, increasing energy efficiency of building at a cost of roughly £230,0000.

Strengths Weaknesses Opportunities Threats
Self- analytical analysis of potential opportunities for change. Good document to identify what Church views as important.

Congleton Survey of Need
Community Audit:
A Diocese of Chester desk based research survey of the area and possible areas of community engagement.

Workshop with Empowered Design Practice
Empowered Design Practices led participation event with church stakeholders held to identify potential for change in Church.

2011 Parish Census
Analysis of Parish Census provides good starting point for research into potential target groups and demographics of the Parish.

Diocese desk based survey of area
Community Audit:
A Diocese of Chester desk based research survey of the area and possible areas of community engagement.

Empowered Design Practises:
A five year research project working with St Peter's Congleton and St Peter's Chester to enable the congregation to design space use solutions alongside their communities.

COMMON ISSUES

IMPORTANCE OF ENGAGEMENT

WHERE ARE YOU NOW?

WHERE DO YOU WANT TO GO?

FIRST ACTIONS

UP AND RUNNING

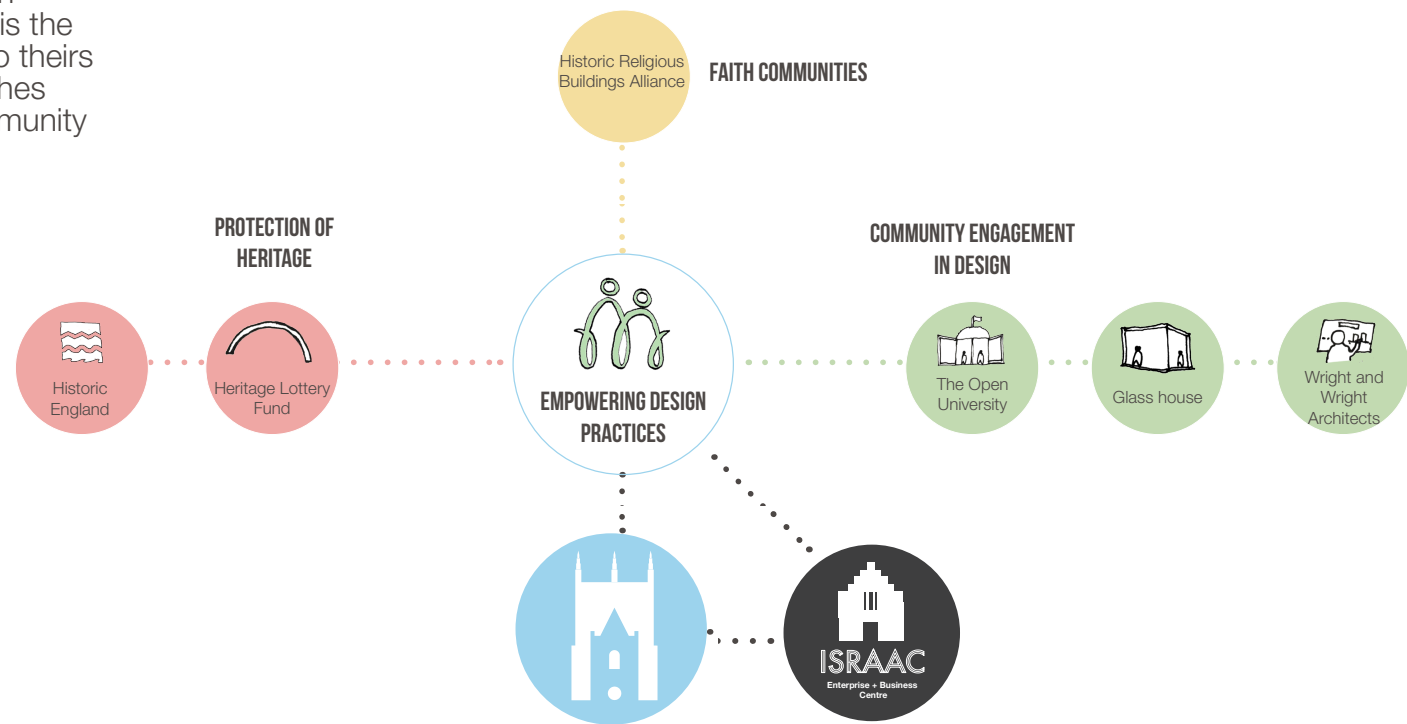
BREAKING THE WALL

RELATIONSHIP WITH EMPOWERING
DESIGN PRACTICES

Empowering Design Practices (EDP) are engaged in a 5 year long research project from October 2014 - October 2019.

“Empowering Design Practices is a research project that aims to explore how community-led design can help empower those who look after historic places of worship to create more open, vibrant and sustainable places that respect and enhance their heritage.”

EDP are engaged with both St Peter’s Churches, and other Live Project groups and have been extremely helpful throughout the process. It is the intention that our research will feed back into theirs to provide a lasting legacy for the two churches with the long-term intention of creating community led design outcomes



Previous EDP collaboration with Congleton and Chester has enabled the churches to develop more nuanced and articulated Statements of Need and Significance, with the communities already having identified key issues to address.

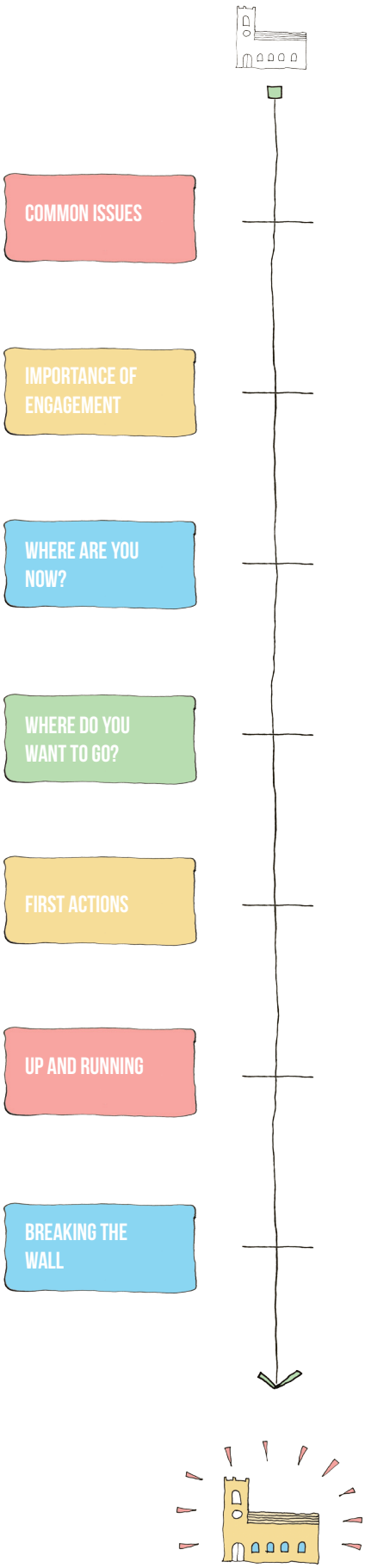
EDP Workshop- St Peter’s Church, Chester



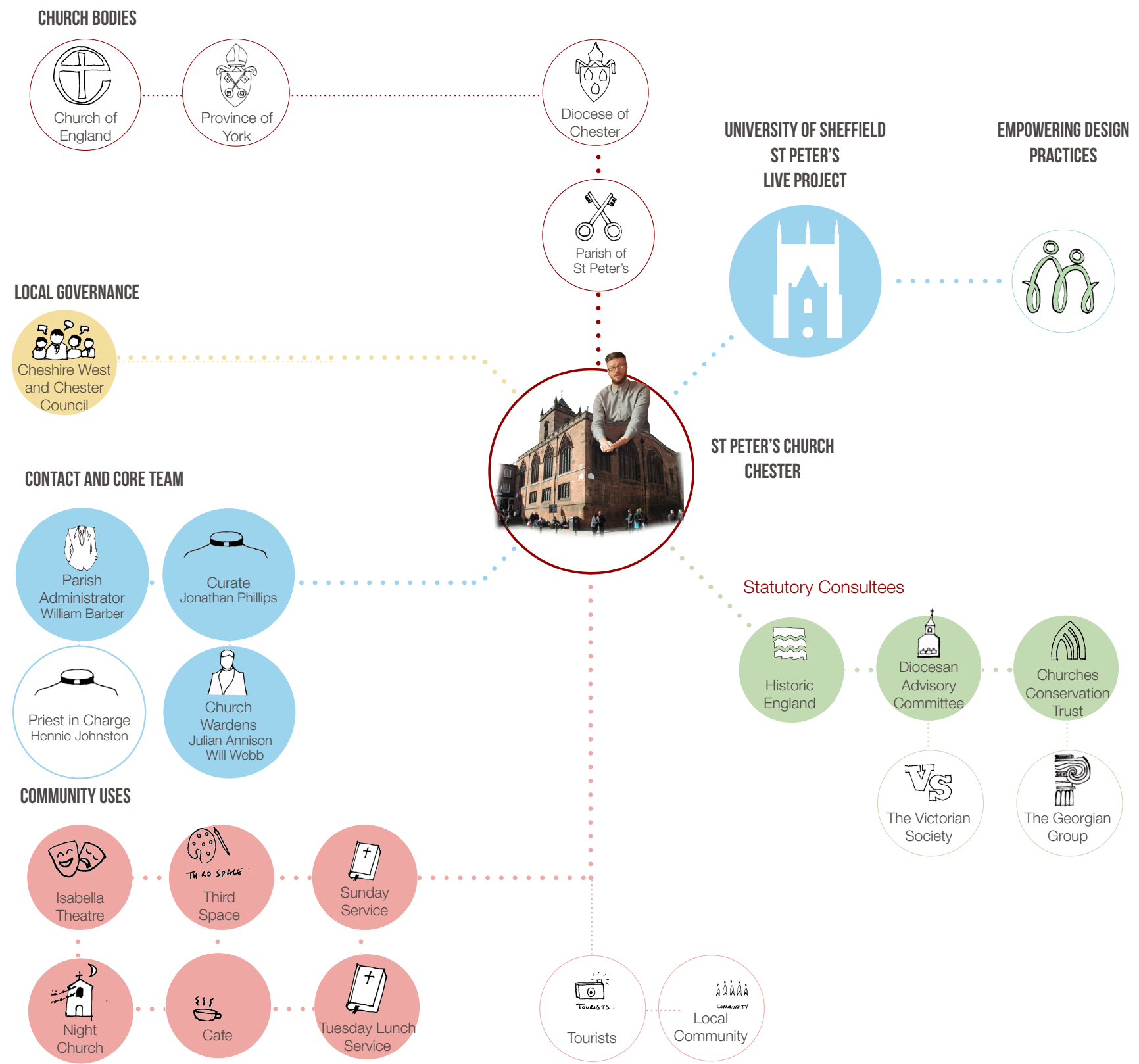
EDP Workshop -St Peter’s Church, Congleton



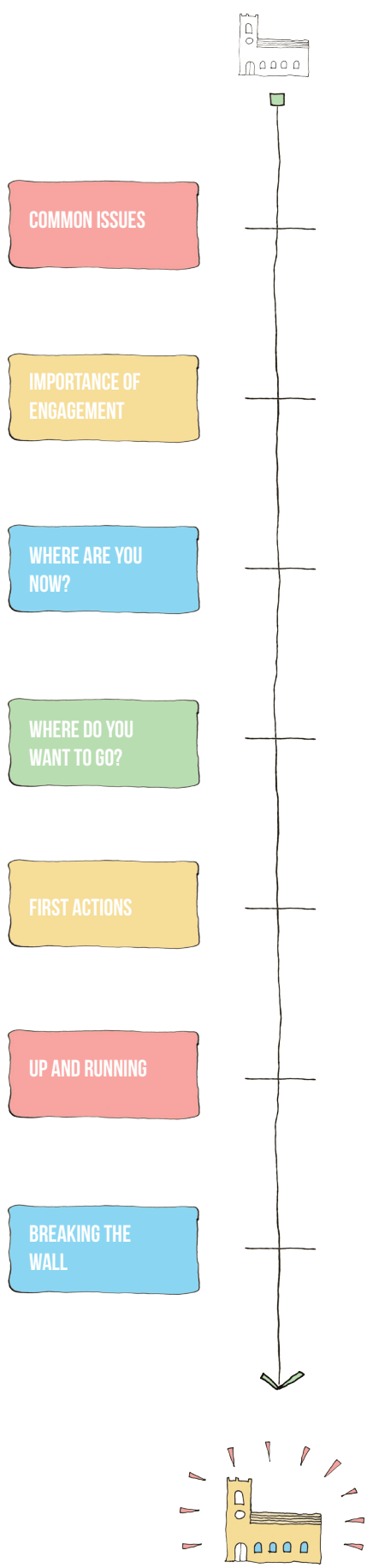
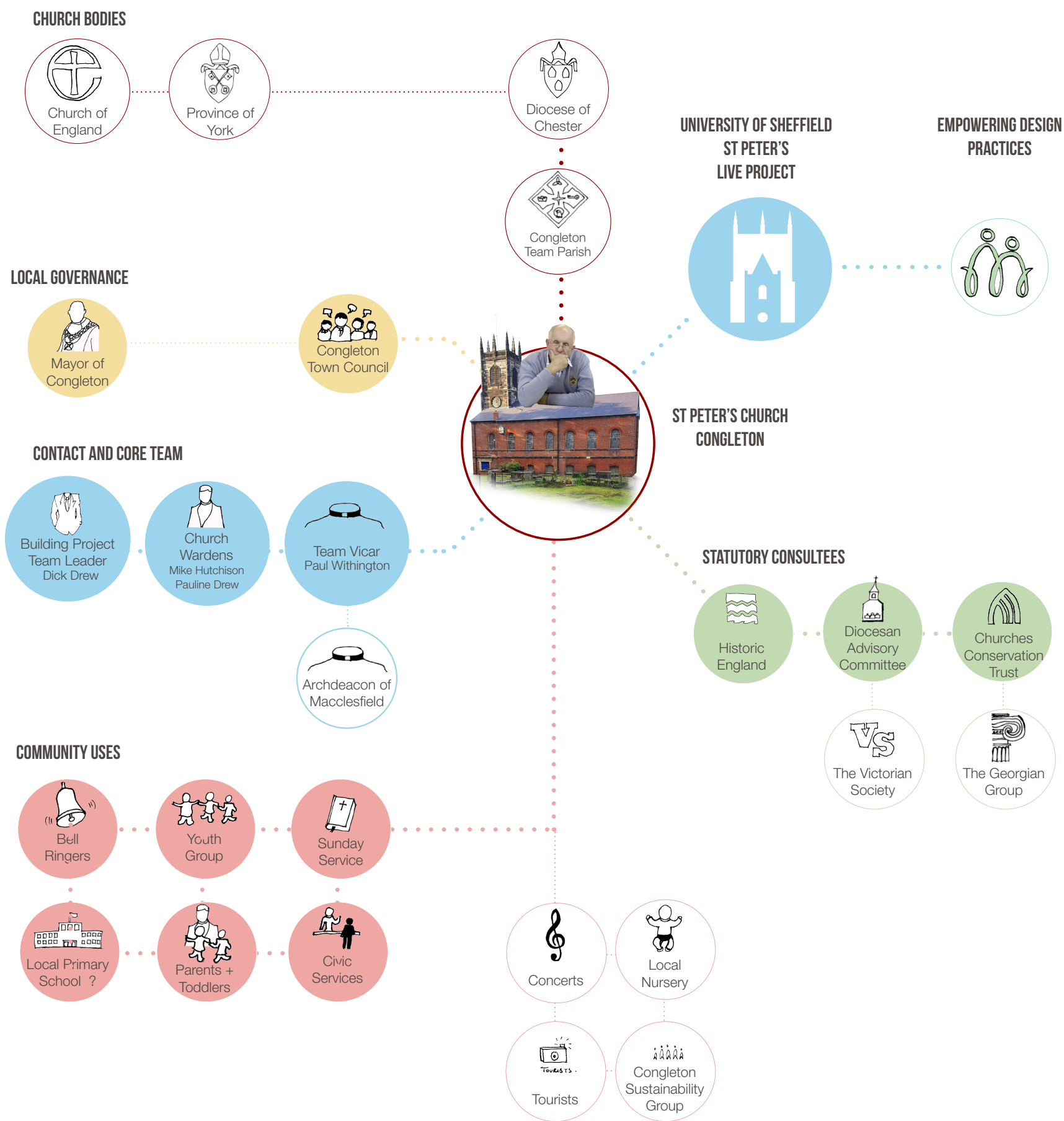
EDP Workshop - Vestry Hall, Sheffield (Live Project 2016)



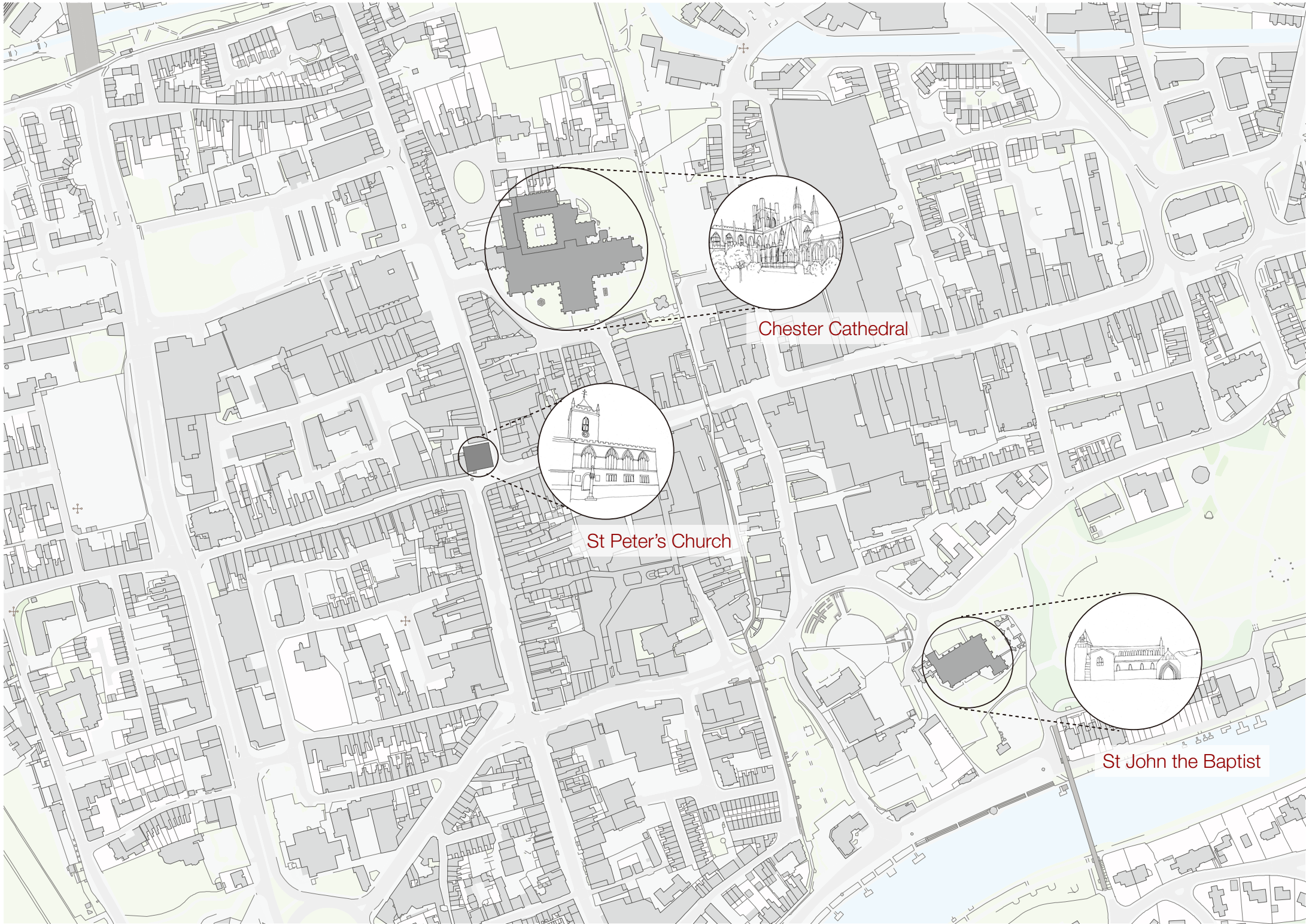
STAKEHOLDER MAP
ST PETER'S CHESTER



STAKEHOLDER MAP
ST PETER'S CONGLETON



ST PETER'S CHURCH,
CHESTER



Chester Cathedral

Chester Cathedral is run by the Church of England, and is the mother church of the Diocese of Chester. It is located in the city of Chester, Cheshire, England. The cathedral (formerly the abbey church of a Benedictine monastery, dedicated to Saint Werburgh) is dedicated to Christ and the Blessed Virgin Mary. Since 1541 it has been the seat of the Bishop of Chester.

- Worship
- Musical centre
 - Choral tradition
 - Weekly organ recitals (Thursday)
 - Song school
- Events in the Advent and Christmas period
- Sunday school (Children and young people)
- Toddler praise (2nd Tuesday) (mother and baby)
- The grand organ experience (tourists)
- Saturday singing club (Primary school aged children)
- Sermons and podcasts (Sunday)
- Monthly scheme of services
- The tower tour and daily tours (tourists)
- Aerial display (Cathedral garden)
- LEGO Build projects
- Cafe
- Gift Shop



St Peter's Church

St Peter's Church is in Eastgate Street in the centre of the city of Chester, Cheshire, England, immediately to the north of Chester Cross. It is recorded in the National Heritage List for England as a designated Grade I listed building. It is an active Anglican parish church in the diocese of Chester, the archdeaconry of Chester and the deanery of Chester. The ancient walls mark the boundaries of the parish.

Activities:

- Sunday church worship includes, songs, scripture, teaching and prayer! A small youth group play in the band and there are toys and a separate room where kids can play.
- Night Church provides a peaceful and informal atmosphere with a café, live music and a warm welcome.
- The 3rd Space Project is building a community in the heart of Chester, operating alongside the well established cafe in St Peter's. We offer a listening ear, an option to receive simple prayer, signposting to other voluntary groups and therapeutic activities to engage inclusively with people from the local community who are unoccupied during daytime hours.

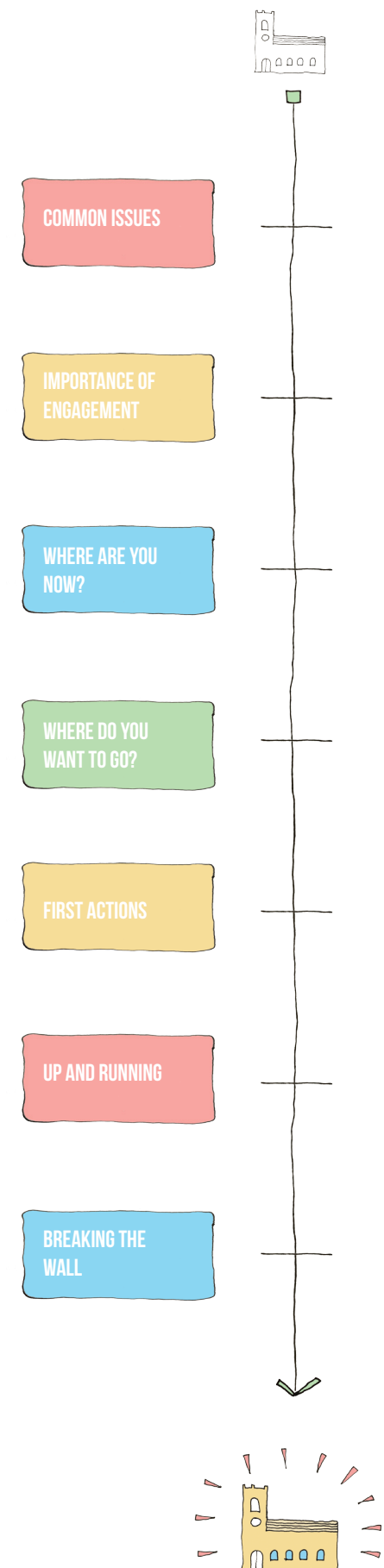


St John's Church

St John the Baptist's Church is in Vicar's Lane, Chester, Cheshire, England. It lies outside the city walls on a cliff above the north bank of the River Dee. The church is recorded in the National Heritage List for England as a designated Grade I listed building. It is an active Anglican parish church in the diocese of Chester, the archdeaconry of Chester and the deanery of Chester. Its benefice is combined with that of St Peter, Chester. Alec Clifton-Taylor includes it in his list of 'best' English parish churches, and it is considered to be the best example of 11th–12th century church architecture in Cheshire.

Activities:

- Mother's union: Christian care for families
- Bible Study: The group meets every Tuesday afternoon in St John's Church Hall at 2pm for an informal, non-threatening look at the Bible.
- St John's Festival Orchestra: A group of friends, about 15 in number, meeting in a private house in Chester for music making decided to give a concert one Sunday after Evensong in support of a roof appeal.
- Wednesday's at One: At 1.00pm every Wednesday from May to September, selected musicians give recitals in St John's ranging from recitals on the Grand Coronation Organ, Piano, Violin, Spanish Guitar and Vocal.







COMMON ISSUES

IMPORTANCE OF
ENGAGEMENT

WHERE ARE YOU
NOW?

WHERE DO YOU
WANT TO GO?

FIRST ACTIONS

UP AND RUNNING

BREAKING THE
WALL



WHAT IS A CHURCH?



Activity

To kick start our first meeting with the client we posed the question “What is a church?”

For the initial client meeting, with both Chester and Congleton (29/09/2016), we opened this up as a discussion, allowing the participants to react to each others comments and build upon them.

When meeting with Chester for a workshop (12/10/2016) we ran the workshop in a different format. We gave each participant a piece of card in the shape of a church window who then wrote down their thoughts. Following this we opened up a discussion and shared our thoughts with each other.

Aim

The aim of this exercise was to learn what the participants thought of the church, and to gain a greater understanding of what the church meant to them.

Outcome

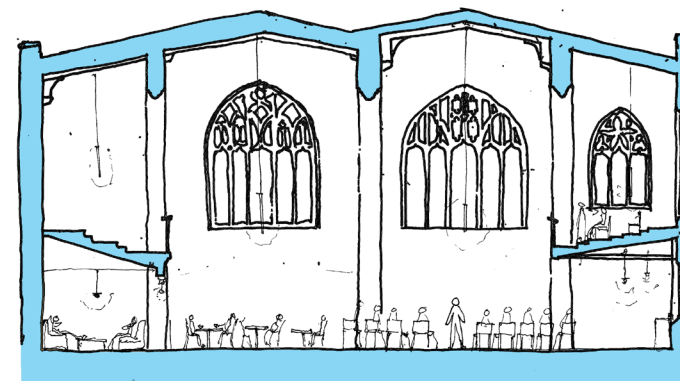
Following the productivity of the question at the first client meeting we repeated the task at the Chester workshop on 12/10/2016 and posed it to more of Chester’s church community.

As we completed the activity for a second time at the Chester workshop (12/10/2016) it became clear that the participants and the Live Project students had two different views on this question. The participants saw the question more about the church community and the church as a wider idea, where as the Live Project team saw the question more about the fabric and building of that specific church.

Following this discovery we then proceeded to split the question in two and created the two questions: “What is a church?” and “What is a church building?”



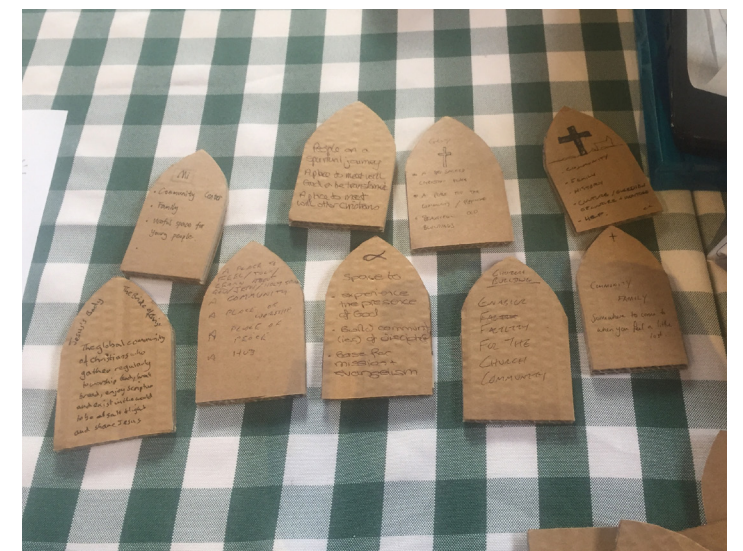
What is a church?



What is a church building?

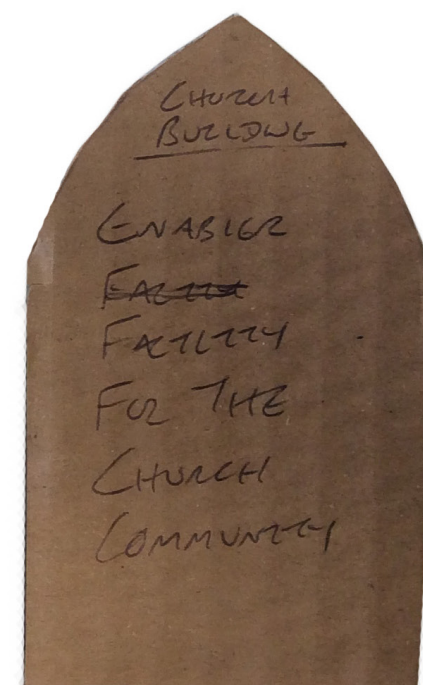
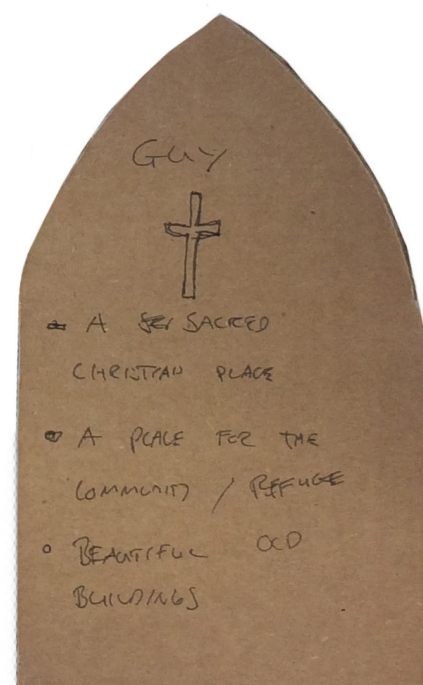
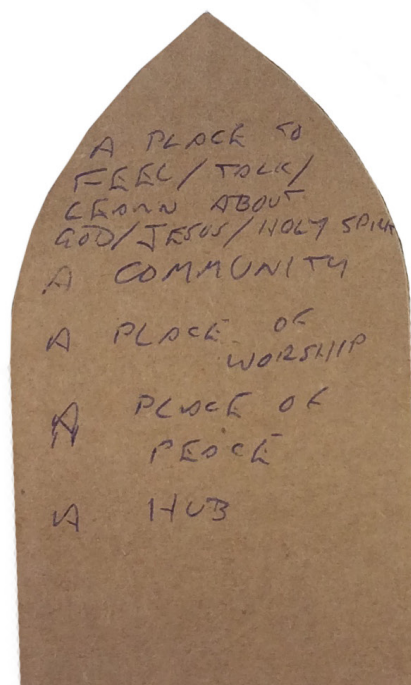
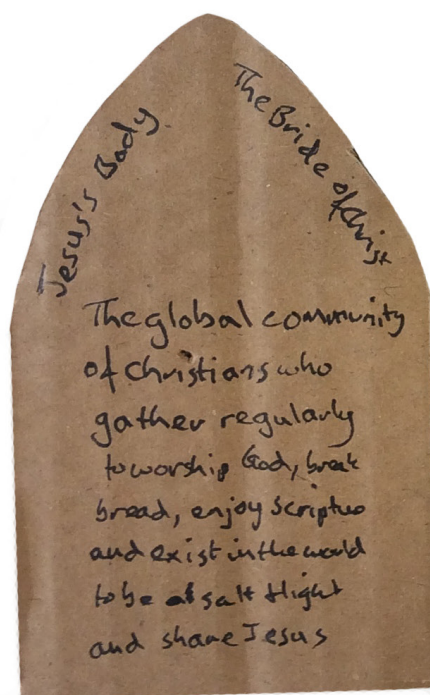
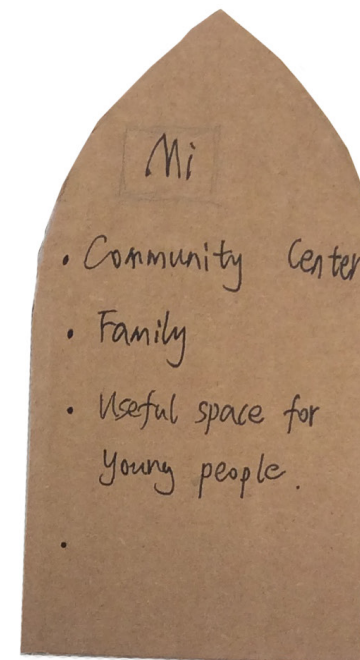
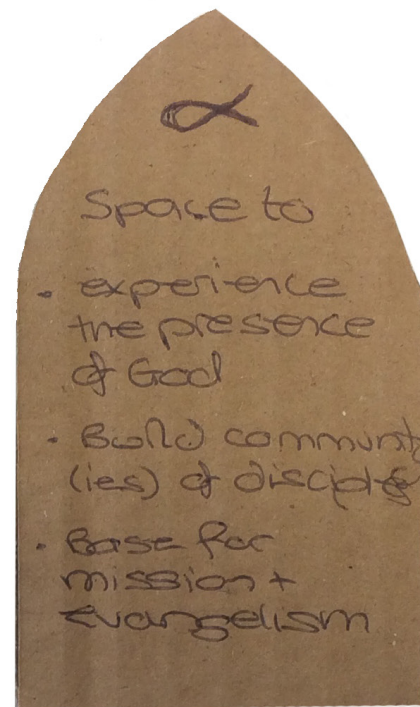
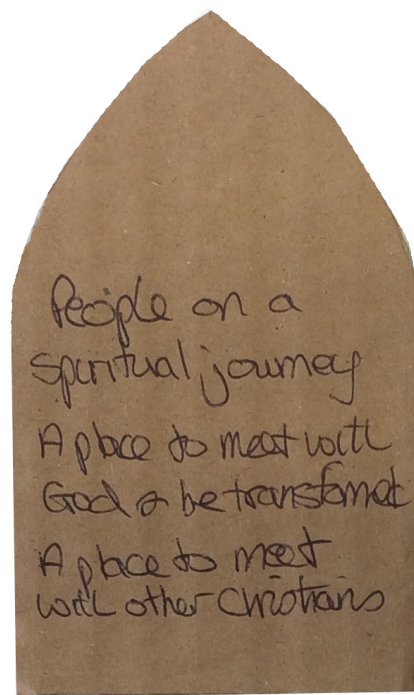
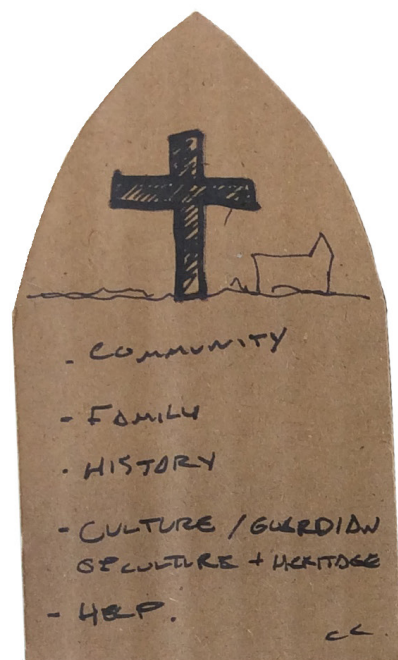


Initial meeting - 29/09/2016

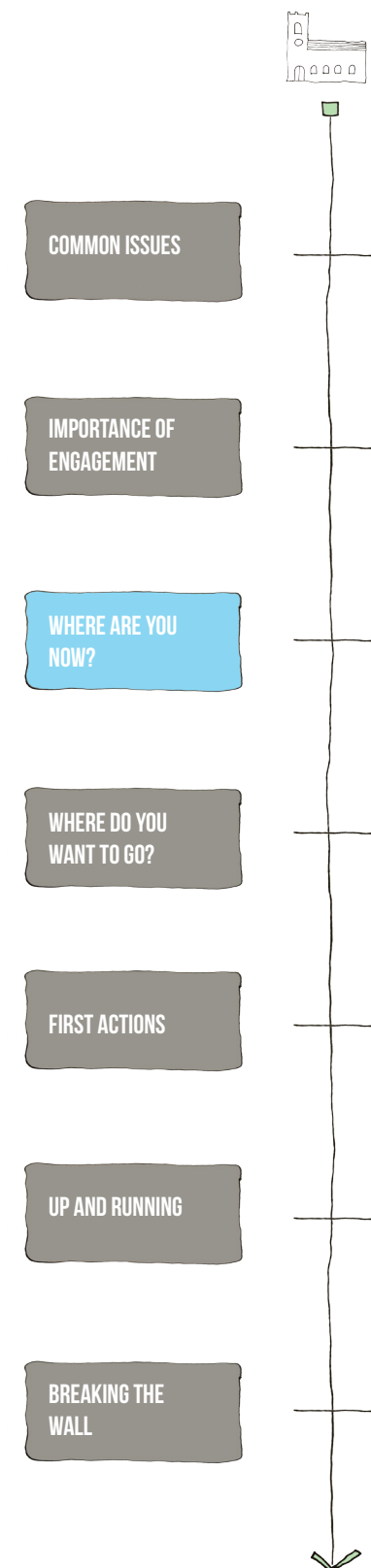


Chester workshop - 12/10/2016





Responses from Chester workshop 12/10/2016



WHAT HAPPENS IN YOUR SPACE NOW?

Main Spatial Concerns as noted by Live Project Team:

Current space usage emphasises cafe use on Ground Floor level.

Access to the rear of the Church is neglected, providing a negative entrance for congregation members and visitors who require ramped or level access.

WC provision is low, with only one designated WC at Ground Floor Level.

Entry sequence is confused, with multiple display boards and welcome desk making the western section of Nave underused.

Meeting rooms at Gallery Level blocking light from north windows and diminish quality of main space.

Vestry space cluttered and underused- access difficult and space currently underutilised.

General clutter diminishes appreciation of existing space and negatively impacts visual clarity of Nave Space.

Rearrangement of furniture takes too long and makes transition between uses lengthy and compromises usable time.

Use of upper levels for storage frees space downstairs, however manner of storage is ad hoc and leaves spaces unfit for purpose, either as seating or formal storage.

Existing solid wood panels block light from upper windows. Meeting room partitions feel visually heavy and detrimental to the space.



Entry sequence into church is currently confused and cluttered - too many competing boards, fonts, tables, and desks.



Location of office cuts off quality light to the church.



Inconsistency in lighting detracts from the grandeur of the space.



Disabled access and fire escape has the feel of a back door - could be a more celebrated entrance.



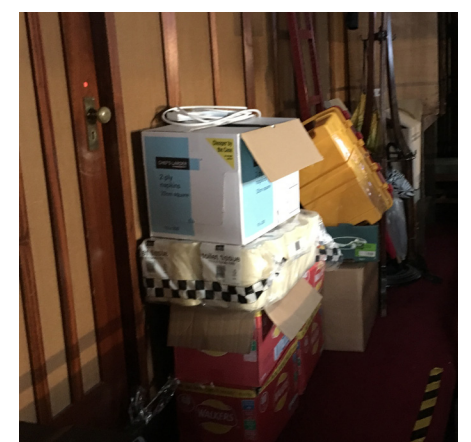
Pews are overly cluttered - better storage facilities and clear up required.



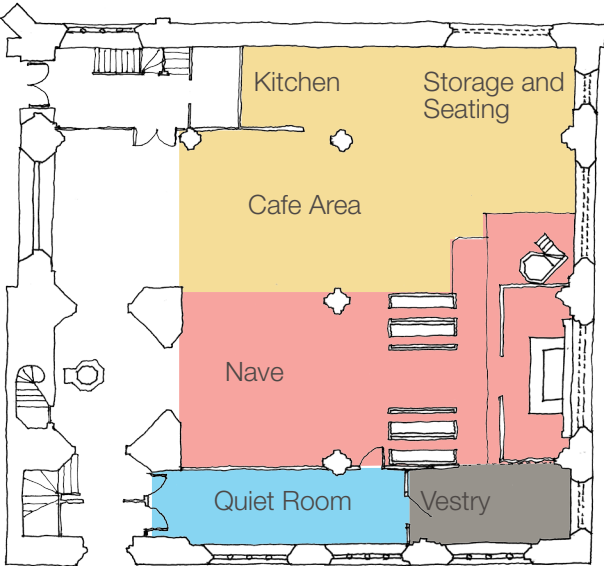
Front entrance could be more celebrated - signage could be improved and brought down to eye level.



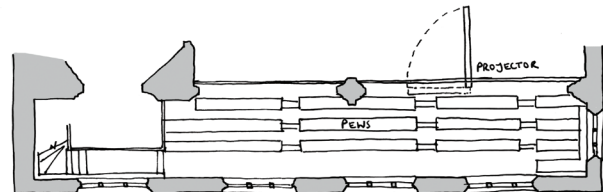
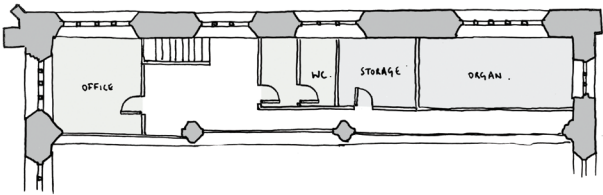
North gallery space is cluttered and in need of clear out.



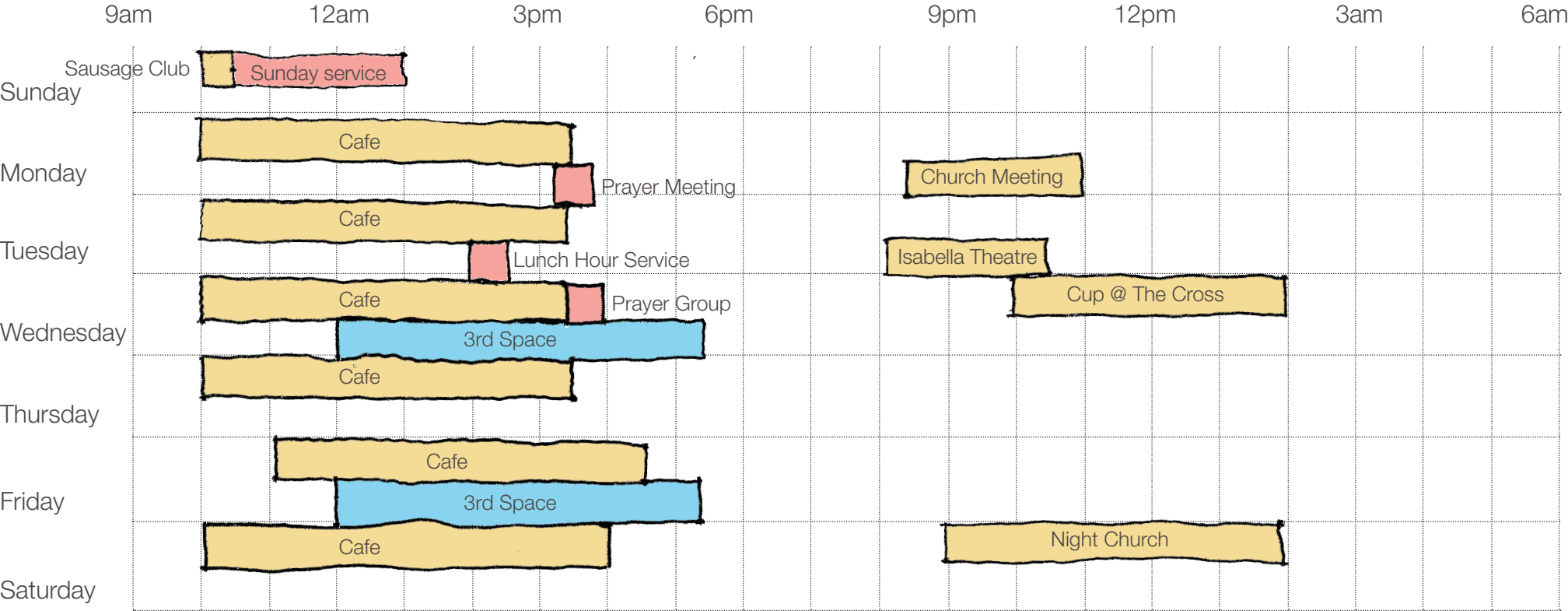
ST PETER'S CHESTER SPACE TIME USE



Ground Floor Plan



First Floor Plan



COMMON ISSUES

IMPORTANCE OF ENGAGEMENT

WHERE ARE YOU NOW?

WHERE DO YOU WANT TO GO?

FIRST ACTIONS

UP AND RUNNING

BREAKING THE WALL



KEY COMMENTS

Whilst completing various workshops, key comments were collected. By collecting key comments from the groups, these can then be referred back and play an important role in the design process.



We set up prayer stations at the cafe tables.

A place where everyone can eat together is important.

The kitchen's not big enough to swing a dog in!

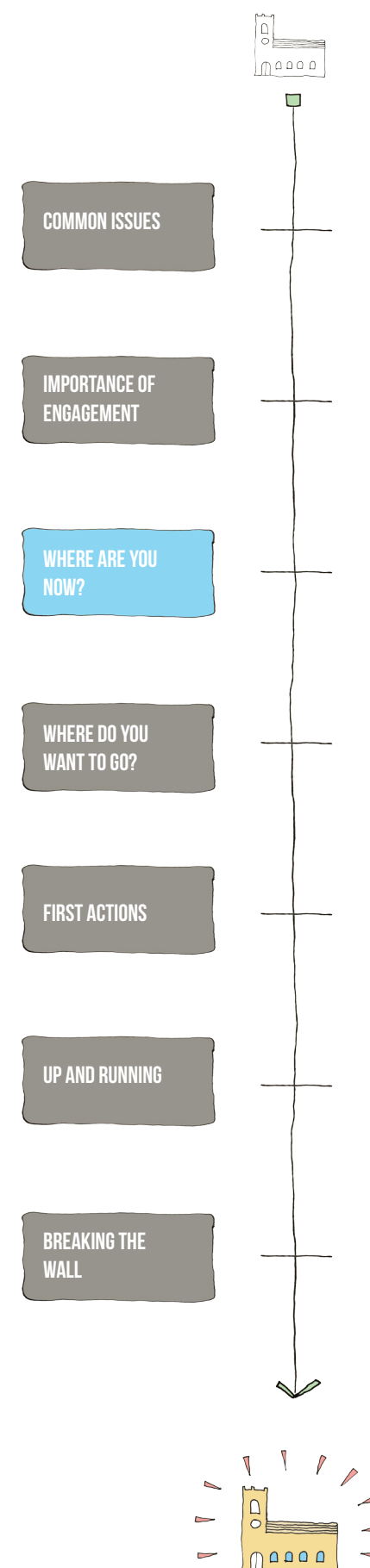
It would be great to have a central bay.

Prayers are initiated throughout the day.

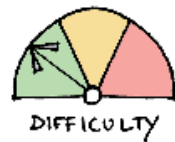
Up lighting is used on the columns.

Live bands produce a lot of noise in the courtyard.





GETTING INTERACTIVE: SKETCHING



Activity

We prepared for this workshop by creating a series of plans, sections and axonometric drawings to sketch over the the team. We did this by tracing over existing plans and removing some of detail to create a series of simple plans. For the axonometric drawings we created a 3D model of the church, and sketched over views that were taken from this.

Using blank floor plan as a template, we completed two different workshops. Firstly we discussed the current uses of the space, and drew how the various groups used the spaces in different ways. Secondly, we used the plan to discuss ways in which the space could be used, and where activities and rooms could be relocated to.

Aim

By completing this workshop we located key areas of the church, what spaces work well and what spaces are under used. We identified what groups use the space in a similar way, or how differently the space is used, and how much setting up the space requires before each event.

By printing plans and sections of the space it allowed us to begin the design process. The idea being that you don't have to produce beautiful drawings, but quick and rough sketches to get ideas out of your head. By creating quick sketches you don't become too attached to an idea and create lots of different ideas before focusing in on a specific idea too early in the design process.

Outcome

Following the completion of this workshop we noticed there were a lot of blank and white spaces left on the floor plans, showing that a lot of the church is under used. There were a lot of common issues that arose from all the different user groups.

It also became clear that there were two very different directions. St Peter's Chester had wonderful ideas and visions for the future, but were also in need of some imminent and quick fixes.

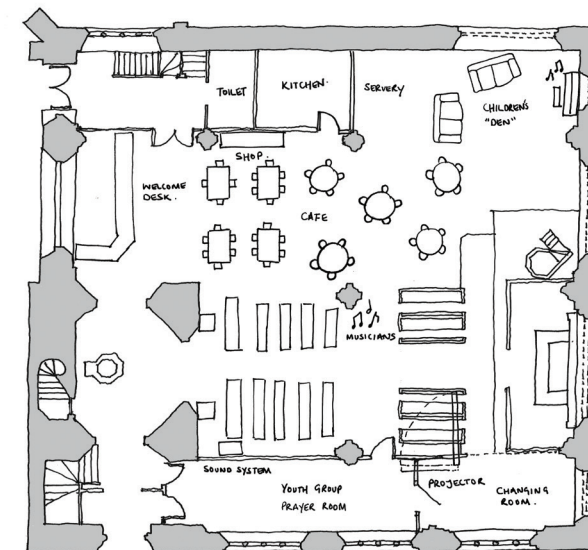
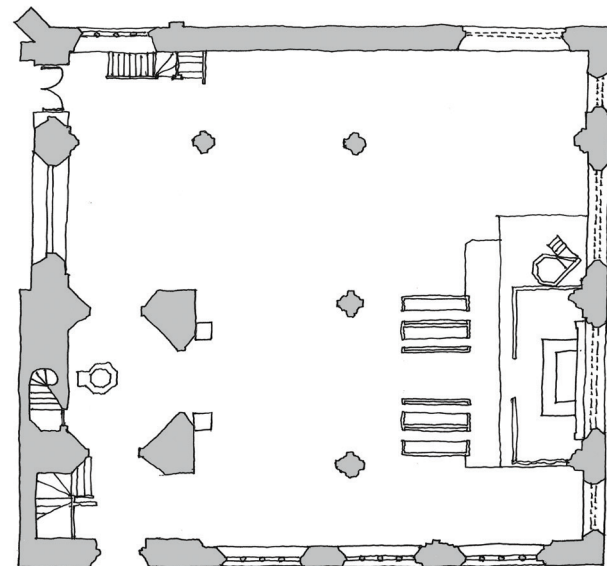
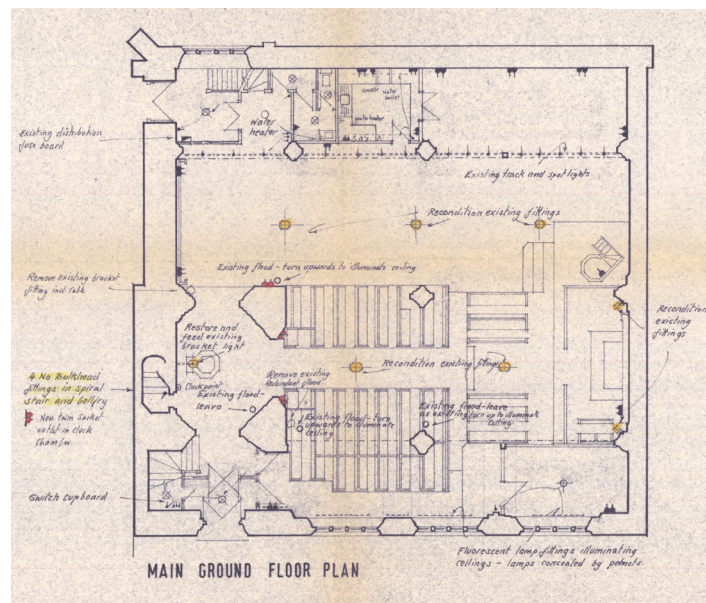


Chester sketching workshop - 12/10/2016

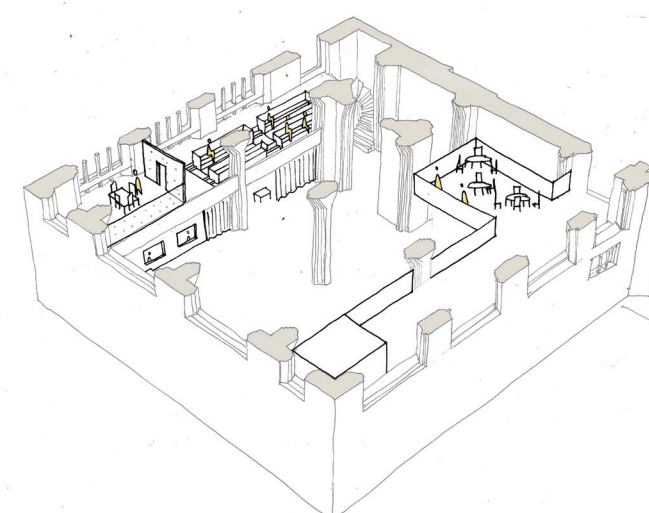
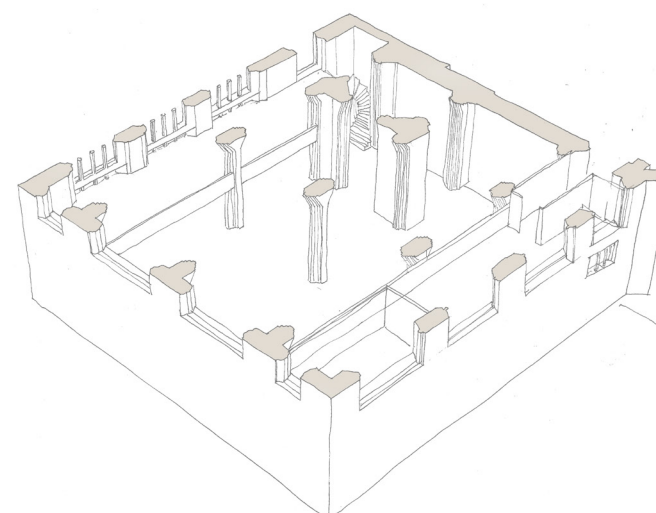
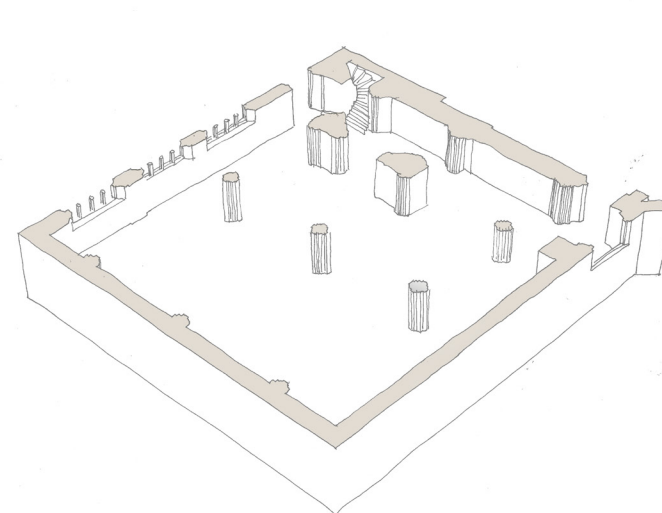


Chester sketching workshop - 12/10/2016





Developing plan sketches



Developing ideas through axonometric sketches

COMMON ISSUES

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BREAKING THE WALL

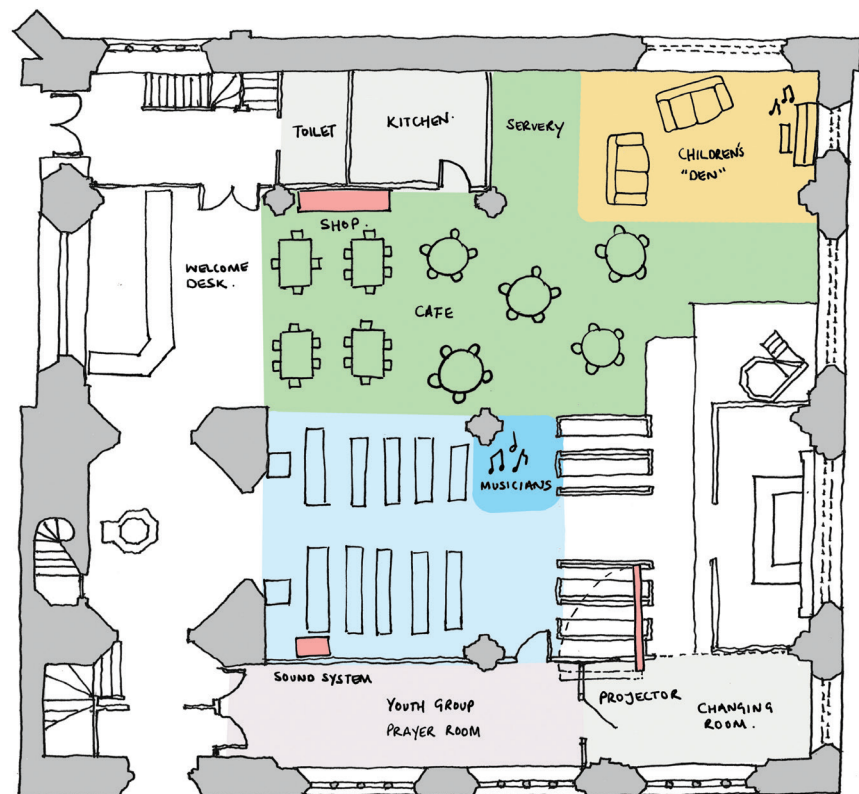


WHO IN YOUR CHURCH USES YOUR SPACES AND HOW?

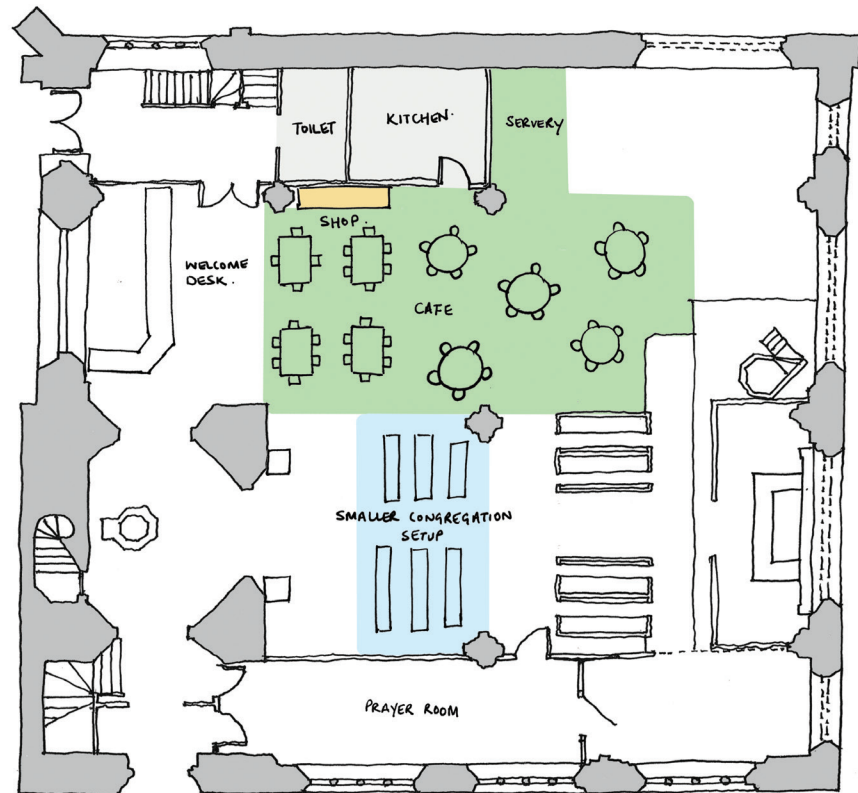
Every-day Arrangement



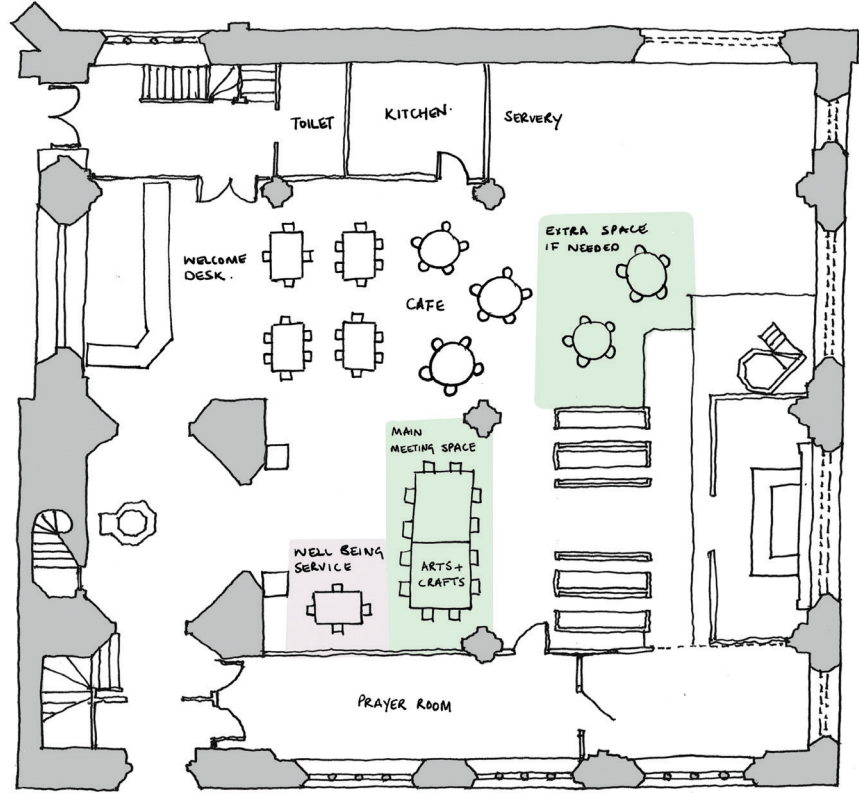
Sunday Service Arrangement



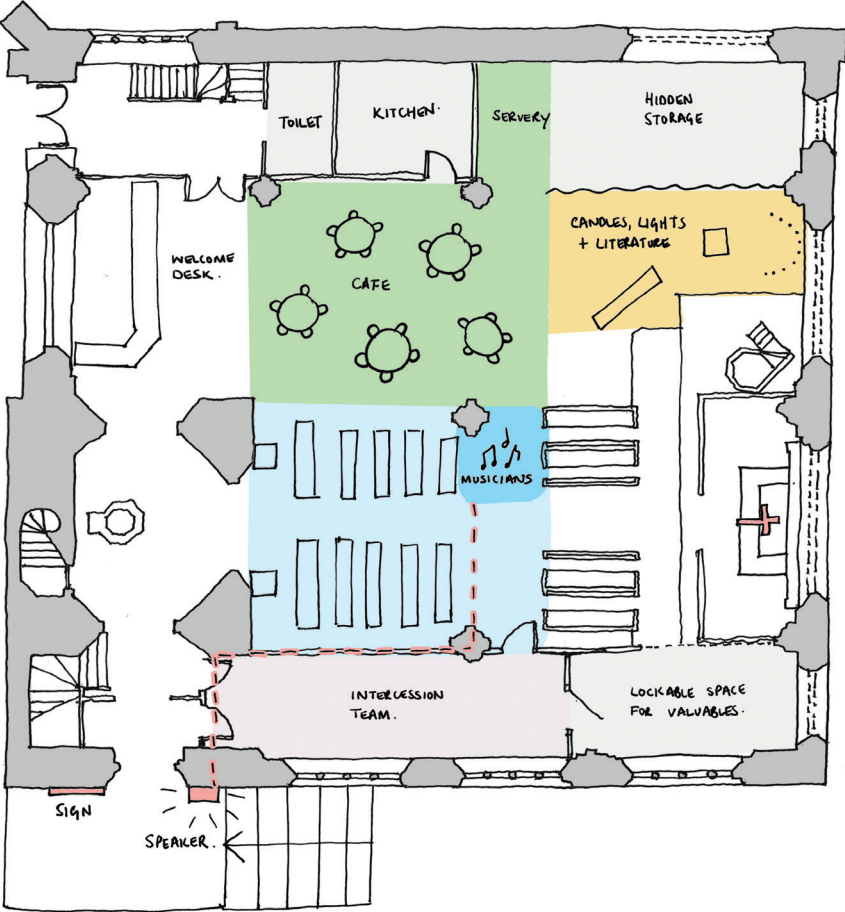
Tuesday Lunch Service Arrangement
Every-day Layout



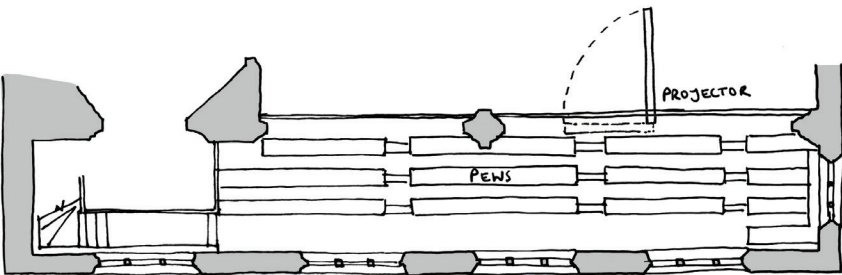
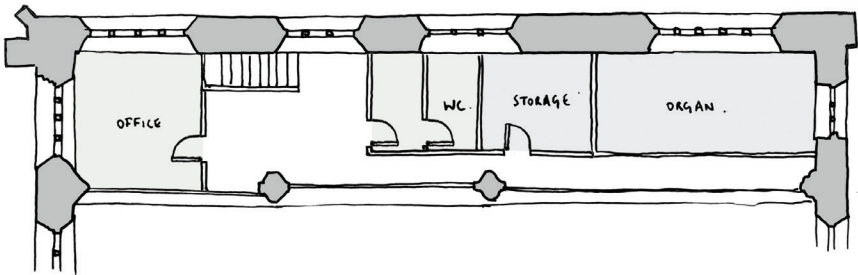
Third Space Arrangement



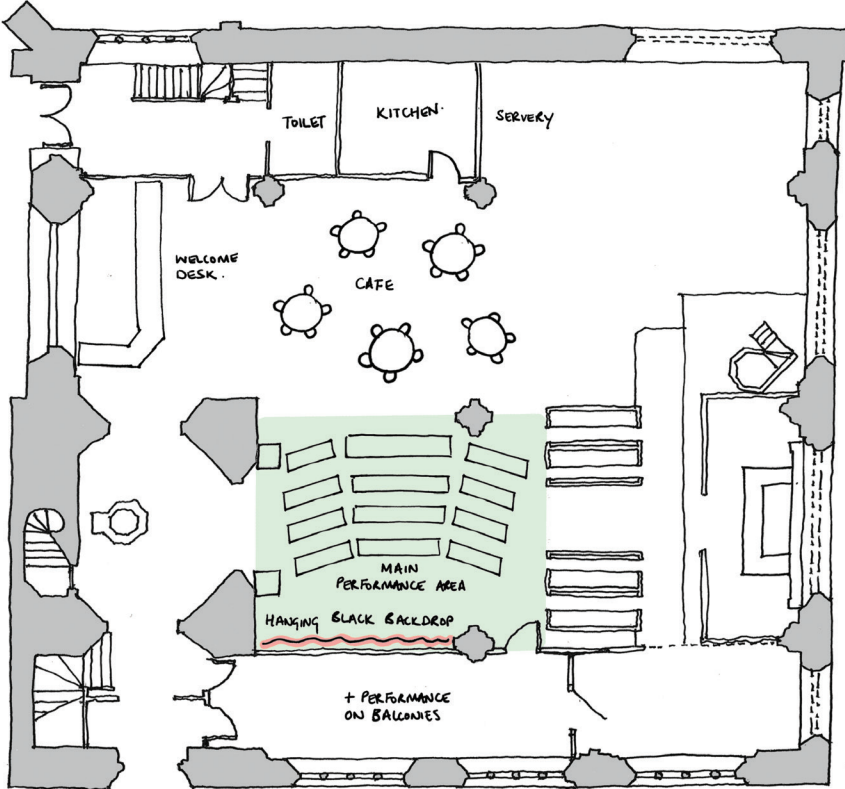
Night Church Arrangement



Gallery Arrangement



Isabella Theatre Arrangement



COMMON ISSUES

IMPORTANCE OF
ENGAGEMENT

WHERE ARE YOU
NOW?

WHERE DO YOU
WANT TO GO?

FIRST ACTIONS

UP AND RUNNING

BREAKING THE
WALL



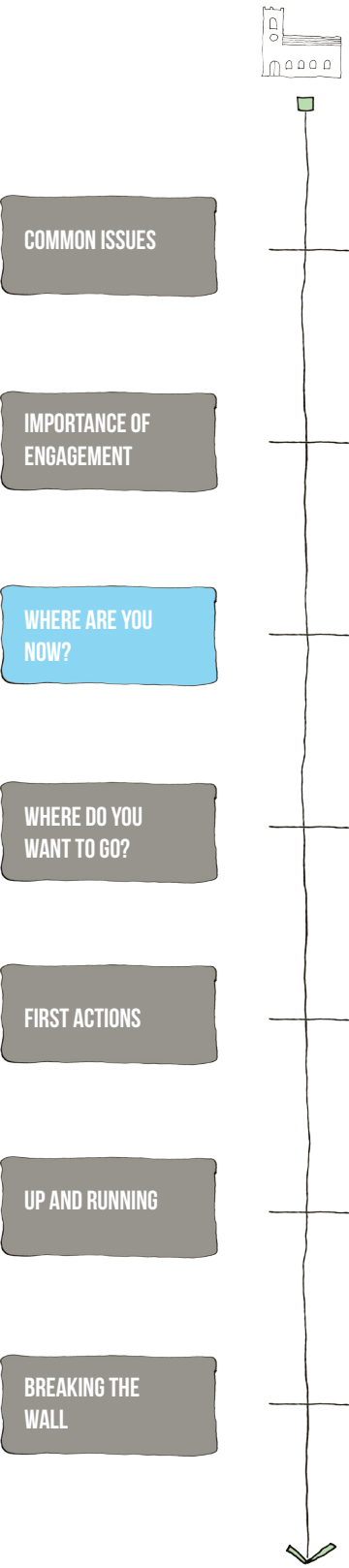
WHO IS IN YOUR COMMUNITY?
WHAT SKILLS DOES YOUR CORE TEAM HAVE?



<p>Paste your photo here</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p>	<p>Paste your photo here</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p>	<p>Paste your photo here</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p>
<p>Paste your photo here</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p>	<p>Paste your photo here</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p>	<p>Paste your photo here</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p>

Each committee member should identify their skills or suggest a person with a set of skills that they think would be useful in the decision making process.

CREATE A CLIENT CO-ORDINATOR COMMITTEE



WHAT ARE YOUR CHURCHES STRENGTHS?



Church of St Peter, Chester

"This building is listed under the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 as amended for its special architectural or historic interest" - Historic England

Grade: I

Date listed: 28 July 1955

English Heritage Building ID: 470241

Location: The Cross, Chester, City of Chester and West Cheshire CH1 1SE

Latitude/Longitude: 53.1905, -2.8916



Red sandstone dating back to C14



The marble font is dated 1662



Pews probably mid to late C19



The inner south aisle has shallow king-post trusses. The roof to the outer south aisle is replaced

Embraced west tower, formerly with spire. The tower rises one stage above roof, with clock, bell opening of 2 cusped lights, crenellation, crocketed pinnacles and a pyramid roof of slate in the manner of John Douglas, late C19, with its faces interrupted by a continuous, horizontal louvre.

There is a ring of six bells. Five of these which are dated 1709 are by Rudhall of Gloucester and the other, dated 1921, is by John Taylor and Company.

East window glass dating back to 1862 and 1963, one to Prince Albert Heaton by Butler and Bayne.

3 rectangular windows 1886-9, of 4 lights with 3 Decorated windows above, rebuilt in Perpendicular style 1886-9.

The north windows of the Perpendicular north aisle have panel tracery.

The outer north aisle has a lean-to roof of low pitch with arch-braced main beams which have carved foliar bosses, and carved spandrels of 3 trusses.

The north aisle, now containing the organ, has an inserted rectangular window of 2 lights.

The inner north aisle has a restored camber-beam roof.

The east end has 2 low-pitched gables, plainly expressed.

The 2 central aisles of the nave have traceried windows larger than that of the south aisle, formerly the chapel of St George.

Galleries were first recorded in 1637, but were altered C18 and C19; they cover the outer north and south aisles and part of the west end.

The north aisle contained beneath floor level the undercroft of a medieval town house, filled and paved over.

The northern arcade Perpendicular is dated 1535-38.

The tower piers, rectangular in plan, support a ribbed vault of 8 panels over the baptistery, with a circular bell-hole.

Approximately square in plan, continuous nave and chancel of 4 aisles with floor at level of Watergate Row. The 3-bay arcades do not match the window bays.

Replaced diagonal-boarded double doors in restored archway.

Flight of 7 stone steps.

The 2 southern arcades with through mouldings are decorated.



TIMELINE OF EXISTING OBJECTS

Timeline showing respective age of parts of the church which could create a hierarchy in terms of importance or highlight areas of opportunity.

- Victorian elements
- Edwardian elements
- 1960s elements



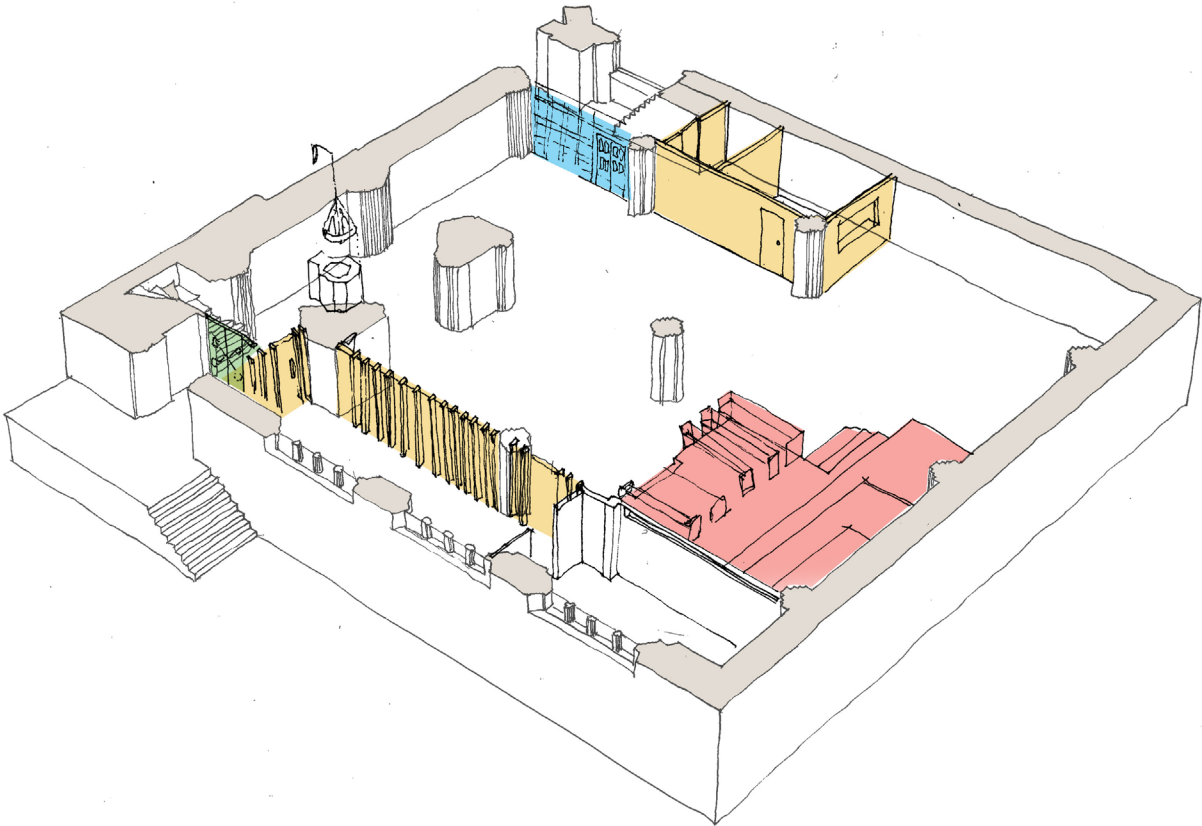
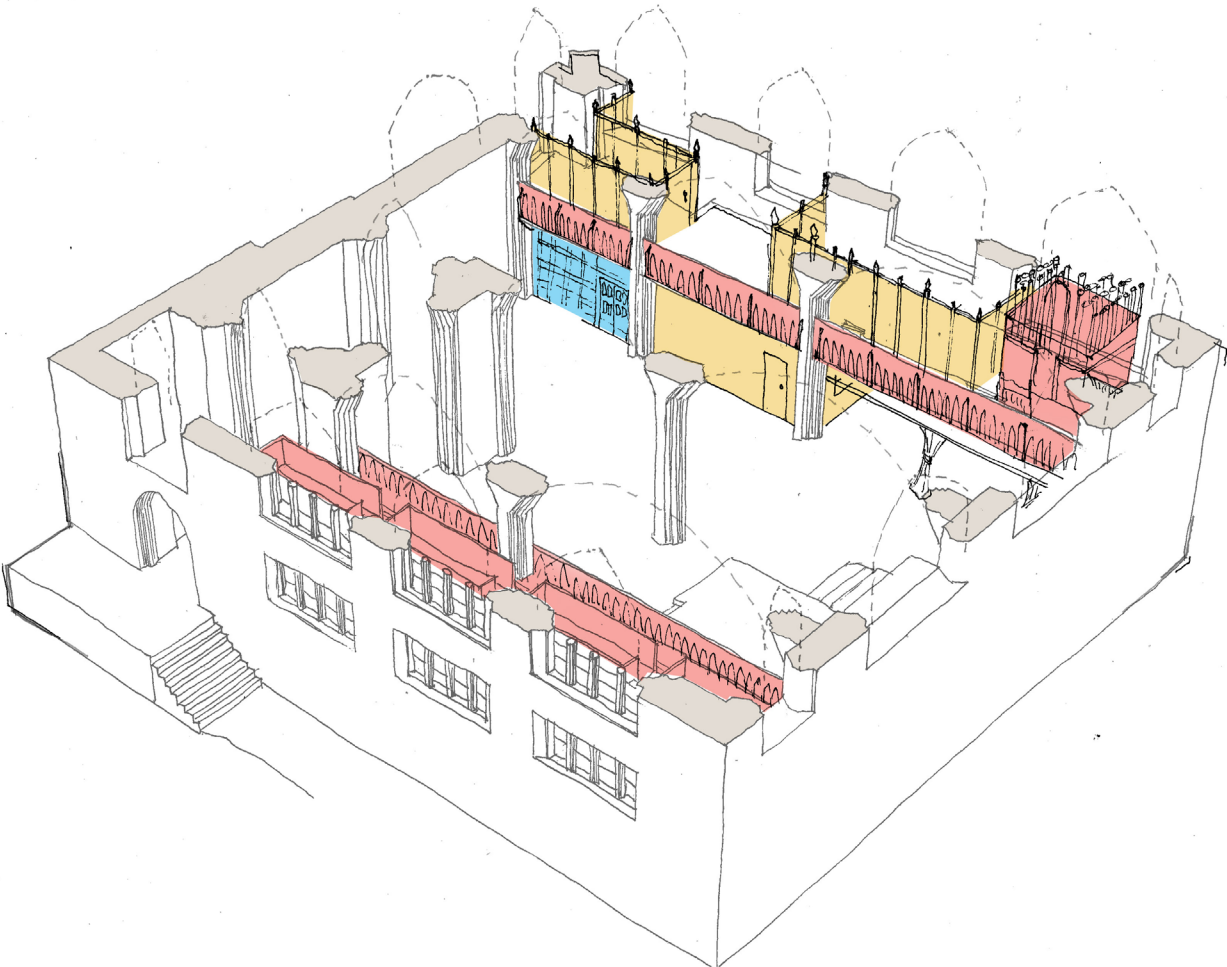
1960s partialy glazed partition to ground floor prayer room



1960s partitions - First floor



Victorian gallery and organ



COMMON ISSUES

IMPORTANCE OF ENGAGEMENT

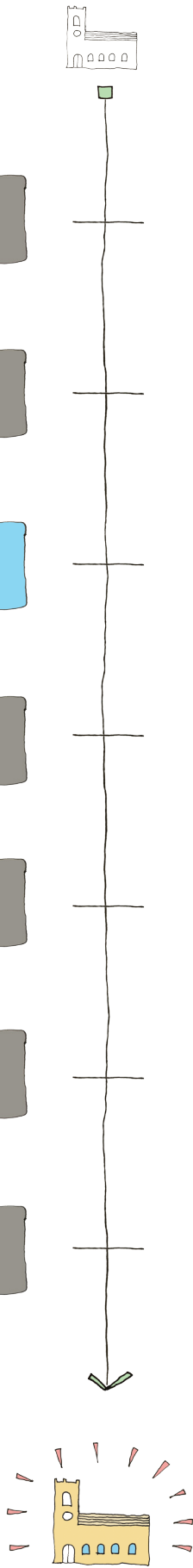
WHERE ARE YOU NOW?

WHERE DO YOU WANT TO GO?

FIRST ACTIONS

UP AND RUNNING

BREAKING THE WALL





WHERE DO YOU WANT TO GO?



COMMON ISSUES

IMPORTANCE OF
ENGAGEMENT

WHERE ARE YOU
NOW?

WHERE DO YOU
WANT TO GO?

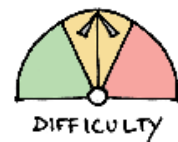
FIRST ACTIONS

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WALL



VISION FOR THE FUTURE: WAX TABLET



Activity

Based on the concept of taking rubbings from plaques and surfaces throughout the church, as done in school days, the wax tablet allows the participant to create their own plaque dedication and rubbing.

Following the creation of the wax tablet, the participant can then inscribe their vision for the future into the wax tablet. Once the inscription has been completed a rubbing can then be taken from the tablet. This rubbing can then be placed in a time line of events, from the dedication of past figures and events through out the church, to more recent events, and then looking forward to visions for the future.

Aim

By getting the participants to take a rubbing of their vision it allows the team to gain a greater understanding of the ideas, visions and concepts of the church.

The creation of your own plaque and the consequent rubbing gives the participant a sense of ownership and engagement within the project, setting themselves within the timeline of the church.

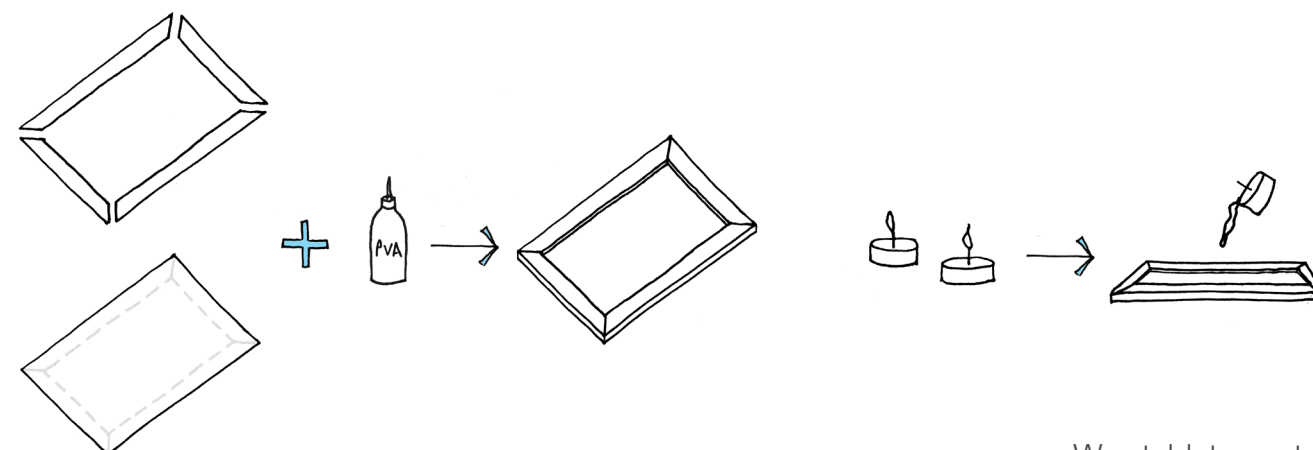
By placing yourself in a moment of the churches time line it gives a sense of longevity and feeling of direction for the project.

Outcome

Although people were quite nervous about interacting with the wax tablet to begin with, we found that people really enjoyed this creative activity once it got going. We uncovered some key words that represented the ethos of the church, some of the words are written below.

In the days following this workshop it transpired people were still talking about the “ancient iPad”, making it a talking point and spreading the word.

Welcoming - Sanctuary - Helpful - Warming - Safe - Clarity - Positive - Inspiring - Understanding
Flexible - Cultural Bridge - God is Good - Peace



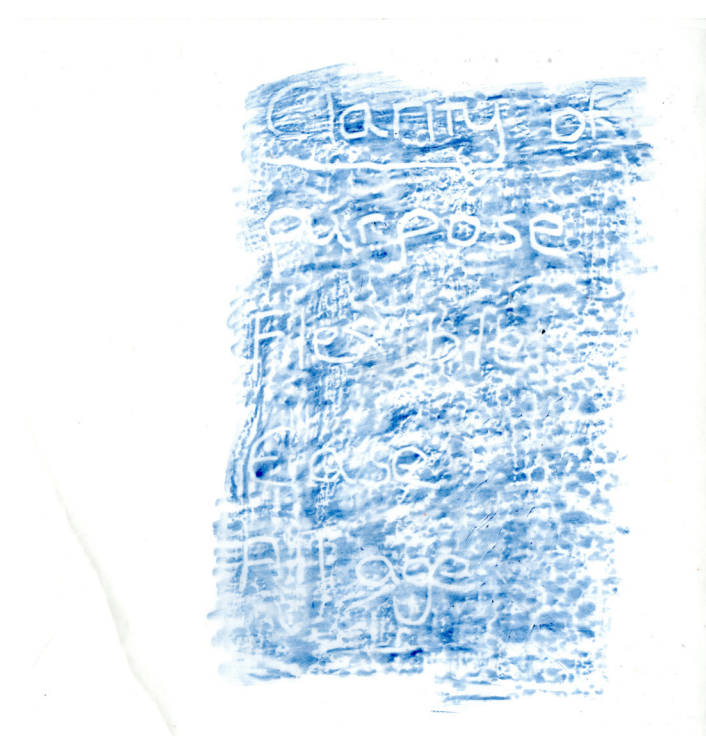
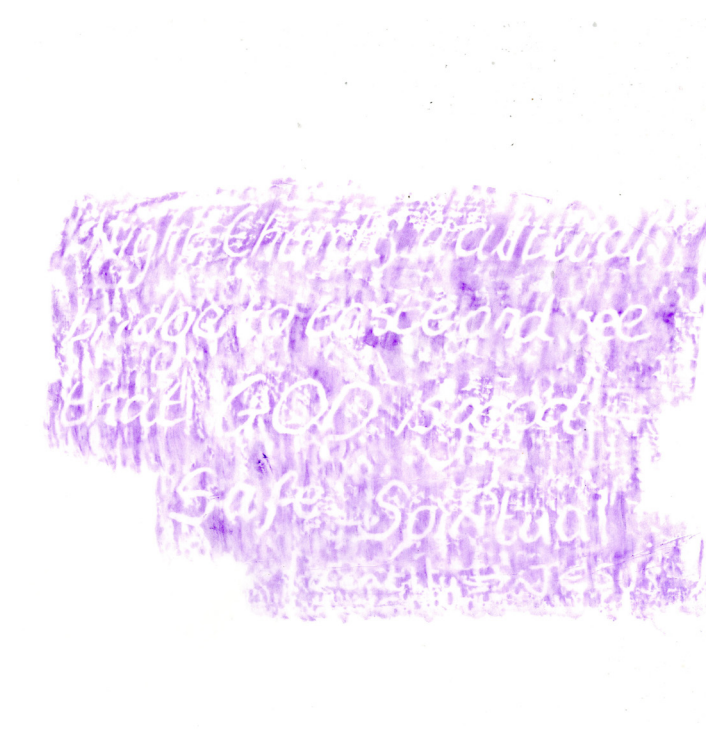
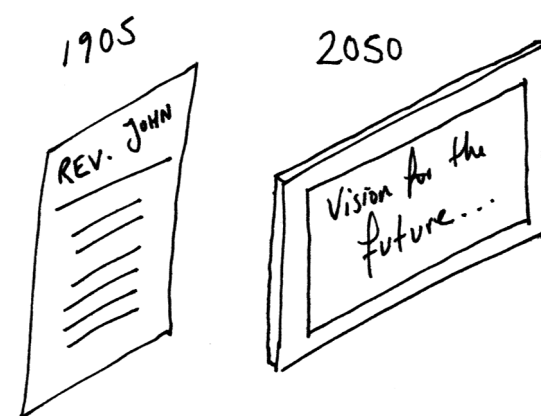
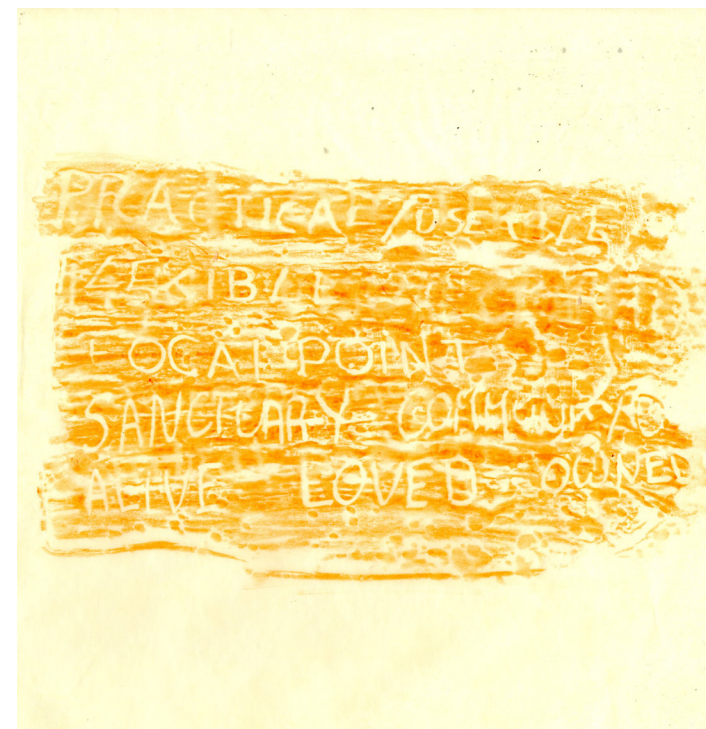
Wax tablet construction



Chester workshop - 12/10/2016



Chester workshop - 12/10/2016



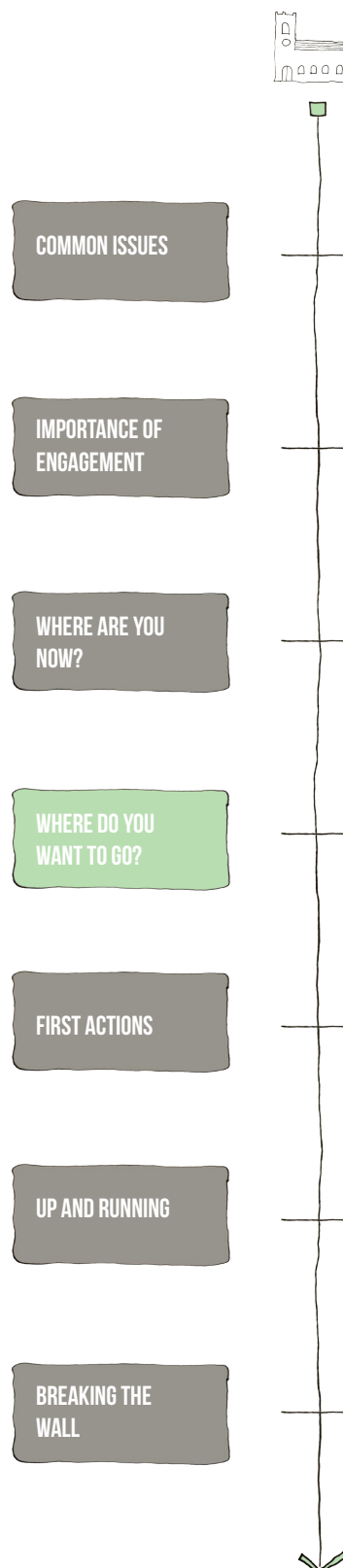
"Helpful, understand, effectively used, positive, warming"

"Practical, usable, flexible, Focal Point, sanctuary, community, alive, loved, owned"

"Welcoming, light, visual clarity, awe inspiring, spiritual, peace"

"Night Church is a cultural bridge to taste and see that GOD is good. Safe and Spiritual. Sanctity of Jesus"

"Clarity of purpose, flexibility"



GETTING INTERACTIVE: MODEL



Activity

For this workshop we built a model prior to the workshop. We used simple plan and elevation drawings to create pieces out of cardboard that we pinned together. We kept the model quite rough at this stage as we felt it was still early days in the project.

By having a model the team can create models and change the spaces with in the model, showing how they might like to divide, enhance and better use the space.

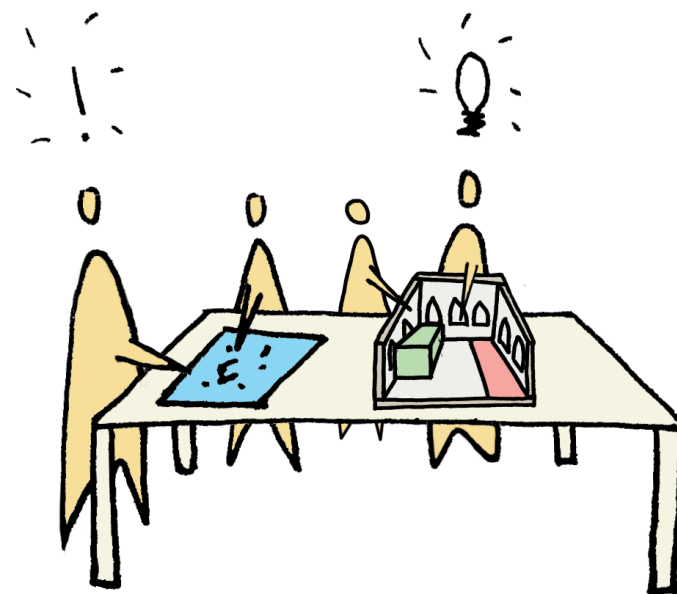
Aim

By using the model you can gain a greater of scale and begin to visualise your ideas in a 3D. Having your ideas physically represented helps with the creative process, and is fun!

Outcomes

We found that the model workshop wasn't particularly successful at this stage of the project as we were still completing a lot of analysis about the space. The model was perhaps a bit too fragile and small which made people a little scared to interact with it.

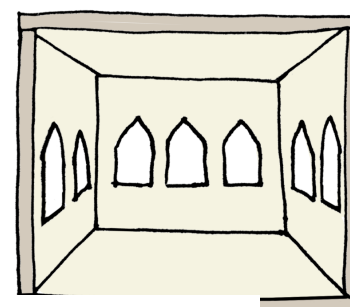
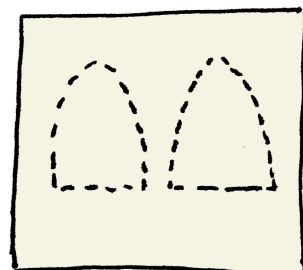
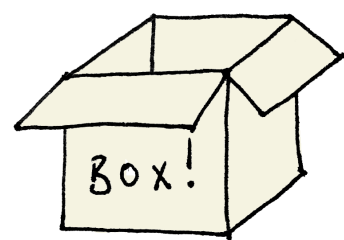
We feel that a model will be more beneficial later down the line when ideas have been developed and there is more of a direction of what to model. Perhaps a larger scale will be beneficial too. We found that Congleton benefited from having a model as they were later on in the design process.



Chester model workshop - 12/10/2016



Congleton model workshop - 12/10/2016



COMMON ISSUES

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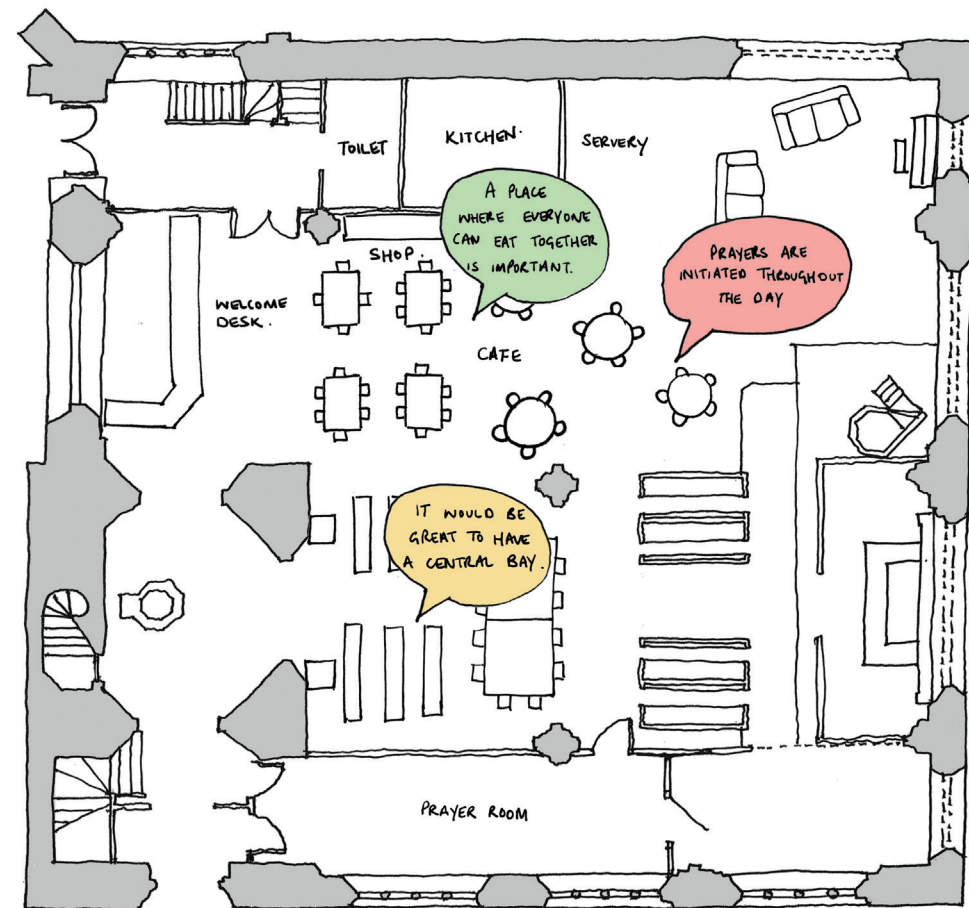
BREAKING THE
WALL



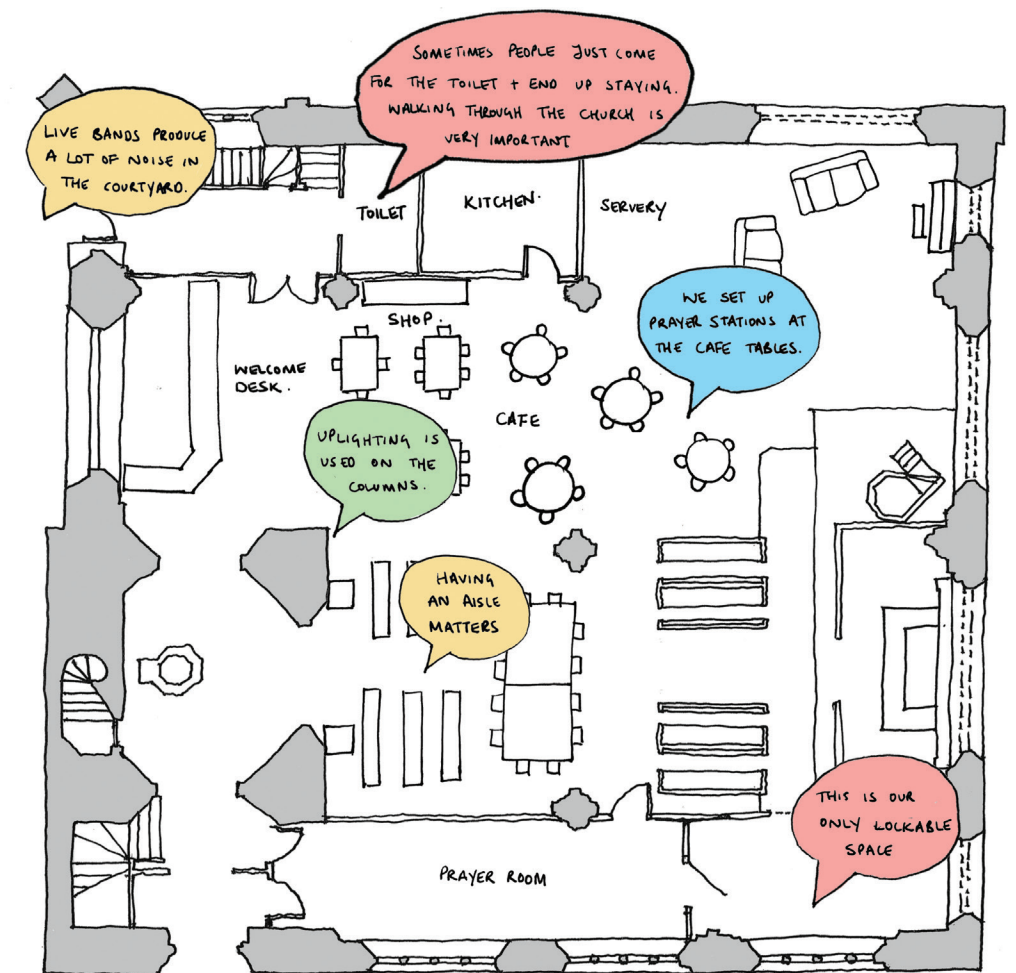
WHAT SPACES DO YOUR USERS REQUIRE?

Main Stakeholder Comments following analysis of Space Usage

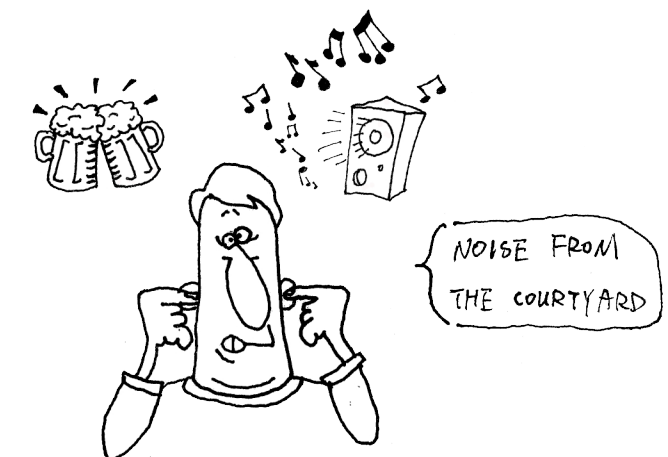
- Vestry Space underused
- Southern Gallery underused
- Lack of visibility between pulpit and congregation on Sunday Services
- Western quarter of Church underused due to layout of welcome desk and cluttered entrance
- Prayer Room appreciated and private feeling, despite glazing due to timber fins narrowing viewing angle into space.
- Space difficult to rearrange due to furniture limitations and variety of uses in space.
- North side Gallery arrangement currently blocks light from entering space
- Access currently difficult up stairs from street level

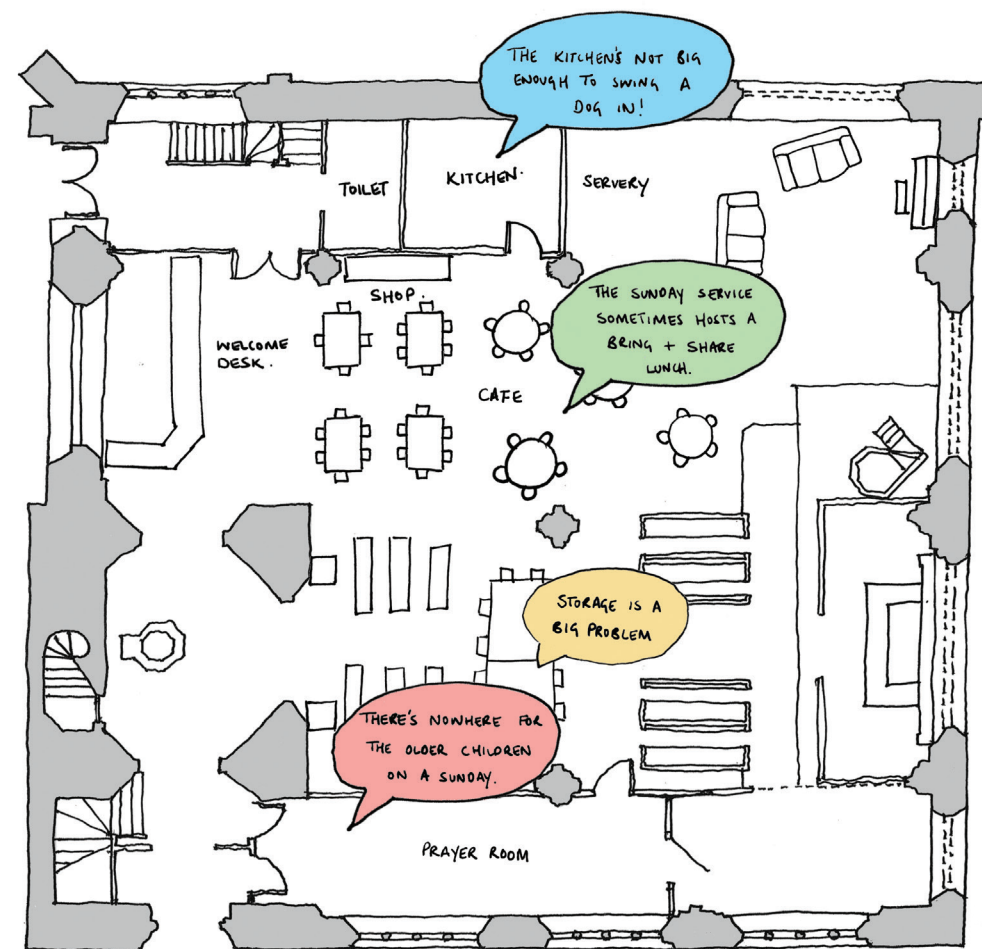


General Comments

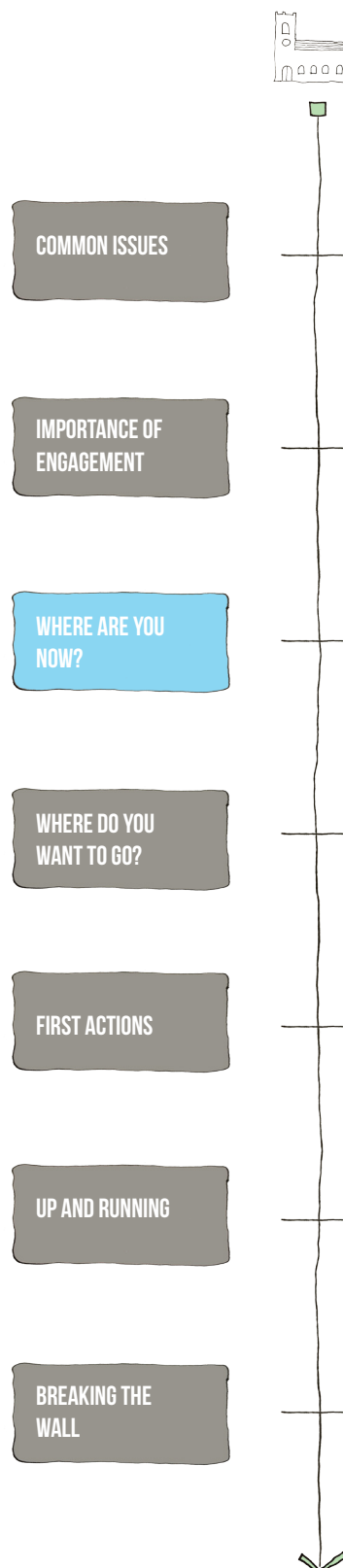
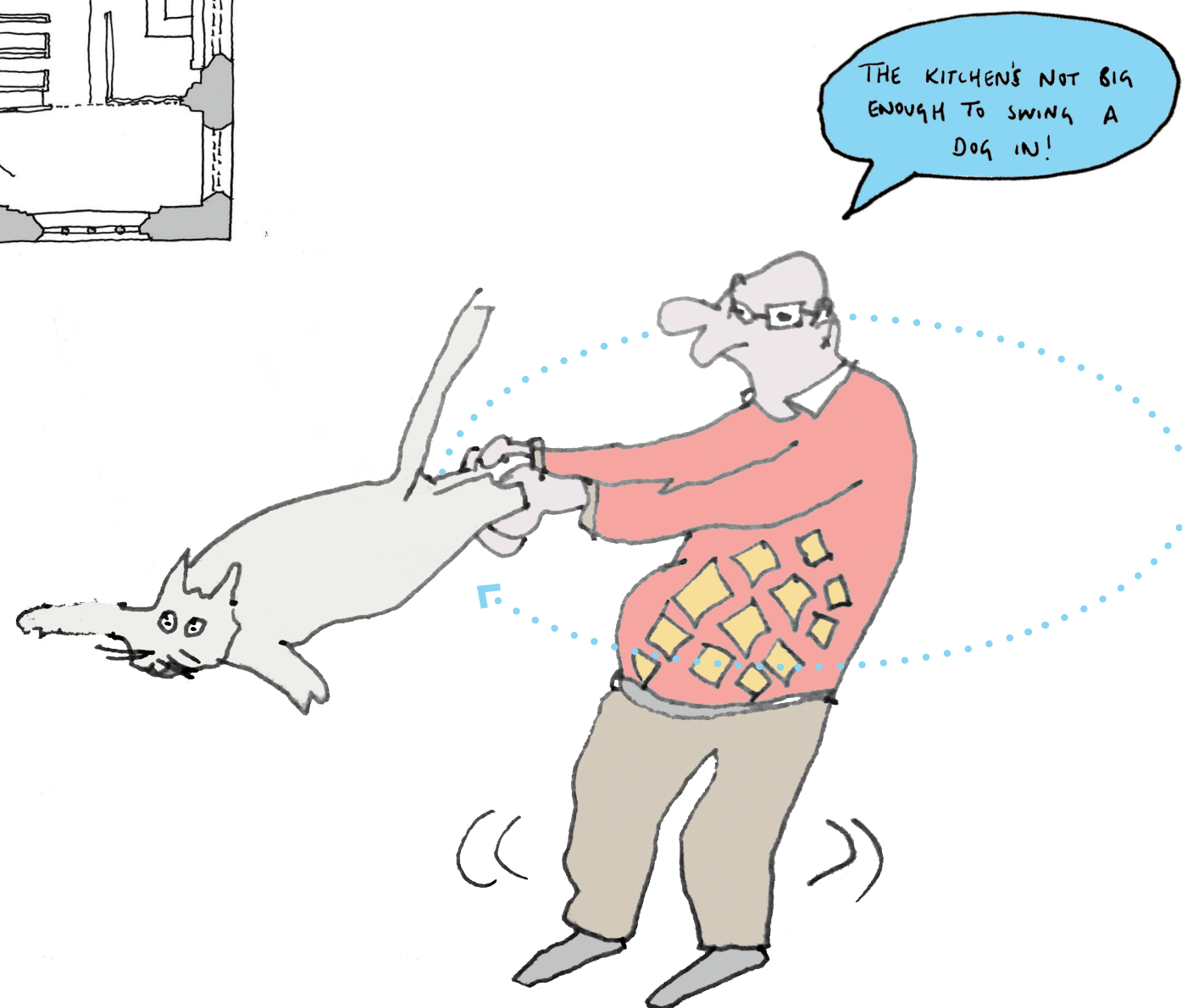


Night Church





Sunday Service



WHAT CAN YOU LEARN FROM OTHER MIXED-USE
PLACES OF WORSHIP?

Precedents

It is important to look towards existing solutions in other church and/or listed buildings as any possible solution may already be used elsewhere in other churches with similar problems.

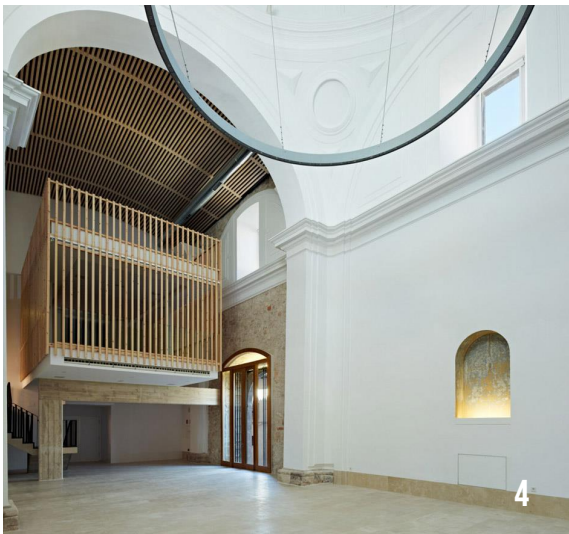
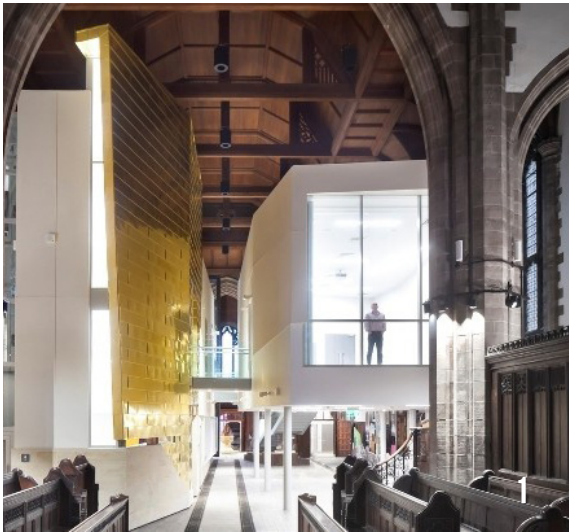
1 All Souls Church, Bolton, The Churches Conservation Trust

2-3 Refurbishment Interior Church Zierikzee by GROUP A

4 Restoration and Adaptation of a 16th century Chapel in Brihuega, Guadalajara, Spain by Adam Bresnick

5-7 St James, West Hampstead - Post Office

8-9 Chapelle Corneille by Atelier d'architecture King Kong



ALL SOULS CHURCH, BOLTON
THE CHURCHES CONSERVATION TRUST

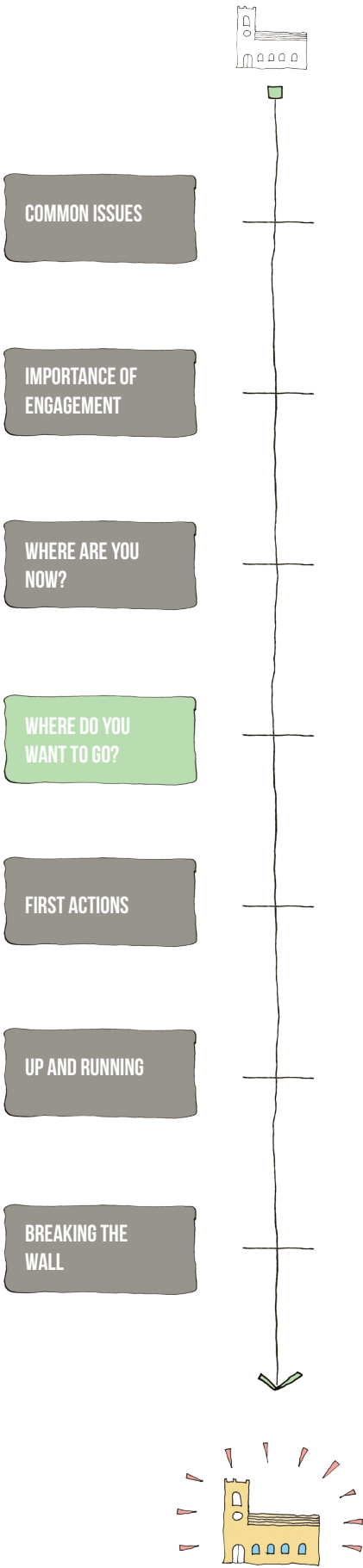
- Grade 1 Listed - Particular sensitivity to the pews
- Use of ‘pods’ with a demountable system to avoid damaging the structure and to provide room for change in the future.
- Provides a cafe, meeting rooms and community spaces
- Lead by members of the community. Non-worshipping but it is still consecrated for future use.
- Funded through the Heritage Lottery Fund
- OMI Architects, Manchester



Transparent partitions

Transparent or translucent partitions could be particularly useful for the offices on the first floor as they could be a way in which light can still penetrate the main space yet also offering a degree of privacy to those in the office.

Right: ‘Blind Light Exhibition’ - Anthony Gormley
Far Right: White Cube Gallery - Carmody Groarke





COMMON ISSUES

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WANT TO GO?

FIRST ACTIONS

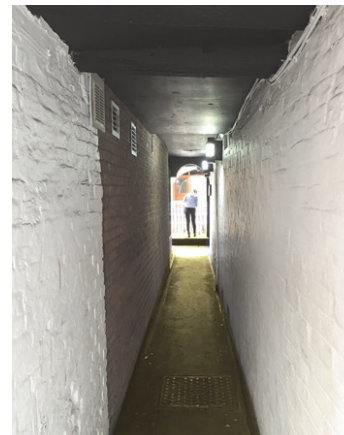
UP AND RUNNING

BREAKING THE
WALL



ACCESSIBLE ENTRANCE ROUTE. EXISTING

1



Access from the Rows to a main street avoids the use of steps.

2



Route through the 'Rows' to avoid steps

3



Existing disabled access route requires looping route through Row from

4

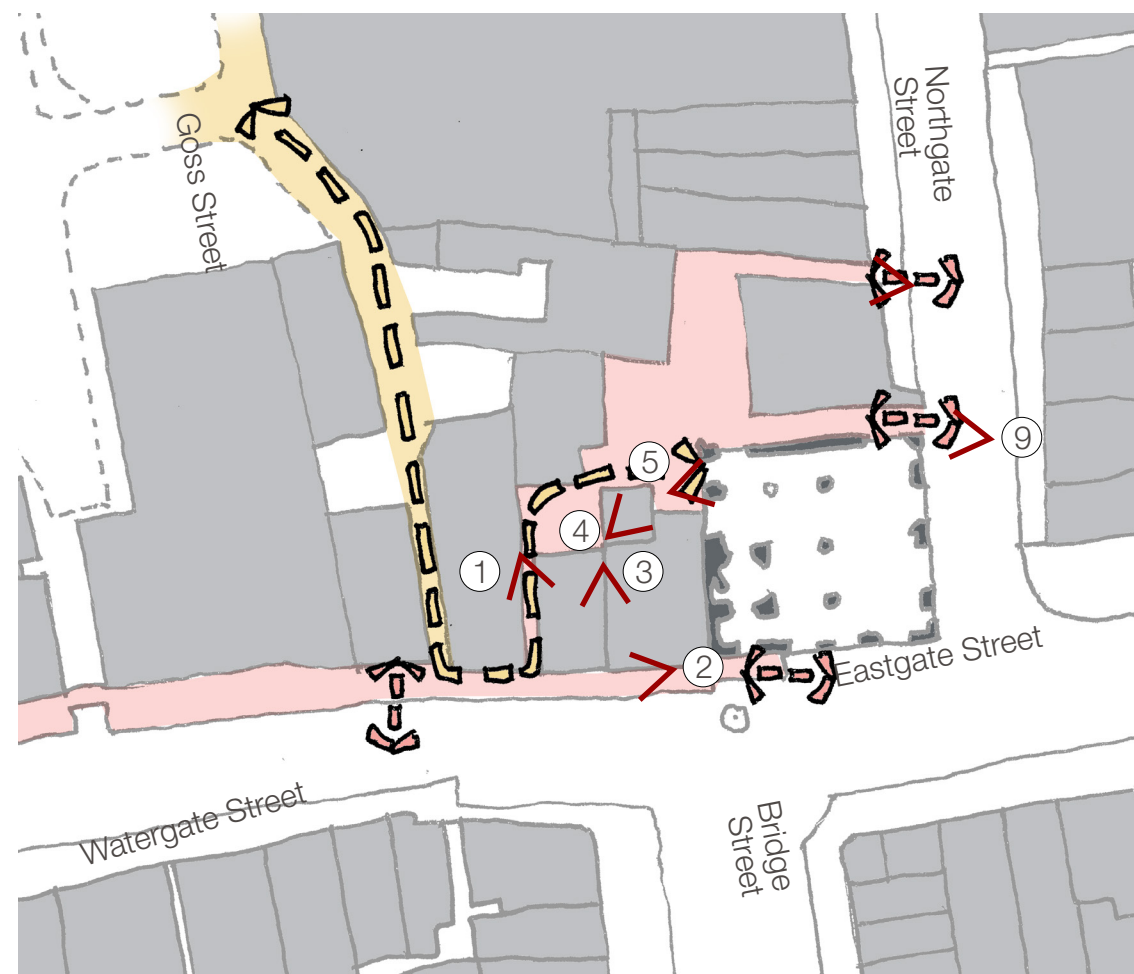


Courtyard providing disabled access.

5



Existing doorway currently blocked by pub furniture.



Existing route into Church is via a series of alleyways and Rows via Goss Street. This route is currently under-celebrated and feels very much like a back-door, rather than a primary entrance for visitors and congregation members with mobility requirements,

6



Access from galleries is blocked by stairs down to Northgate.

7



Steps from Northgate Street don't allow for shorter disabled access route.

ACCESSIBLE ENTRANCE ROUTE. PROPOSED

Suggested improvements to current access route:

Work together with adjacent shops along Rows to create a more inviting, pleasant and welcoming approach from Goss Street.

Improved lighting

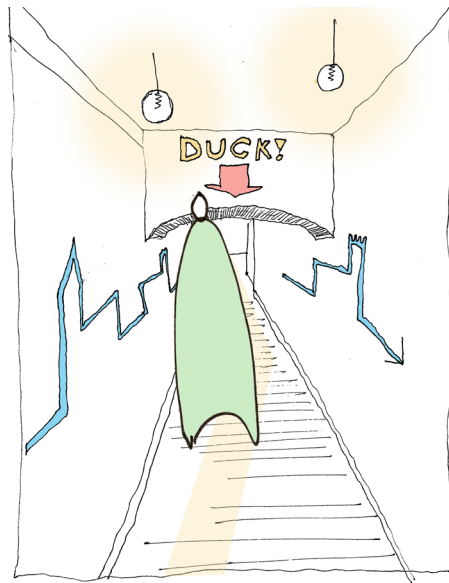
Improving evenness of surface.

Development of signage and identity for Watergate Street Row to west of St Peter's Church.

Increased provision for disabled access to North-west entrance of Church to help in creation of more inviting, accessible church facility.

Replacement of existing timber wall with transparent or translucent panel between main Nave and north-west entrance.

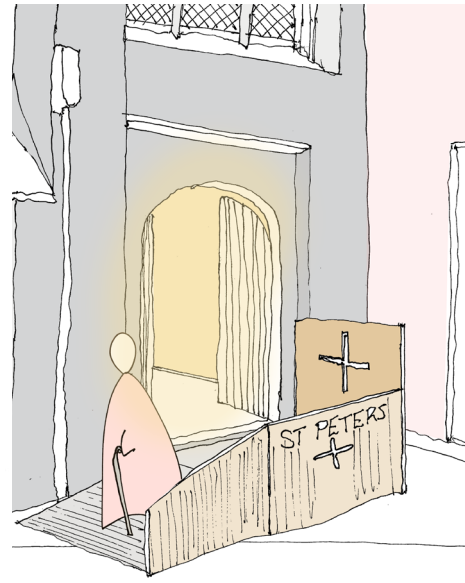
Proposals for access should tie in with suggested brightening of space through uniform lighting scheme and de-cluttering of space.



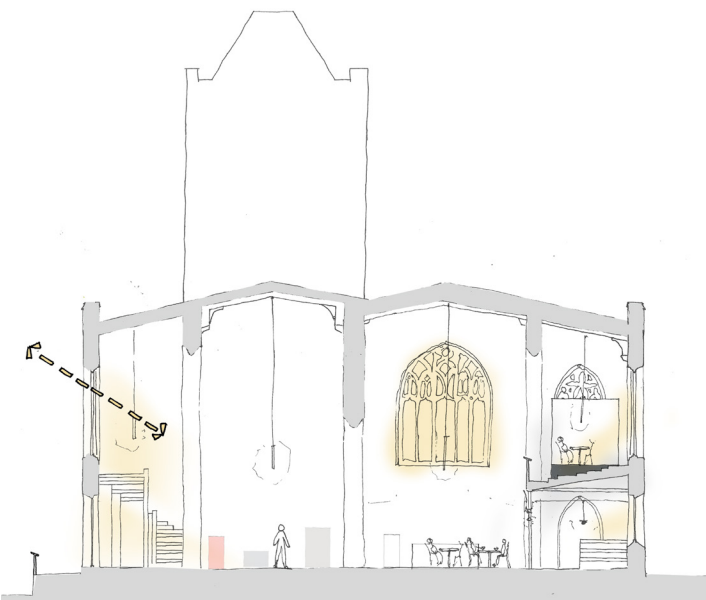
Creation of visual identity for Church can be used as a way finding device to create a more engaging and welcoming entry sequence in to the



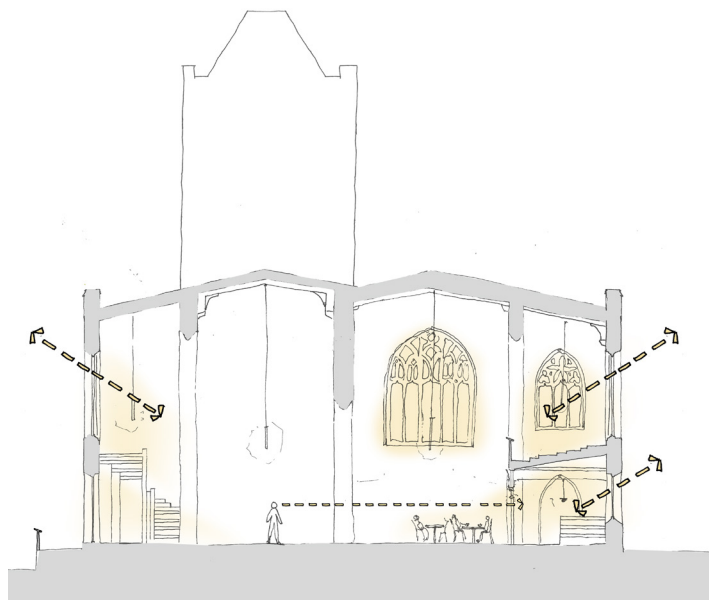
Way finding could include lighting, signage, wall-art and floor-art to guide to Rows and St Peter's Church.



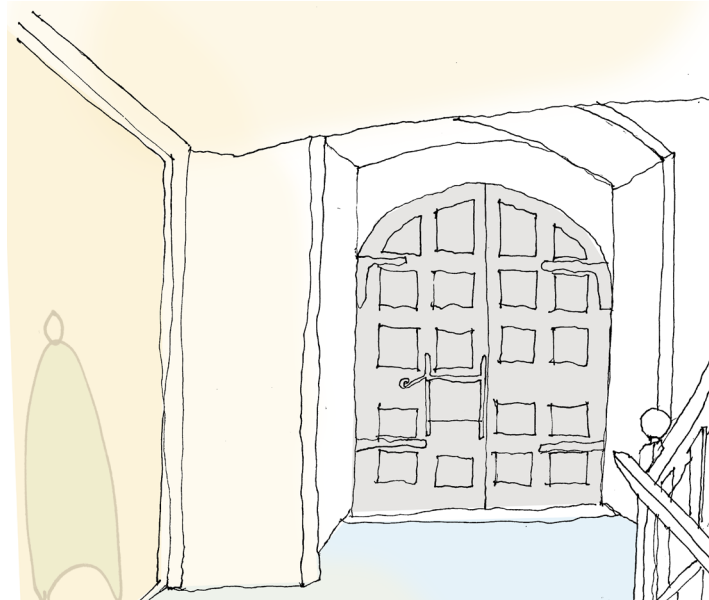
Demountable entry ramp, with specific St Peter's identity to improve entry sequence into church.



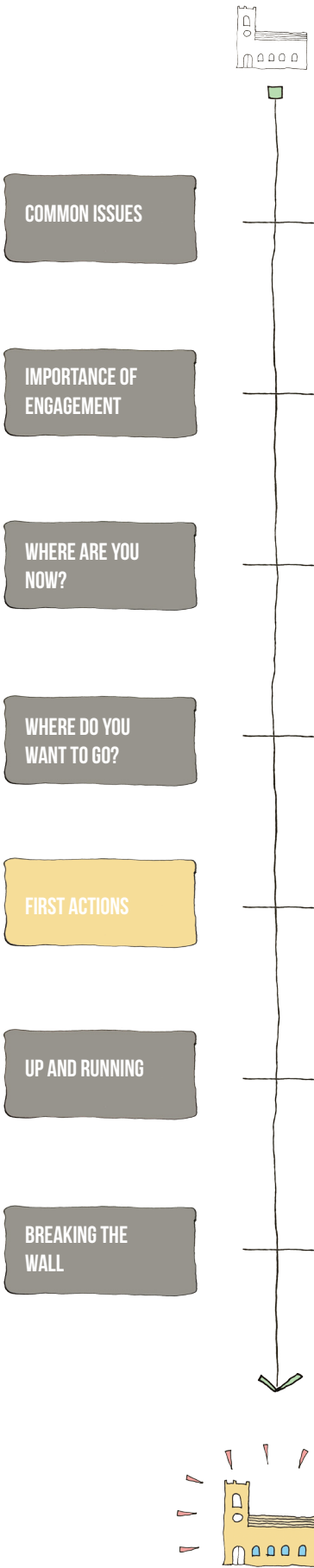
Current entry sequence from south entrance cluttered and visually dark with north-west entrance treated as a back door, rather than an alternative, accessible entrance.



De-cluttering of space, replacement of dark timber panels for both gallery office space and between Nave and north-west entrance will allow for far greater light penetration into space. Visual link to entrance and toilets helps to maintain security and concern over public use of toilet facilities.



Visual connection between main space and north-west entrance should emphasise importance of north-western door to overall space, whilst allowing for visual security of toilets, a current concern for St Peter's.



PROPOSED BRANDING VISION FOR THE REAR ENTRANCE



Vision 1 - View from the Northgate street

Light reflecting wall paint or easily fixed signs could easily improve the directions towards the rear entrance.



Vision 2 - View from the Northgate street

Light reflecting wall paint on the ground make it easier to navigate towards the rear entrance more interactively.





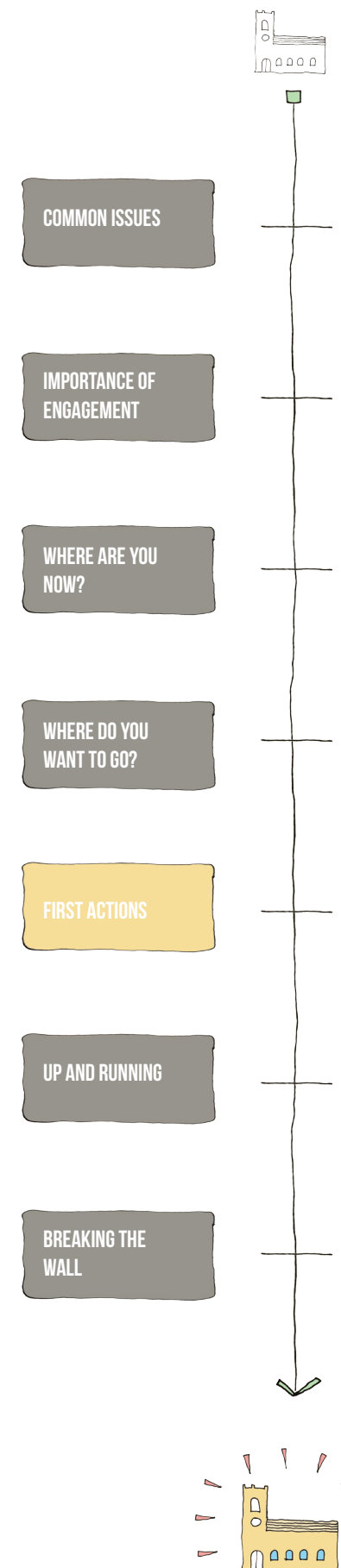
Vision 3 - View from the Northgate street

Using a unique wall washing effect would create a visually attractive and safer access to the courtyard and the rear entrance.



View from the courtyard with reflecting leading to the rear entrance

Signage clearly defining the rear entrance.



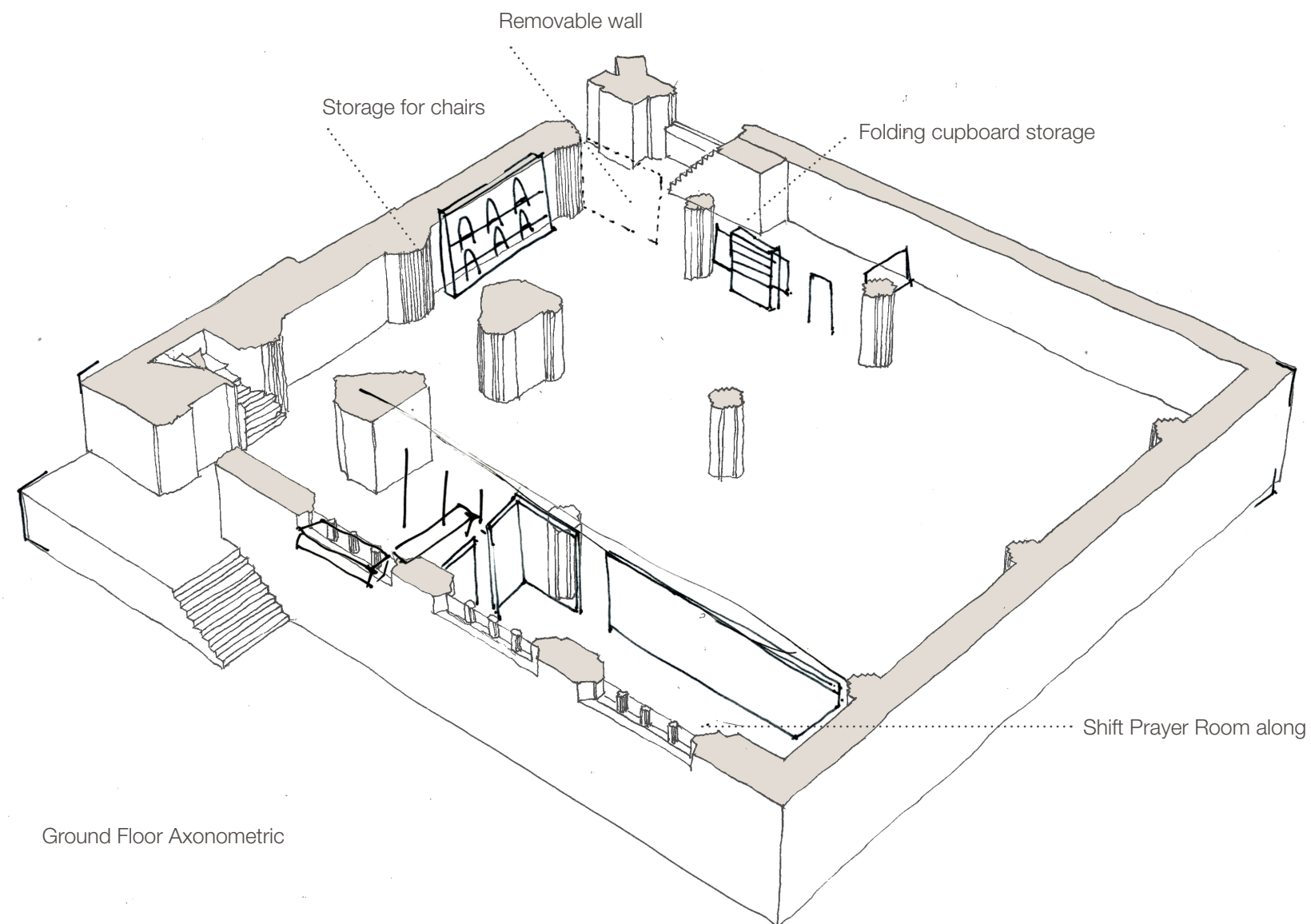
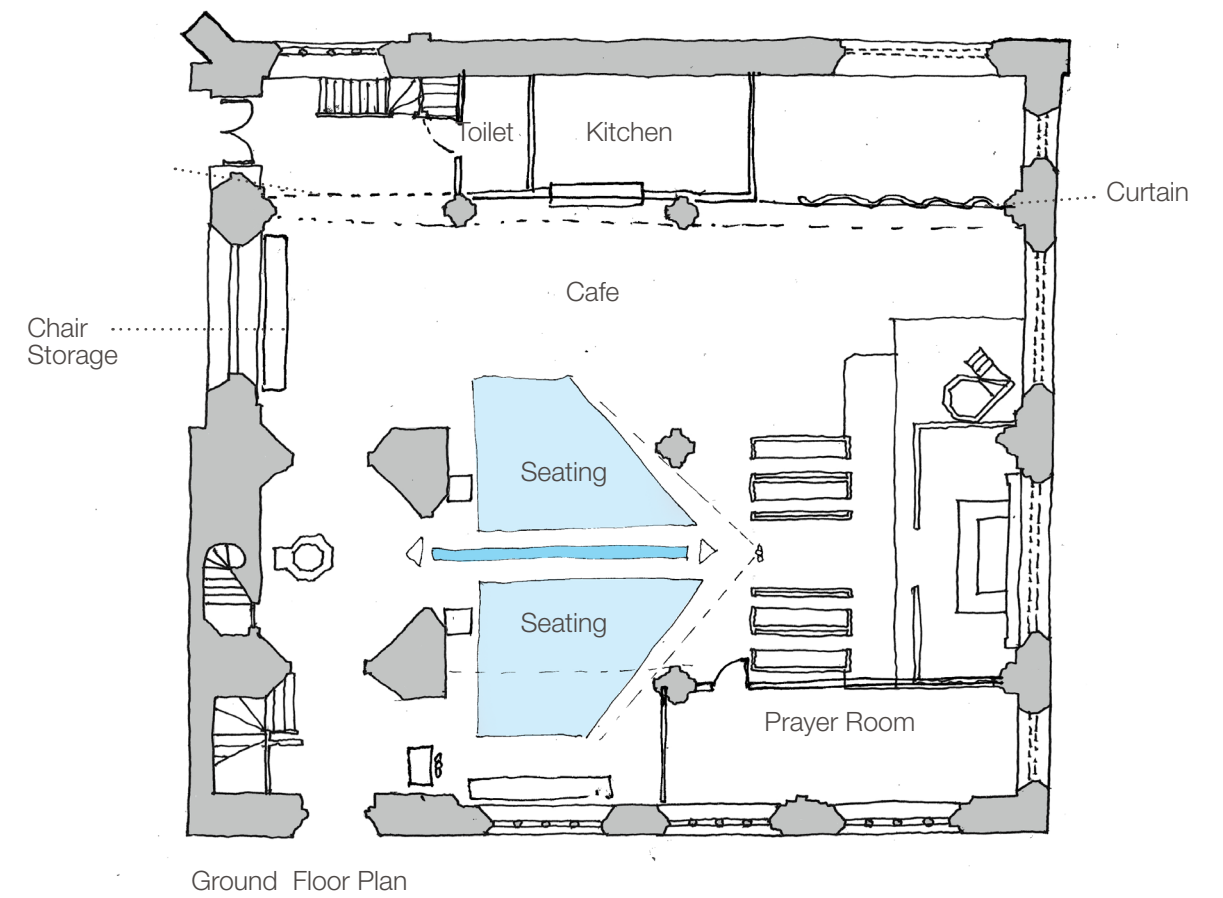
INITIAL INTERIOR VISION 1

Pros

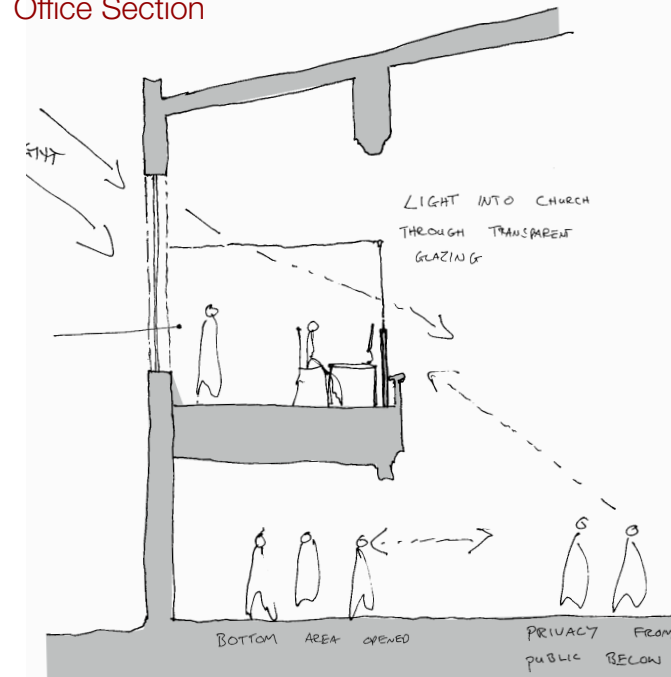
- No dramatic changes that would disrupt building fabric.
- Could work with what is there now whilst disposing of some of the 1960s features.
- With the relocation of the prayer room, seating can be increased.
- The entrance sequence is now clear visually.
- Central aisle is possible.
- Cafe servery more visible upon arrival.

Cons

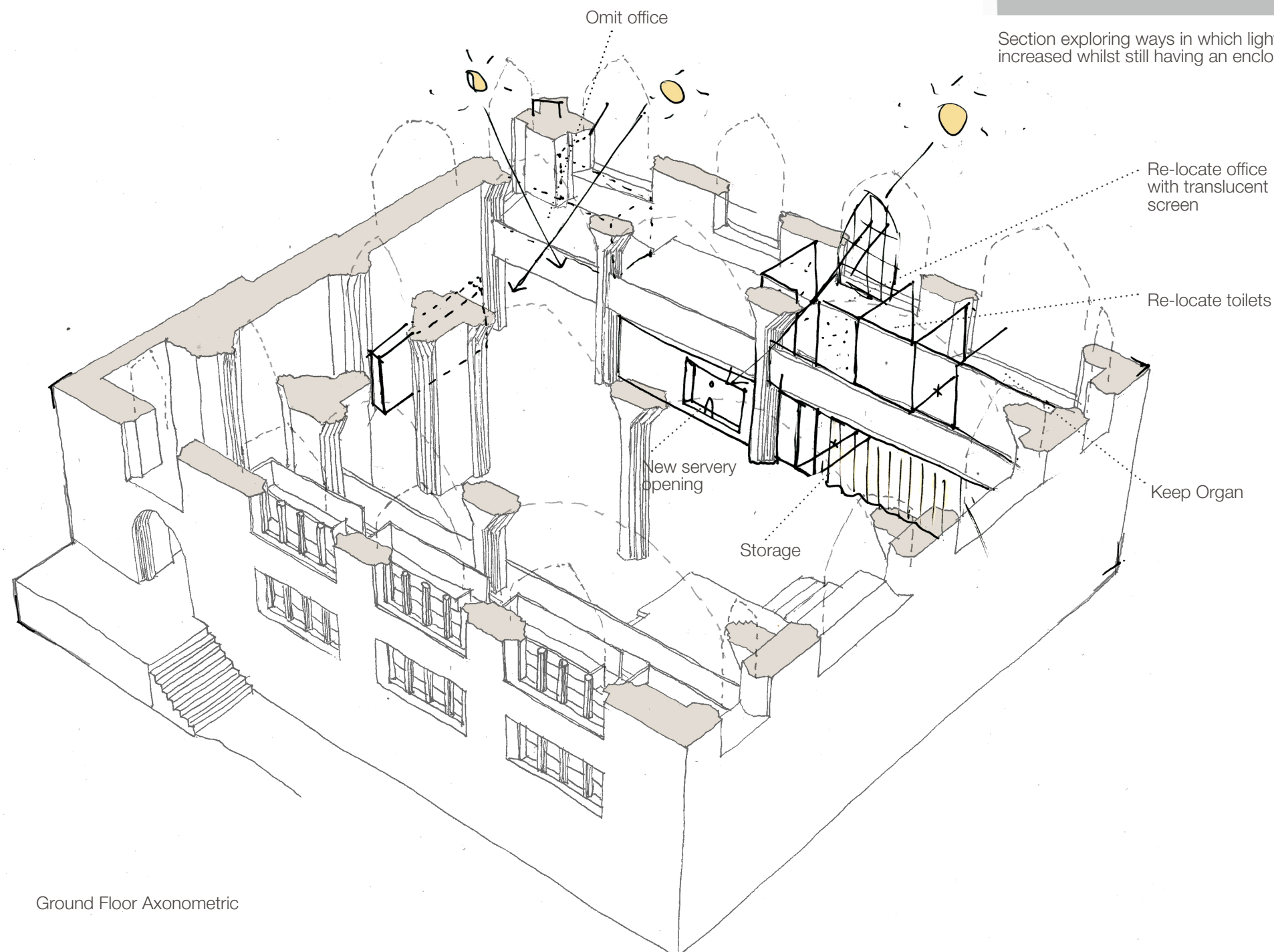
- Organ remains - Is this a bad use of space?
- Is the prayer room now too dark?



Office Section



Section exploring ways in which light levels can be increased whilst still having an enclosed office space



Ground Floor Axonometric

COMMON ISSUES

IMPORTANCE OF ENGAGEMENT

WHERE ARE YOU NOW?

WHERE DO YOU WANT TO GO?

FIRST ACTIONS

UP AND RUNNING

BREAKING THE WALL



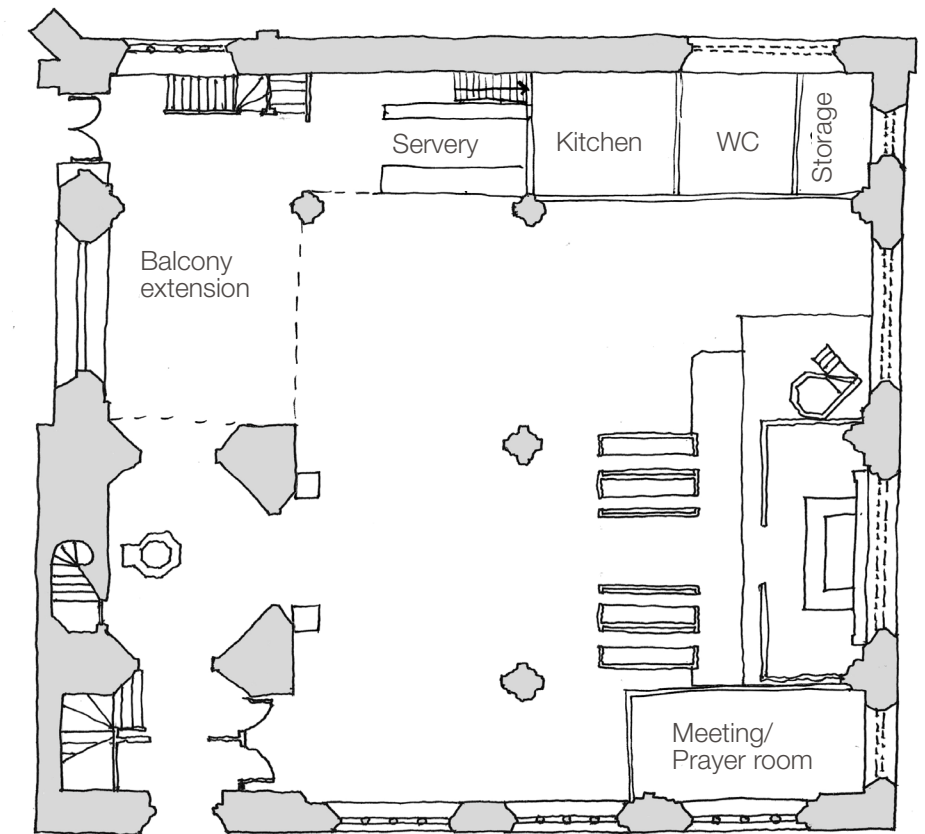
INITIAL SPATIAL DESIGN VISION 2

Pros

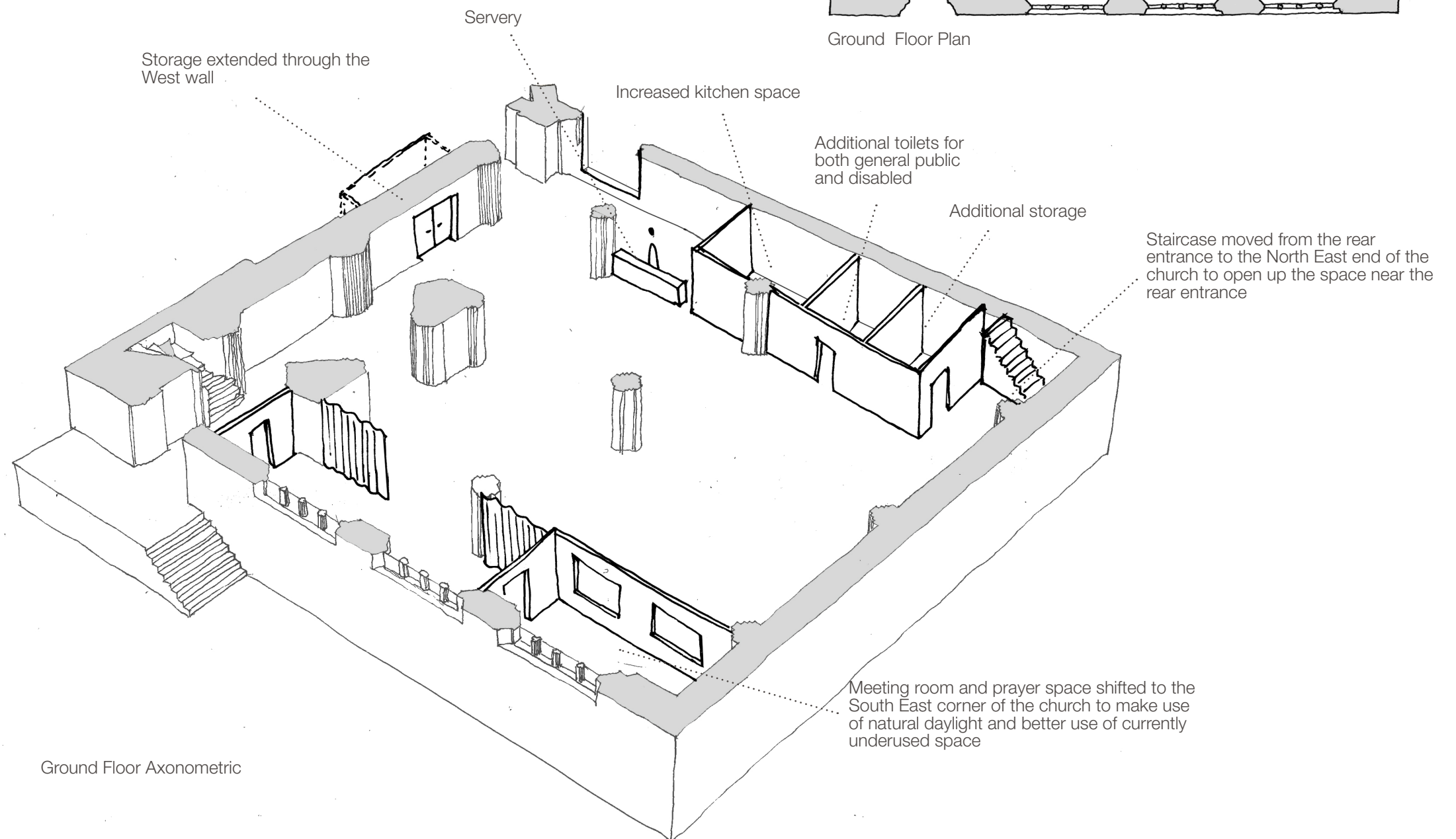
- New light balcony space.
- Central aisle now possible.
- New open servery visible upon arrival.

Cons

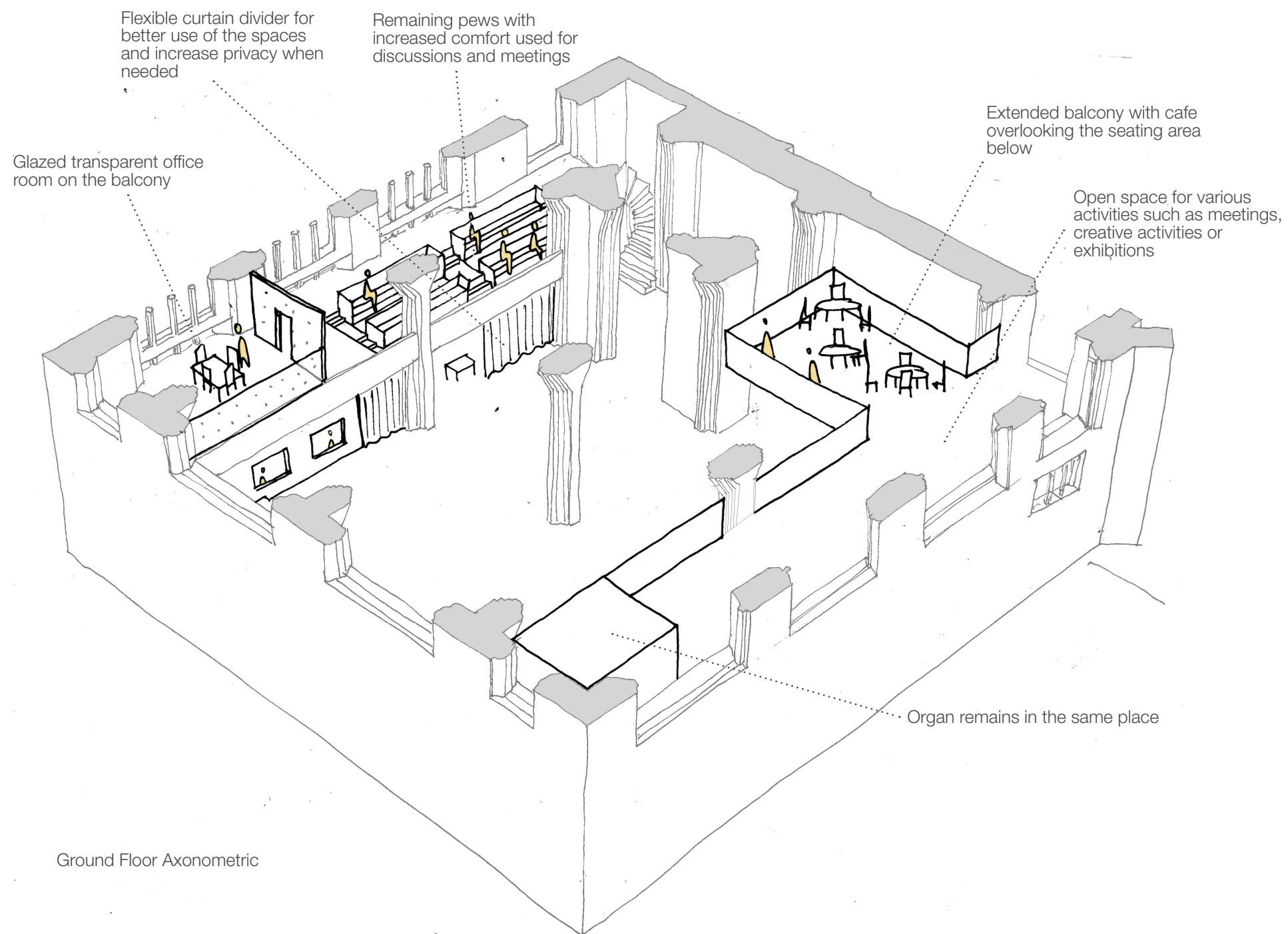
- Balcony extension could make spaces below darker and cut off from natural light.
- Office relocated to south east corner could cut off south sunlight.
- Office could also be more easily accessed by general public.



Ground Floor Plan



Ground Floor Axonometric



Ground Floor Axonometric

COMMON ISSUES

IMPORTANCE OF
ENGAGEMENT

WHERE ARE YOU
NOW?

WHERE DO YOU
WANT TO GO?

FIRST ACTIONS

UP AND RUNNING

BREAKING THE
WALL



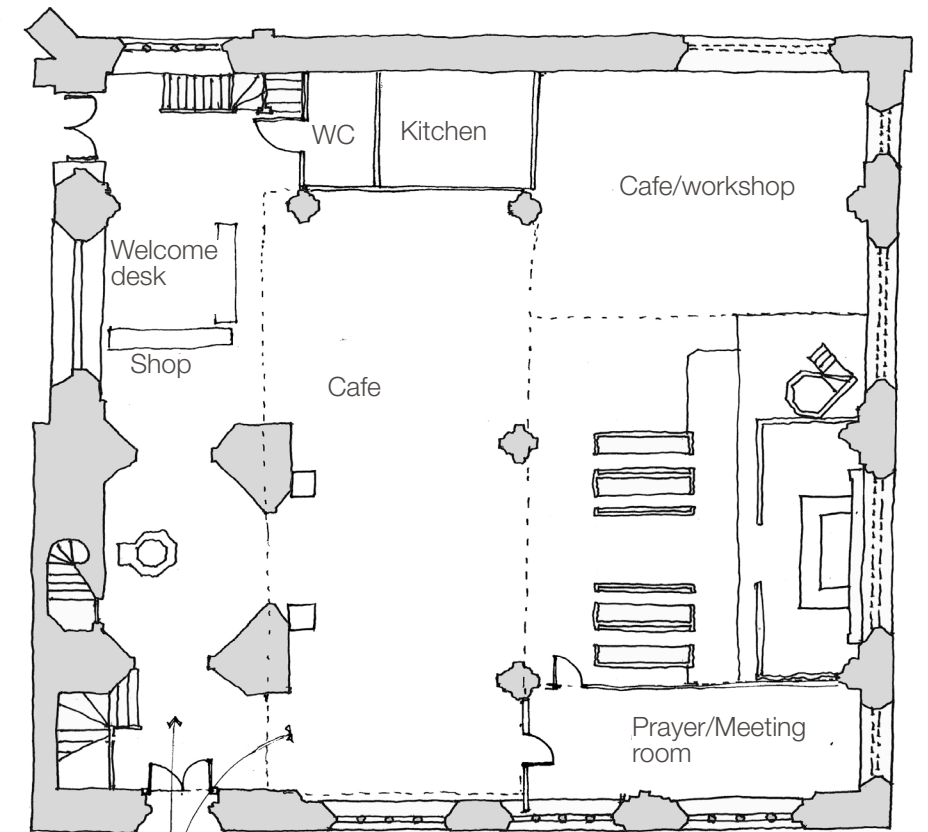
INITIAL SPATIAL DESIGN VISION 3

Pros

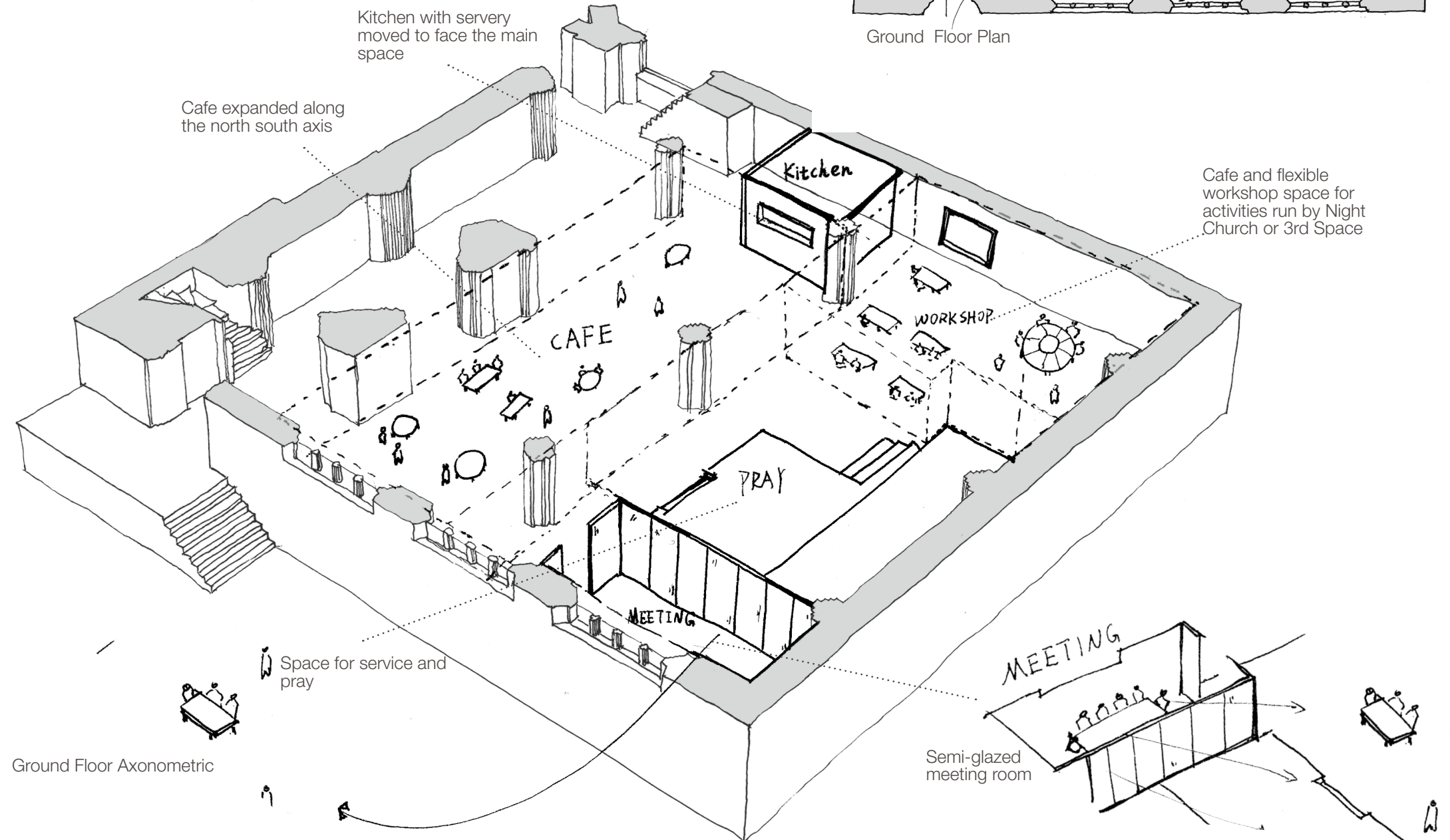
- Cafe relocated to main entrance - draws people in.
- Balcony space is made use of with cafe seating.
- Opportunities for cafe to open up onto the street.

Cons

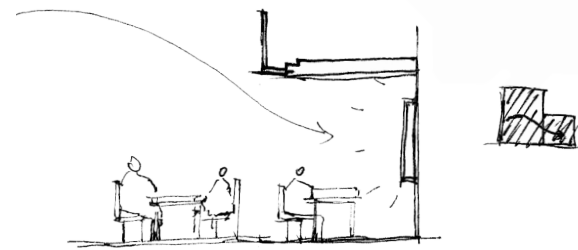
- Cafe positioned on the south side disrupts main congregational area - should the cafe get the sunny side of the church?
- Adaptable furniture would be required for this option raising questions of set up times to transform the space back from cafe to service.
- Pews will have to be removed.



Ground Floor Plan

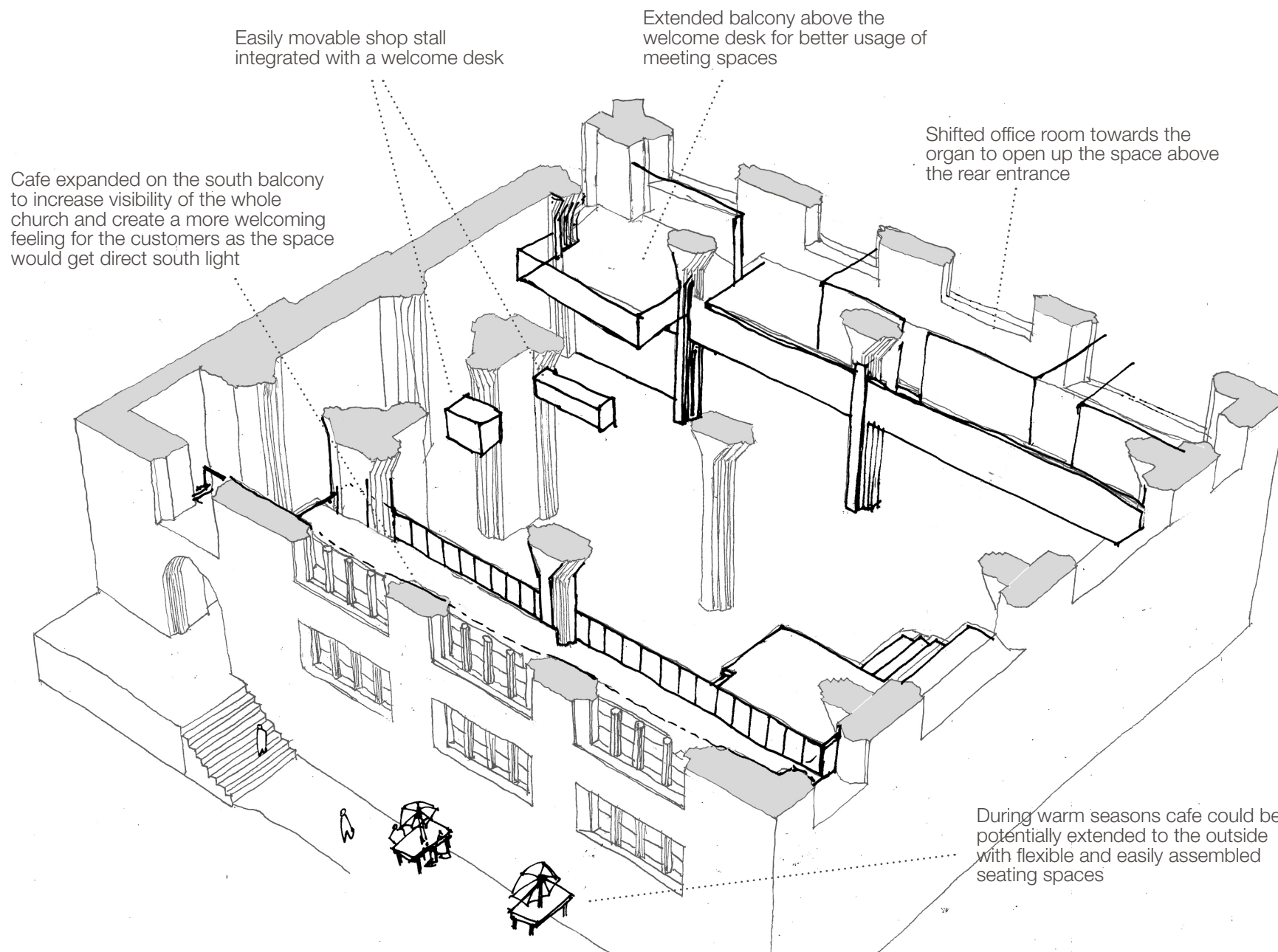


Ground Floor Axonometric



Section through the workshop space

- Dark area
- More space for workshop



Easily movable shop stall integrated with a welcome desk

Extended balcony above the welcome desk for better usage of meeting spaces

Shifted office room towards the organ to open up the space above the rear entrance

Cafe expanded on the south balcony to increase visibility of the whole church and create a more welcoming feeling for the customers as the space would get direct south light

During warm seasons cafe could be potentially extended to the outside with flexible and easily assembled seating spaces

First Floor Axonometric

COMMON ISSUES

IMPORTANCE OF ENGAGEMENT

WHERE ARE YOU NOW?

WHERE DO YOU WANT TO GO?

FIRST ACTIONS

UP AND RUNNING

BREAKING THE WALL



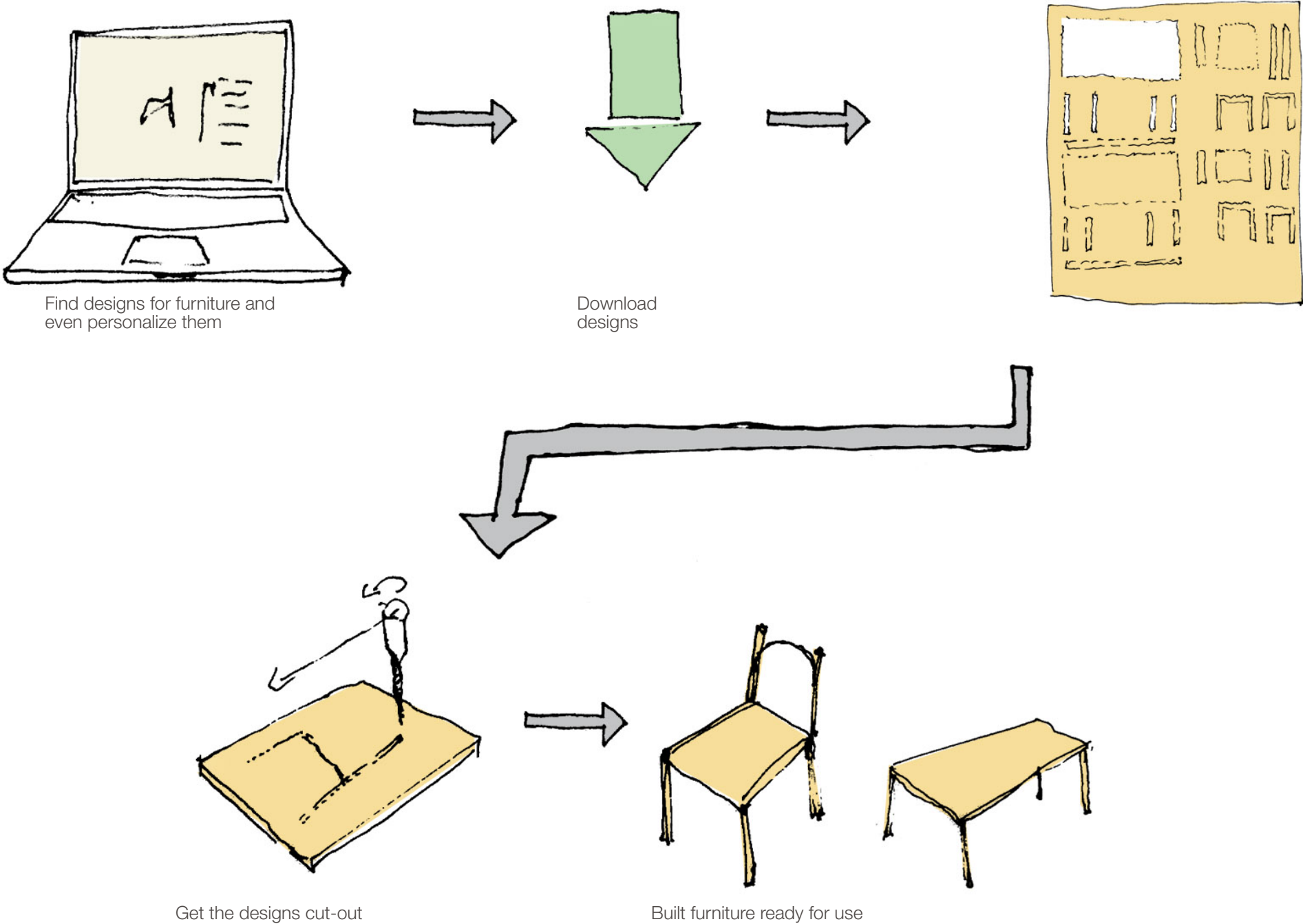
STORAGE/ FURNITURE IDEAS

Seating Precedents

Alternative chair ideas that could work in the space, but cannot be manufactured through open desk.

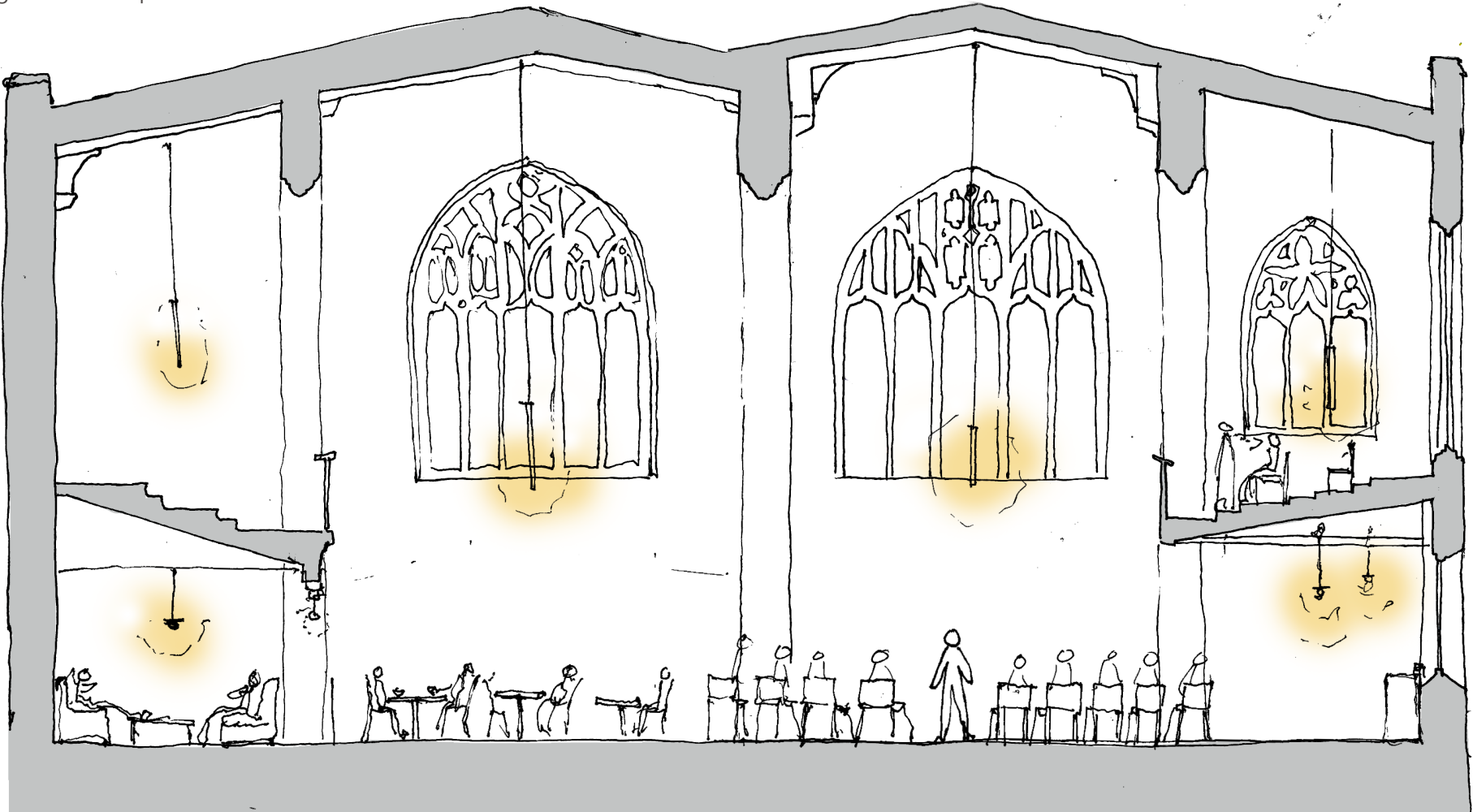


There are now websites and services which can offer three dimensional routing which would enable you to download furniture designs for free and have them cut out. This could be one option that offers practical and customisable designs at affordable prices.



LIGHTING STRATEGY

A consistent lighting scheme could really help create a contemporary feel for the church.
The lighting also needs to be easily maintainable
Adjustable lighting at low level could be particularly useful for Night Church spaces.



Everyman Theatre - Liverpool



Bishop Edward Chapel - Oxford

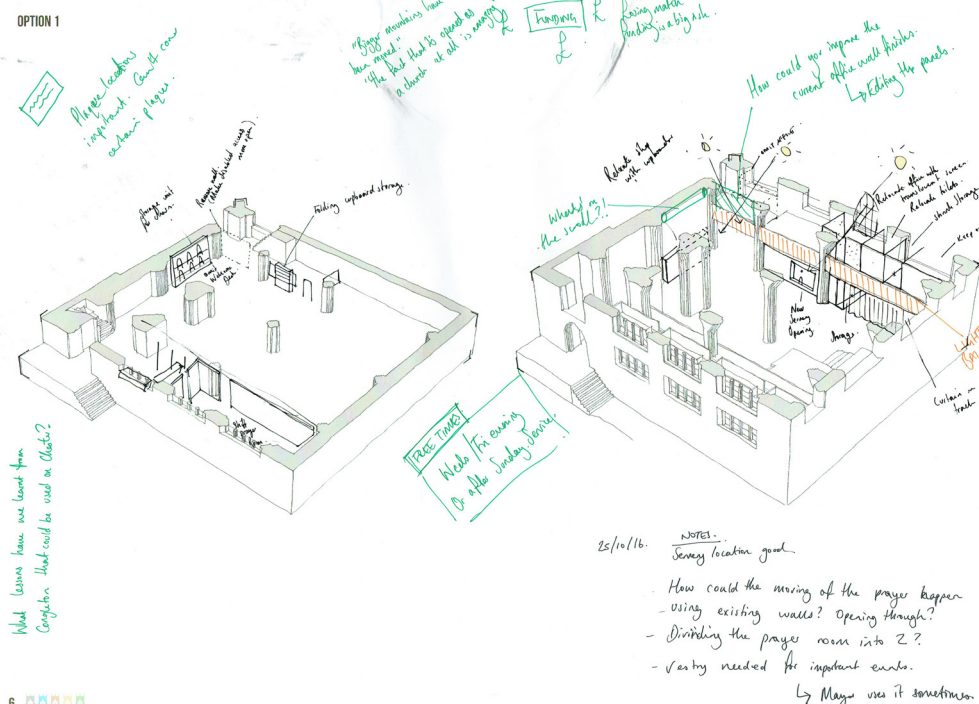
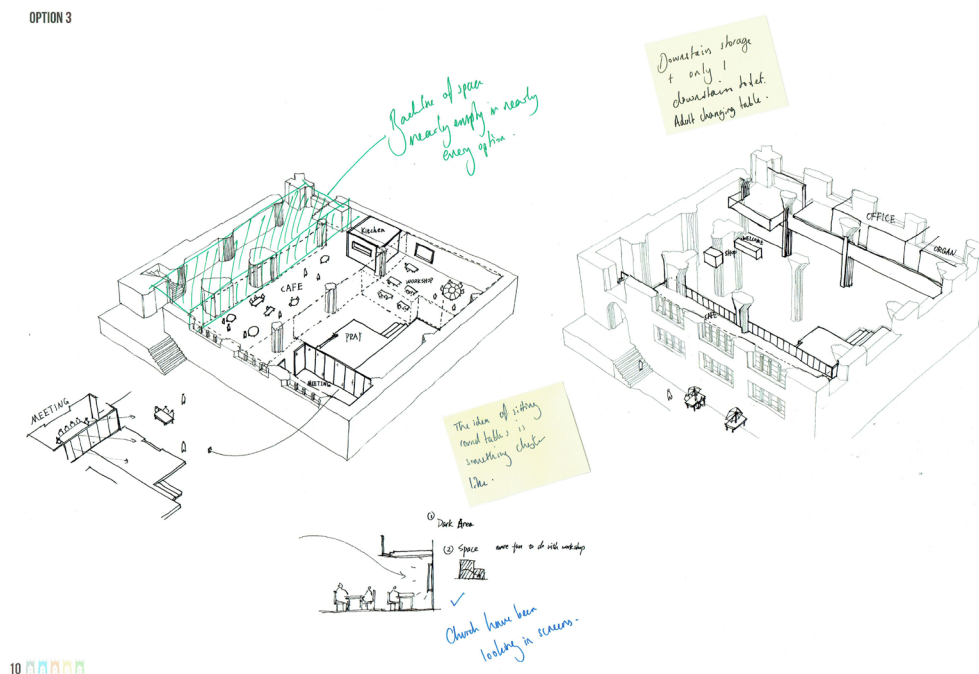
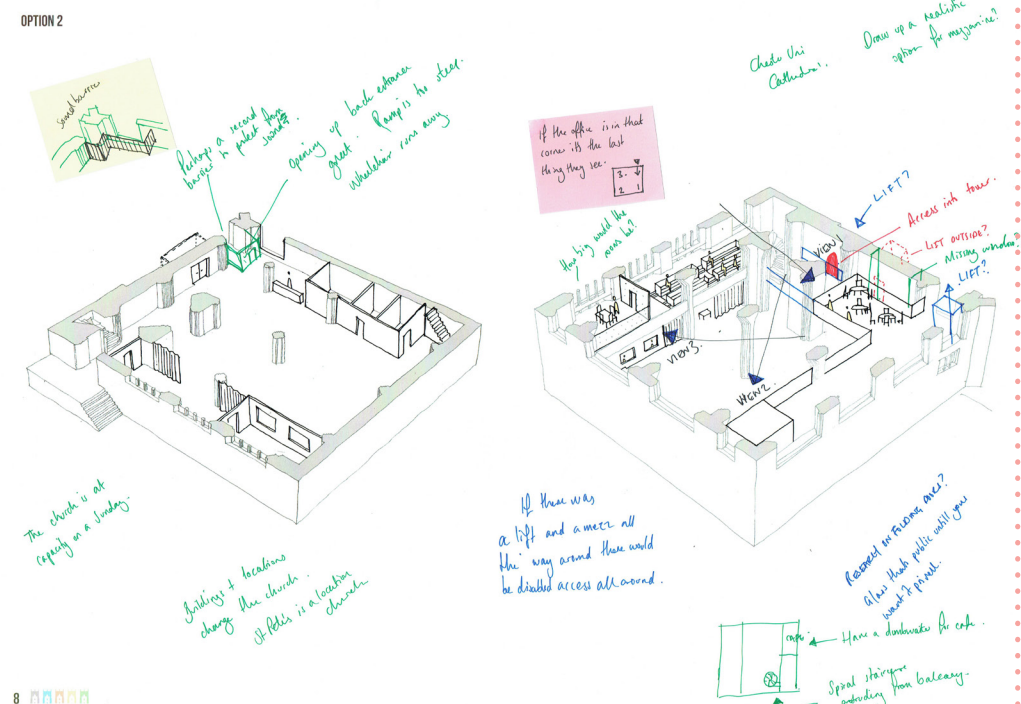
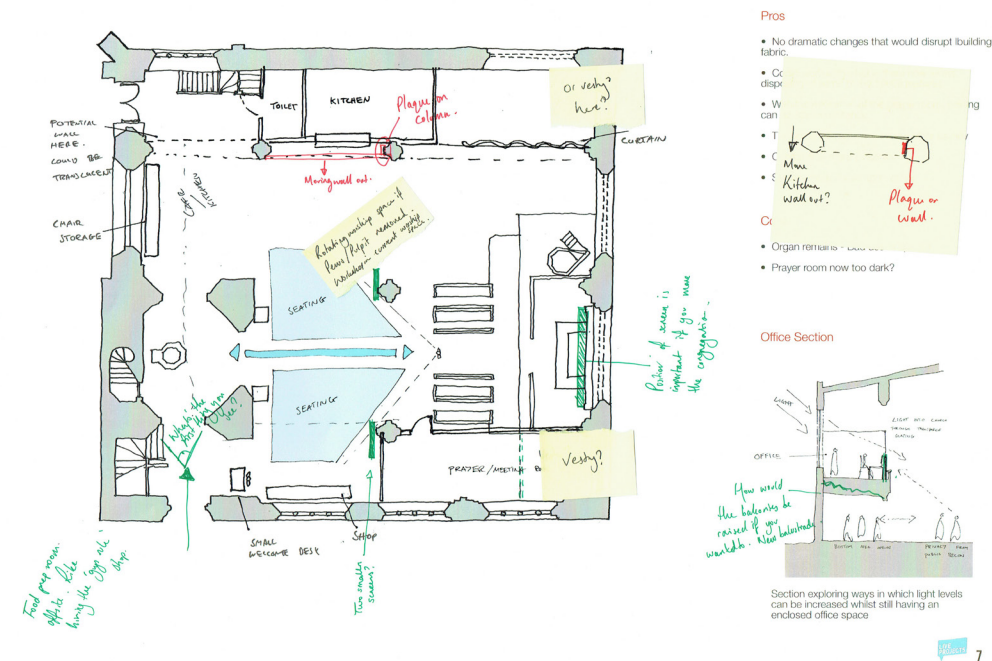


Everyman Theatre - Liverpool





Whilst completing various workshops, key comments were collected. By collecting key comments from the groups, these can then be referred back and play an important role in the design process.



COMMON ISSUES

IMPORTANCE OF ENGAGEMENT

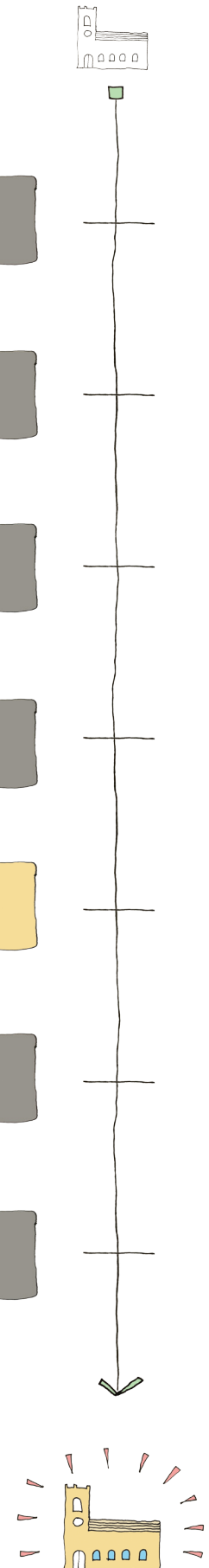
WHERE ARE YOU NOW?

WHERE DO YOU WANT TO GO?

FIRST ACTIONS

UP AND RUNNING

BREAKING THE WALL



VISION 1 - QUICK FIXES

Precedent Ideas
Curtain



Alles Wird Gut - Trausdorf

Storage



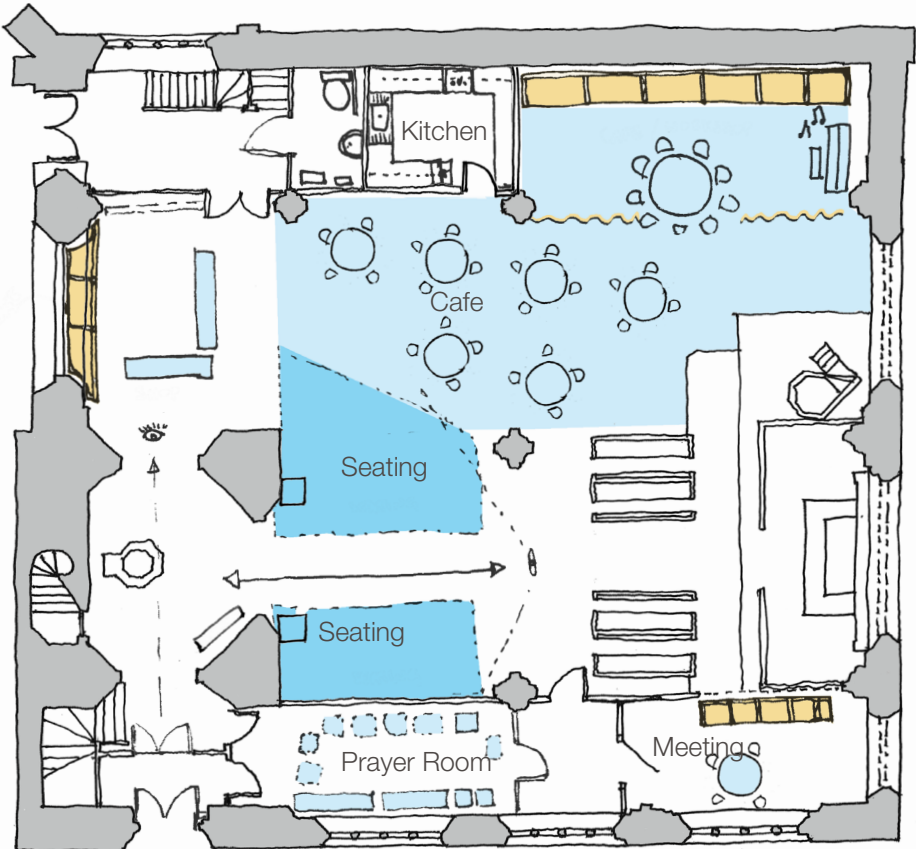
076 Susaloon / elii

Partitions



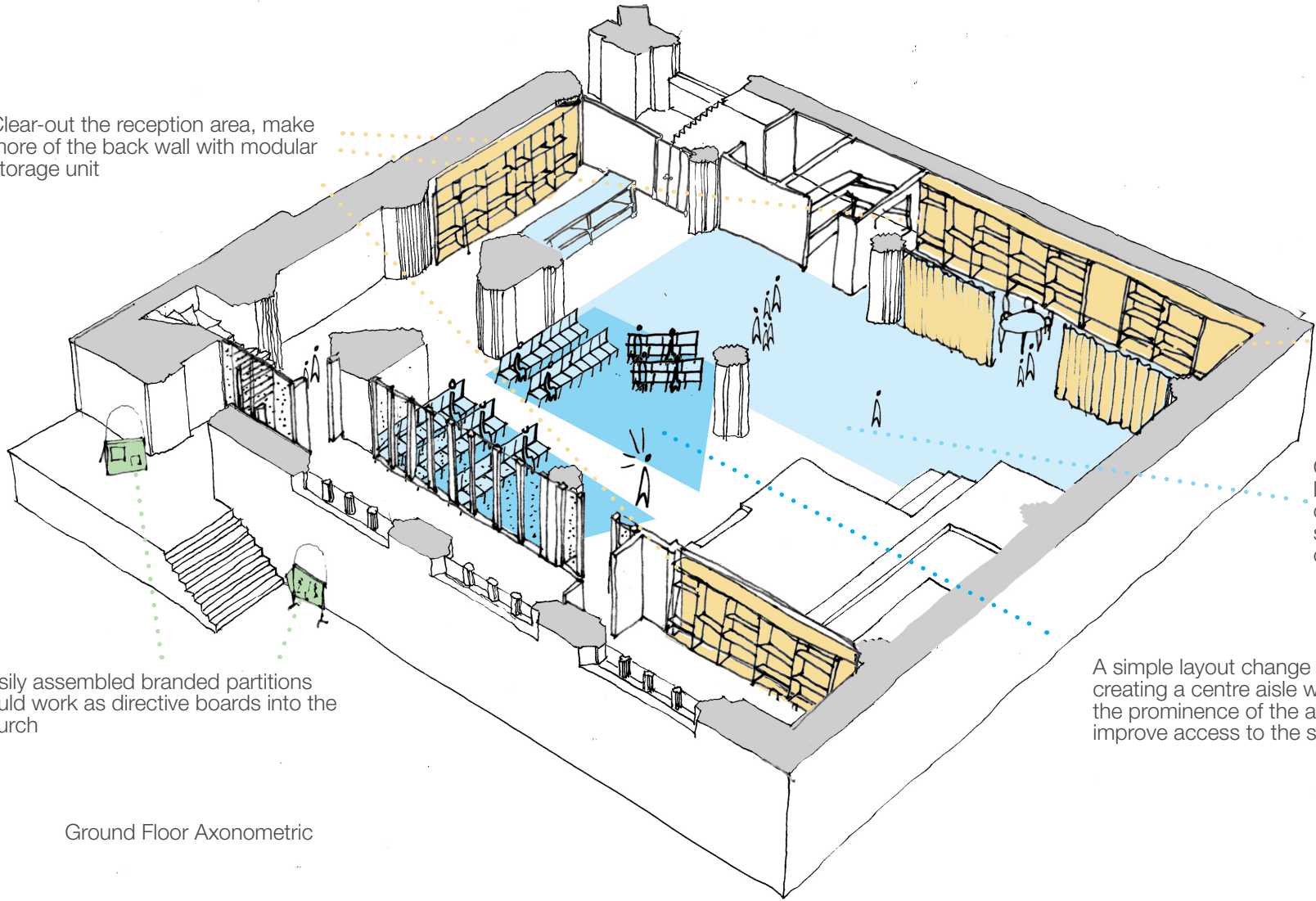
Restoration and Adaptation of a 16th century Chapel in Brihuega, Guadalajara, Spain by Adam Bresnick

Suggested colour scheme



Ground Floor Plan

Clear-out the reception area, make more of the back wall with modular storage unit



Easily assembled branded partitions could work as directive boards into the church

New curtains would improve visual aesthetics of the church as well as divide the space for better use

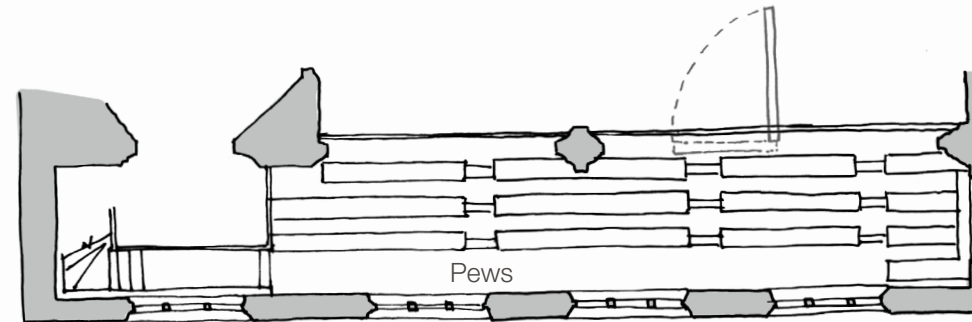
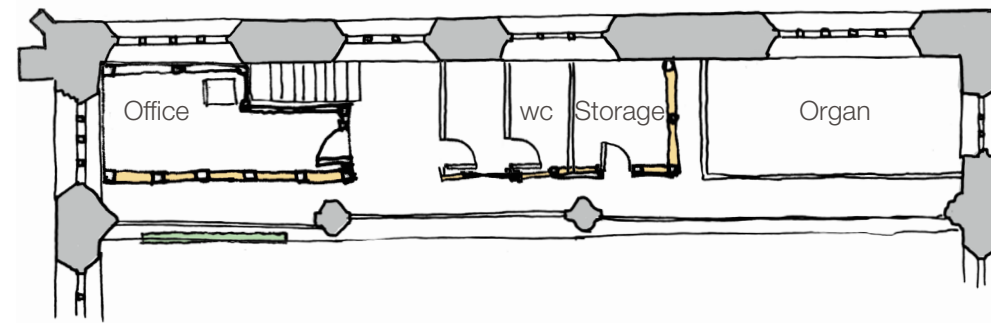
Changing the current furniture into more lightweight and easily demountable chairs and tables would improve the setting up and adapting to the purpose of the activity within the spaces

A simple layout change such as creating a centre aisle would emphasize the prominence of the altar as well as improve access to the seats

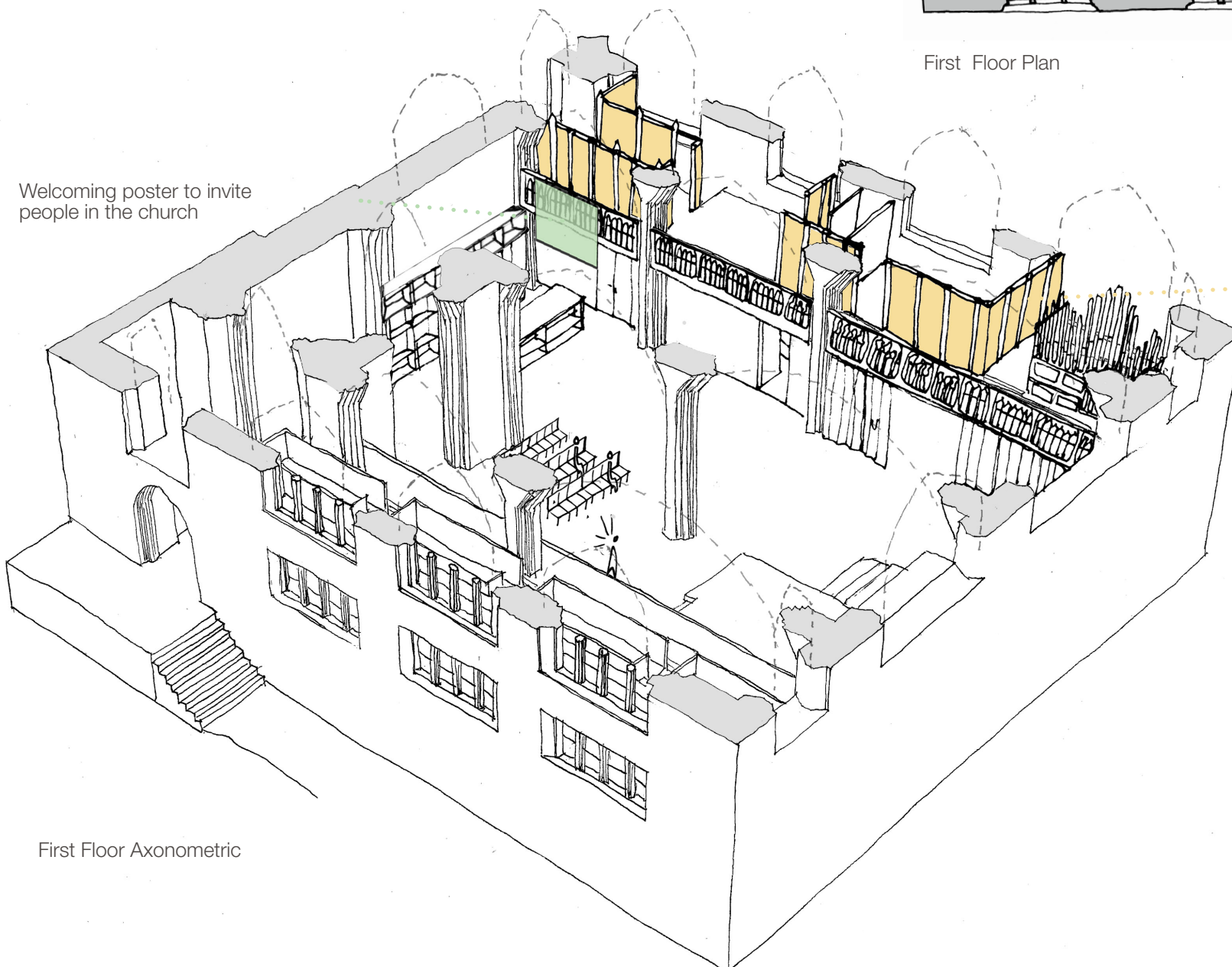
Ground Floor Axonometric

Key Ideas

- No dramatic changes that would disrupt building fabric or layout of partitions.
- Painting the partitions upstairs could help reflect more light in the short term but still cuts off light from the rest of the space.
- A clear-out of unused items would help create space and storage.
- Newer curtains would help improve the overall look of the Church whilst still offering flexibility.
- Served more visible upon arrival
- Organ remains
- Newer, lighter furniture would help make setting up and adaptation of the space easier.



First Floor Plan



Welcoming poster to invite people in the church

Paint partitions in a lighter colour to reflect more light and bring warmth to the space

First Floor Axonometric

COMMON ISSUES

IMPORTANCE OF ENGAGEMENT

WHERE ARE YOU NOW?

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FIRST ACTIONS

UP AND RUNNING

BREAKING THE WALL



VISION 2 - INTERNAL CONFIGURATION IDEAS

Precedent Ideas
Lighting



Merchants' club in Vilnius by hkt – architects

Partitions

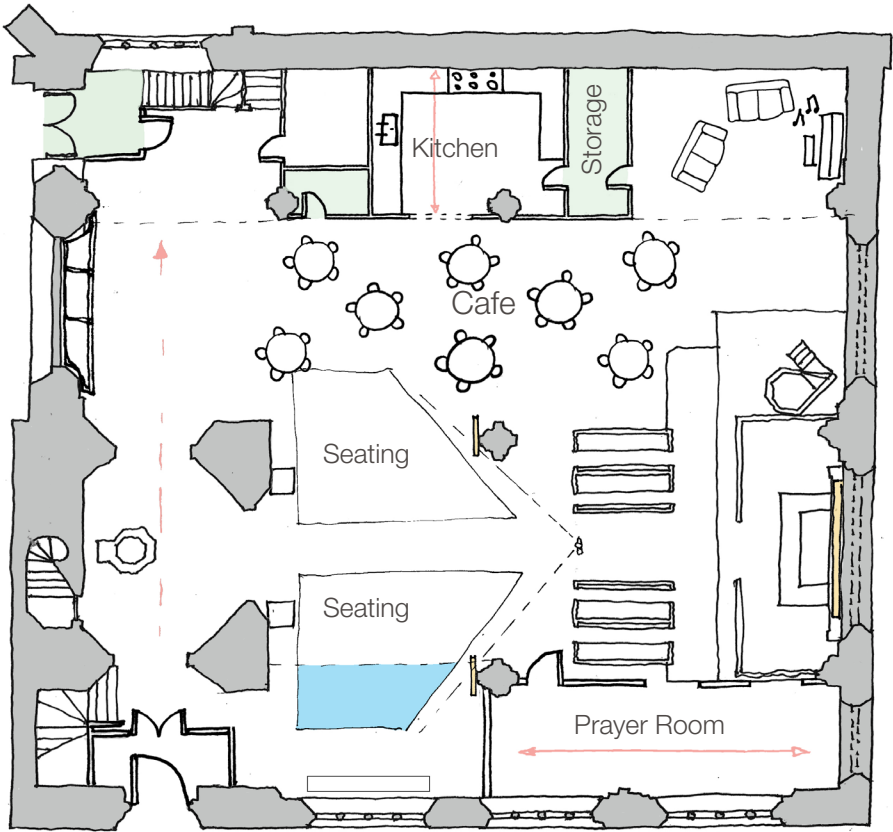


Restoration and Adaptation of a 16th century Chapel in Brihuega, Guadalajara, Spain by Adam Bresnick

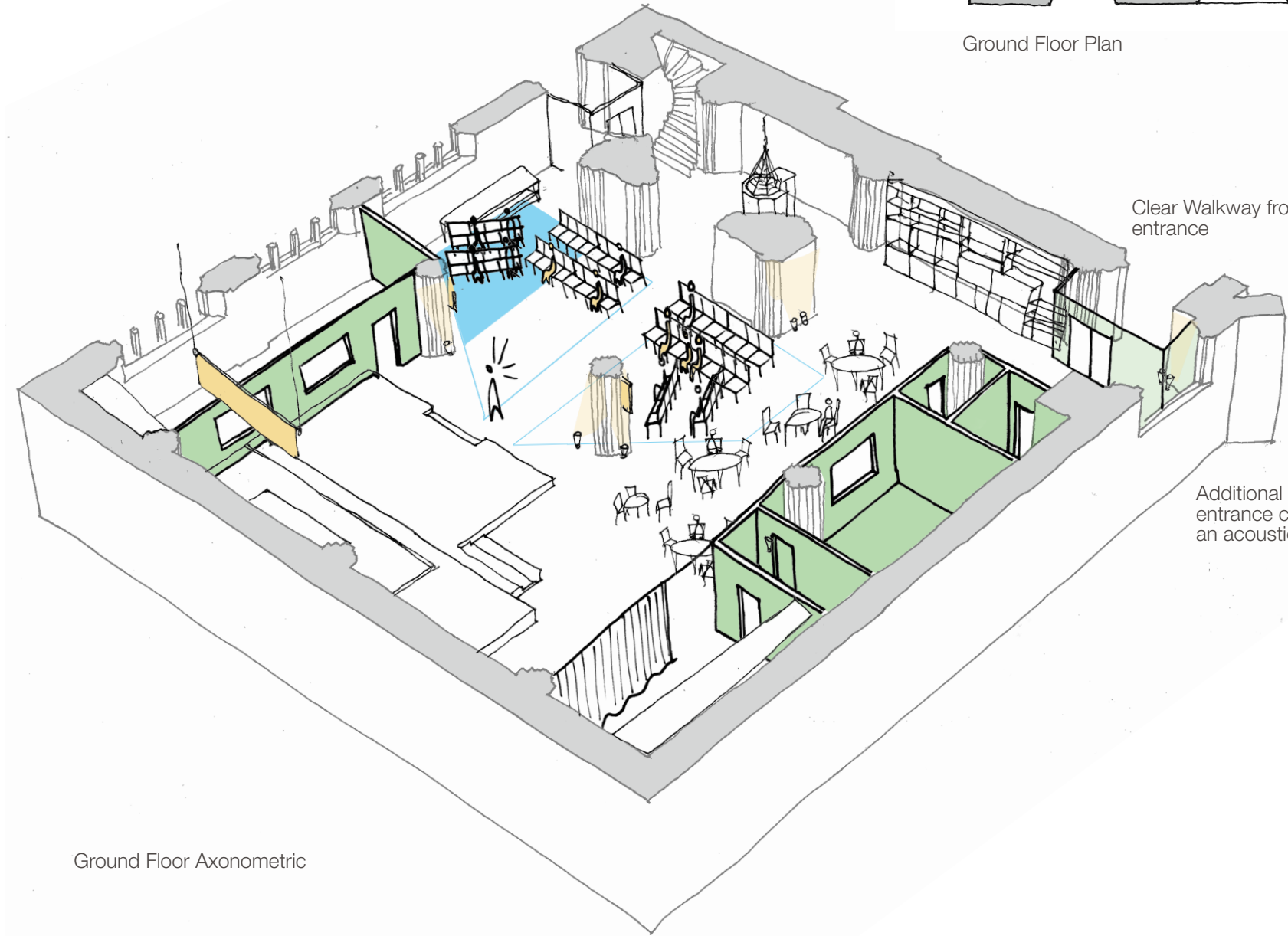
Rear Entrance



Café-restaurant De Ysbreeker in Asmterdam



Ground Floor Plan

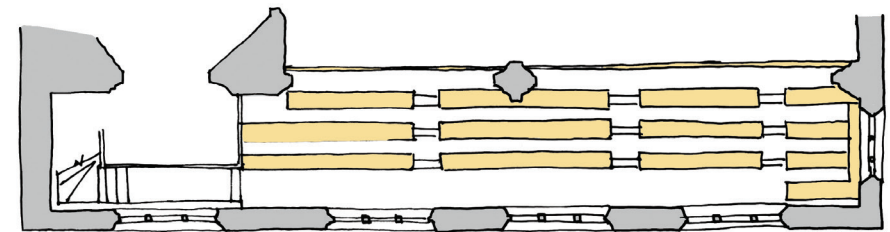
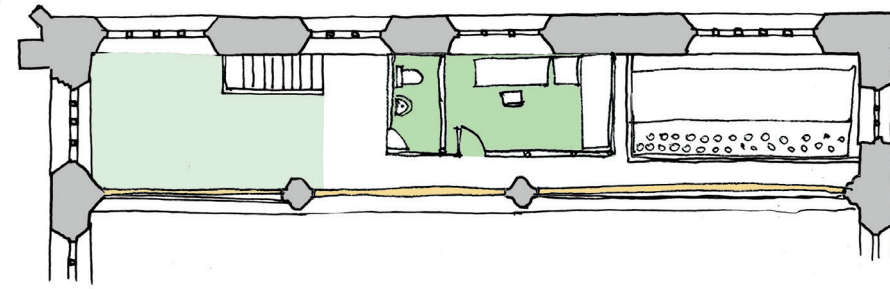


Ground Floor Axonometric

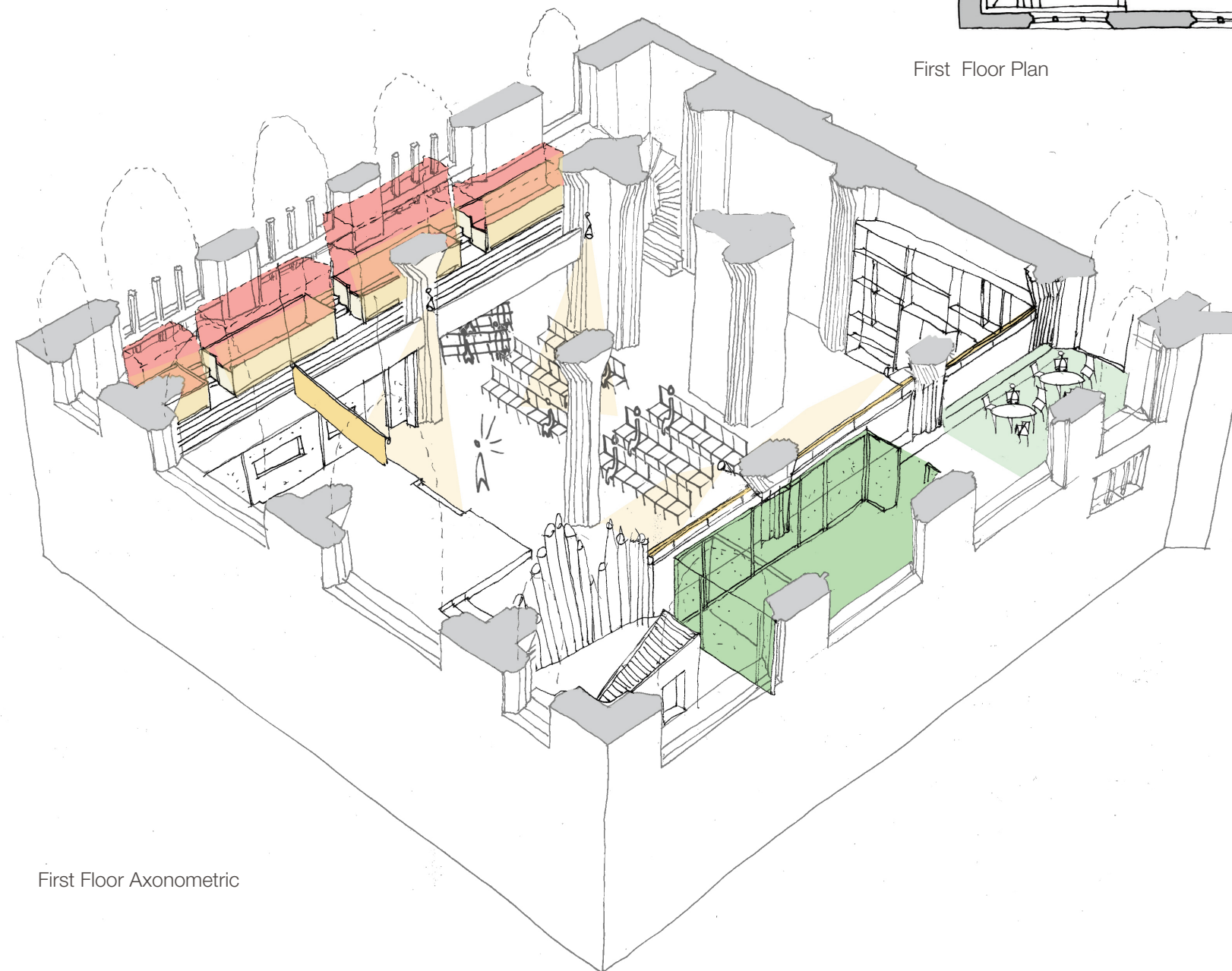


Key Ideas

- Shifting the prayer room along allows for more seating space which in turn creates a central aisle.
- Reconfiguring the first floor layout allows for light to penetrate the space whilst more translucent panels for the office could let in additional light.
- Removing the reception desk and partition behind could help reduce visual clutter in the circulation space.
- Servery could be more visible upon arrival if it were moved to face into the space
- Additional Storage cupboards next to the kitchen would offer options for ground floor storage.
- A more cohesive lighting strategy could also help the spaces appear more unified and considered.



First Floor Plan



First Floor Axonometric

Paint partitions in a lighter colour to reflect more light

COMMON ISSUES

IMPORTANCE OF
ENGAGEMENT

WHERE ARE YOU
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WHERE DO YOU
WANT TO GO?

FIRST ACTIONS

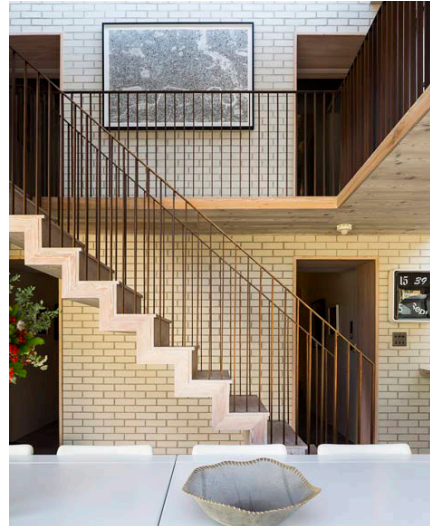
UP AND RUNNING

BREAKING THE
WALL



VISION 3 - LONGER TERM IDEAS

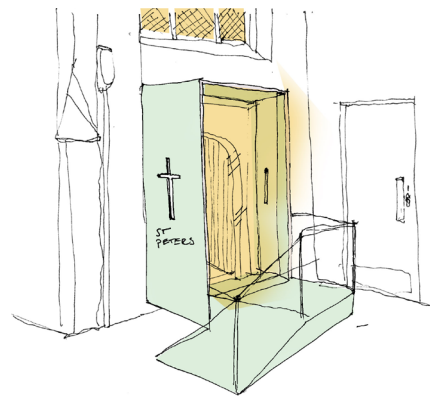
Precedent Ideas



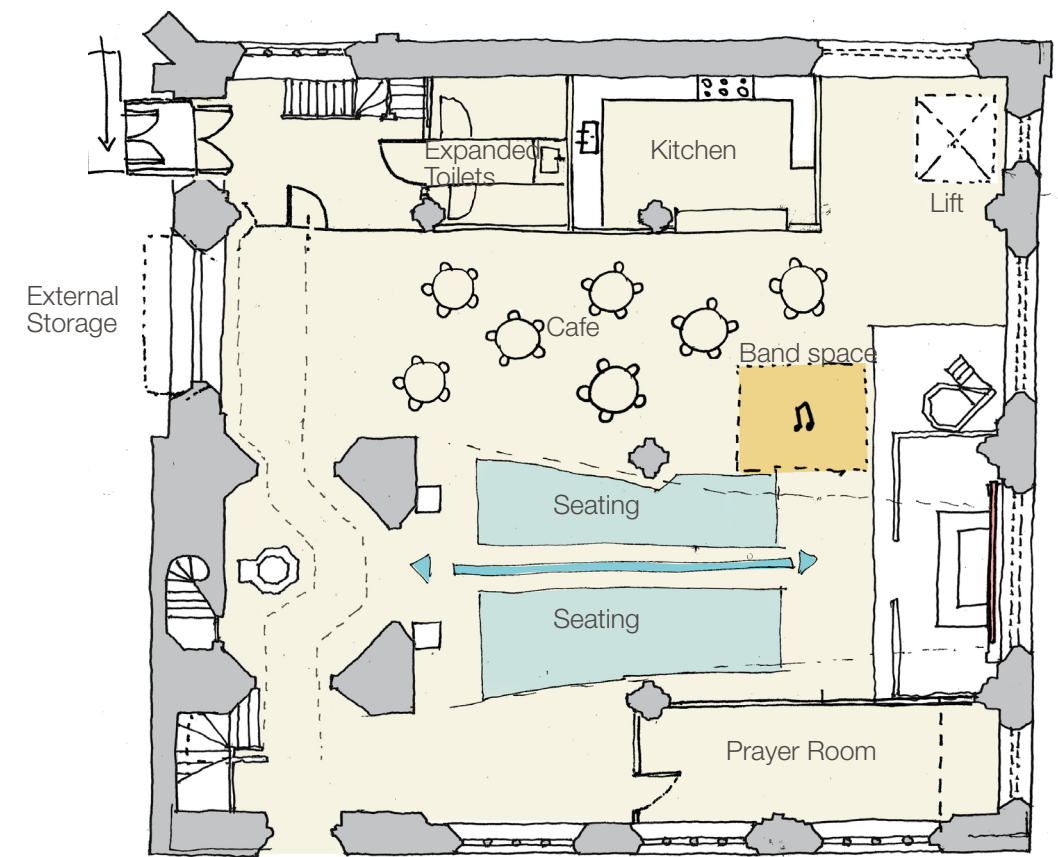
East London House - Mikhail Riches
The above design shows how slim a walkway could be at first floor level.



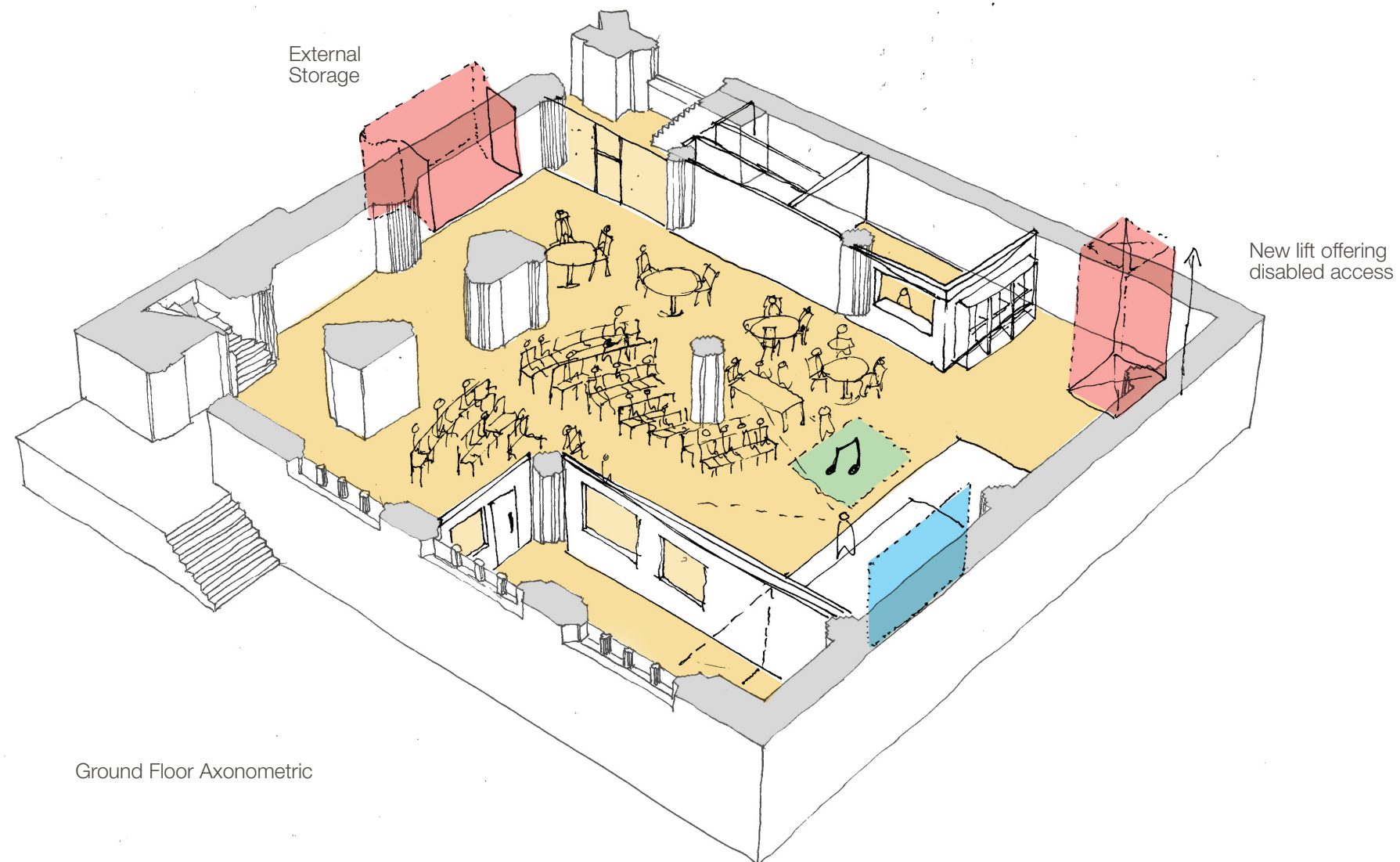
Peter Zumthor - Shelter for Roman ruins



The rear entrance could be extended outwards to create a ramp and additional acoustic buffer to the pub.



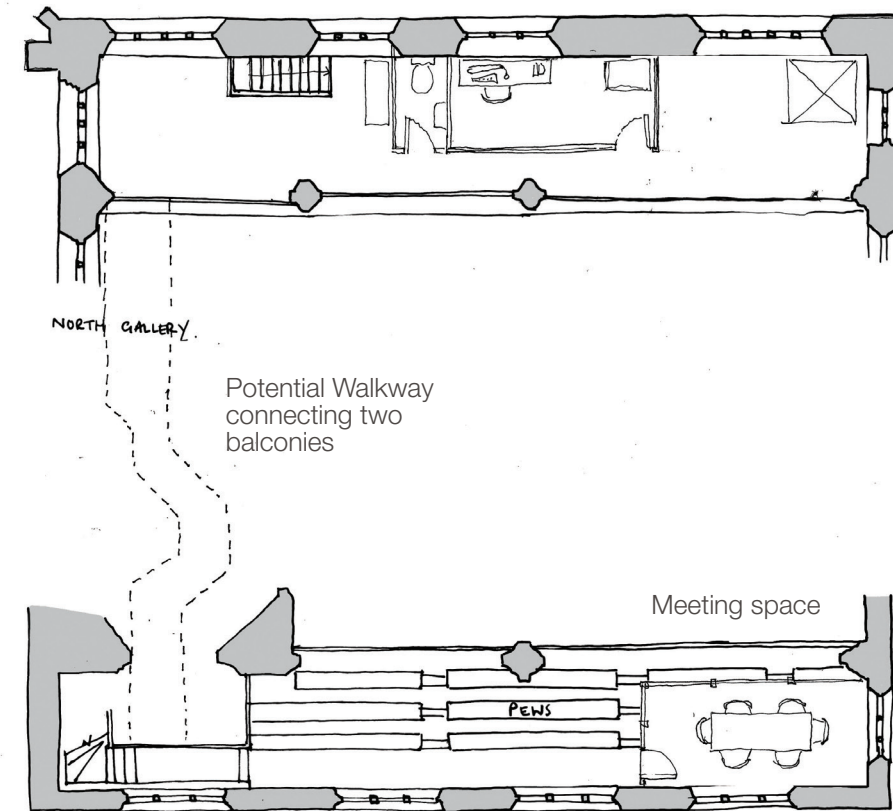
Ground Floor Plan



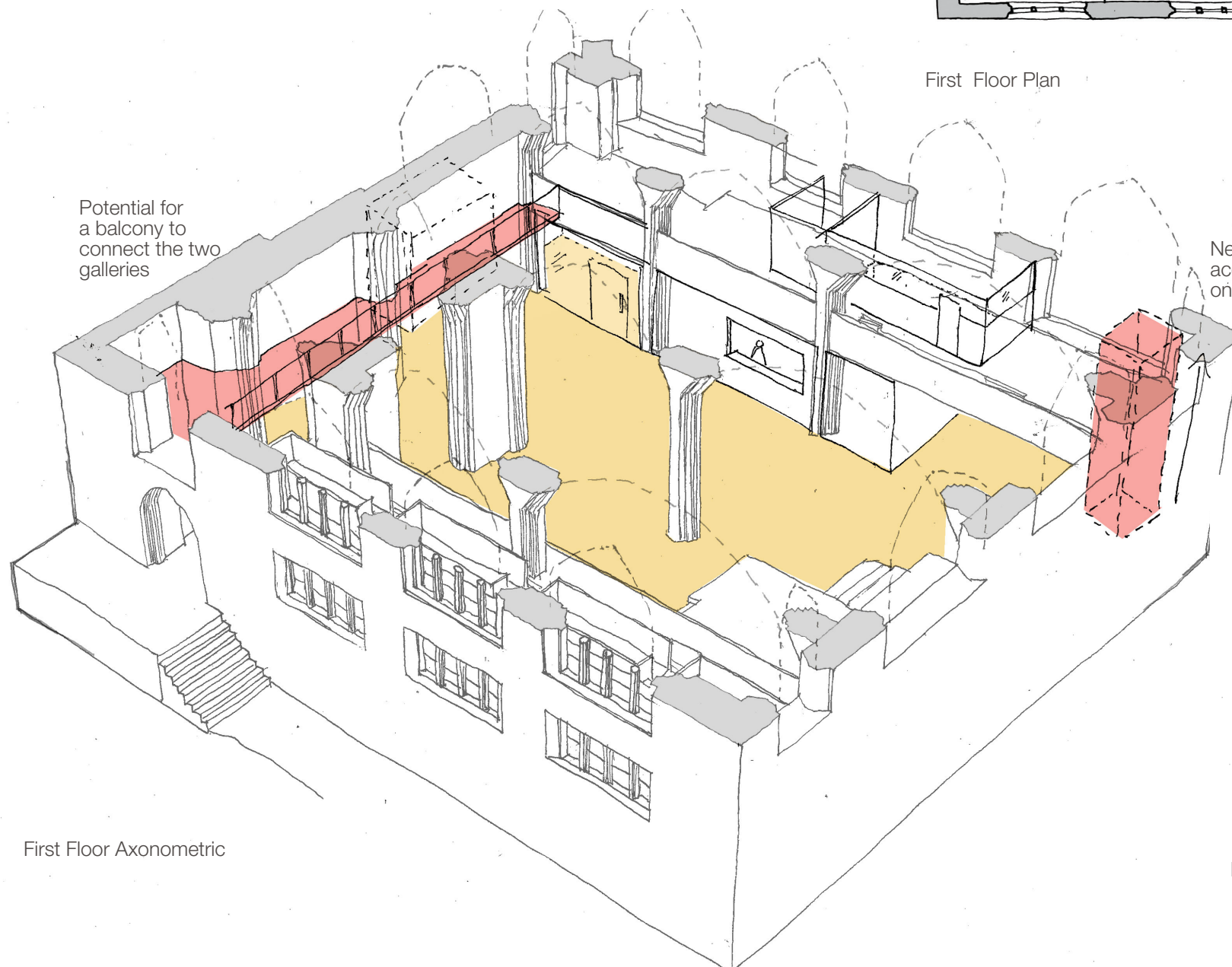
Ground Floor Axonometric

Key ideas

- Additional toilets and an adult changing table in the disabled toilet.
- Removal of the ground floor pews would allow for a more flexible space for services.
- As a result, the band could then set up in a space to the right of the service.
- If the external space between the pub and church has its ownership confirmed then this could be utilised for additional ground floor storage.
- Removal of the organ allows for lift access to the first floor.
- A potential first floor walkway could connect the two galleries.
- A new timber floor could help unite the spaces visually and eliminate varying thresholds throughout the church.



First Floor Plan



First Floor Axonometric



COMMON ISSUES

IMPORTANCE OF
ENGAGEMENT

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NOW?

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WANT TO GO?

FIRST ACTIONS

UP AND RUNNING

BREAKING THE
WALL







COMMON ISSUES

IMPORTANCE OF
ENGAGEMENT

WHERE ARE YOU
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WHERE DO YOU
WANT TO GO?

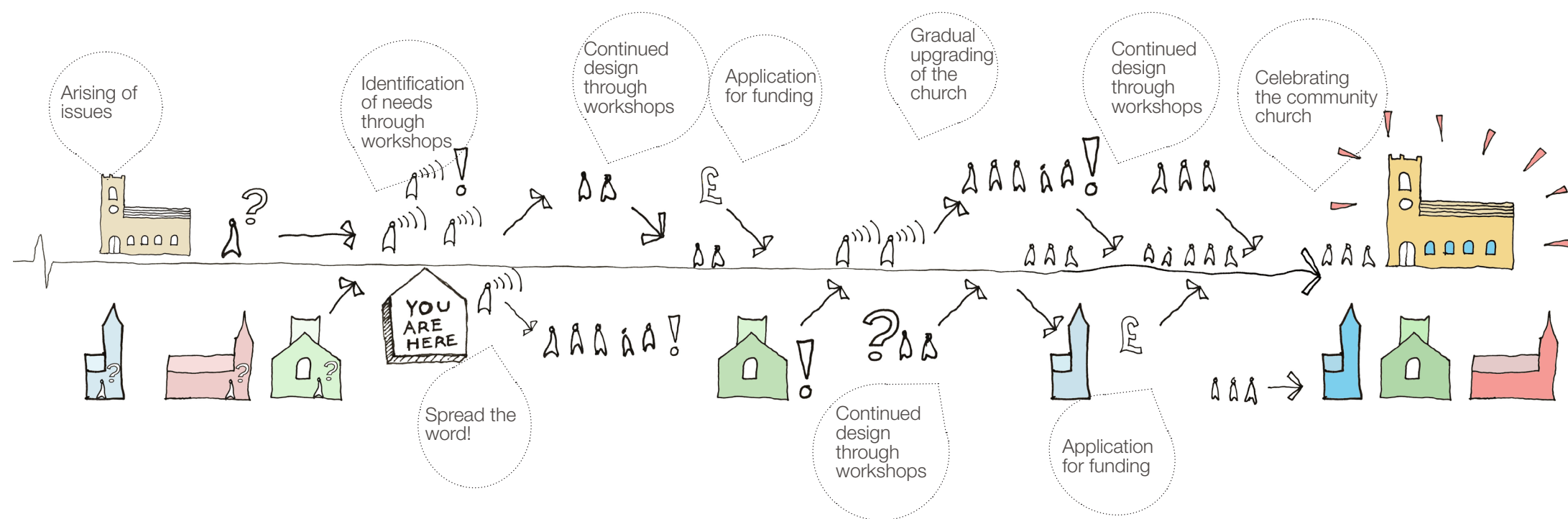
FIRST ACTIONS

UP AND RUNNING

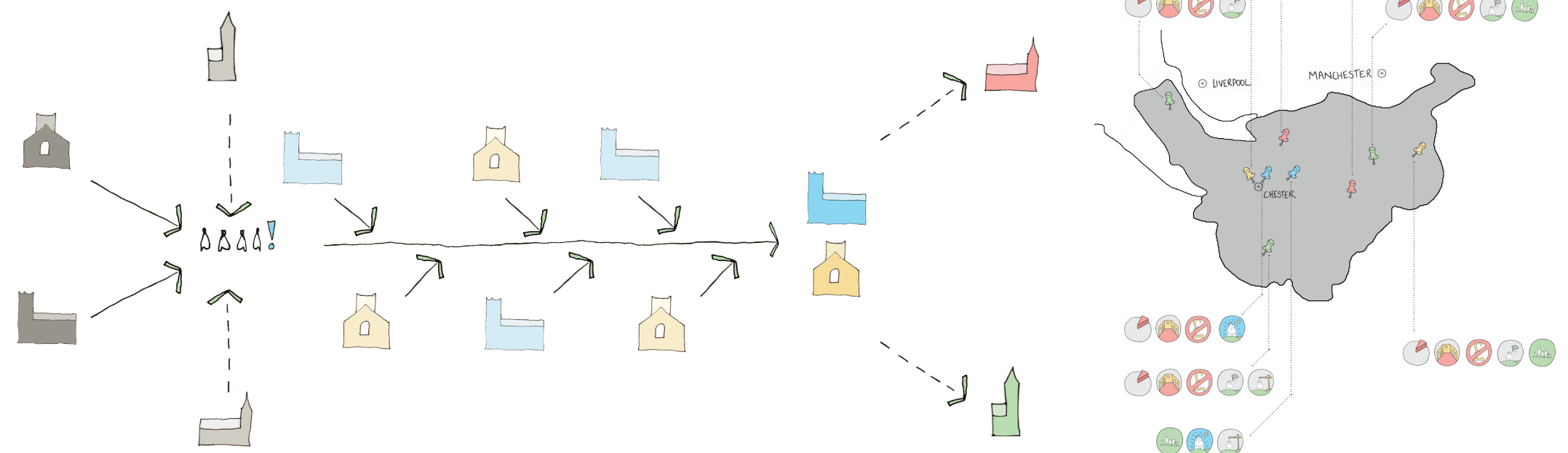
BREAKING THE
WALL



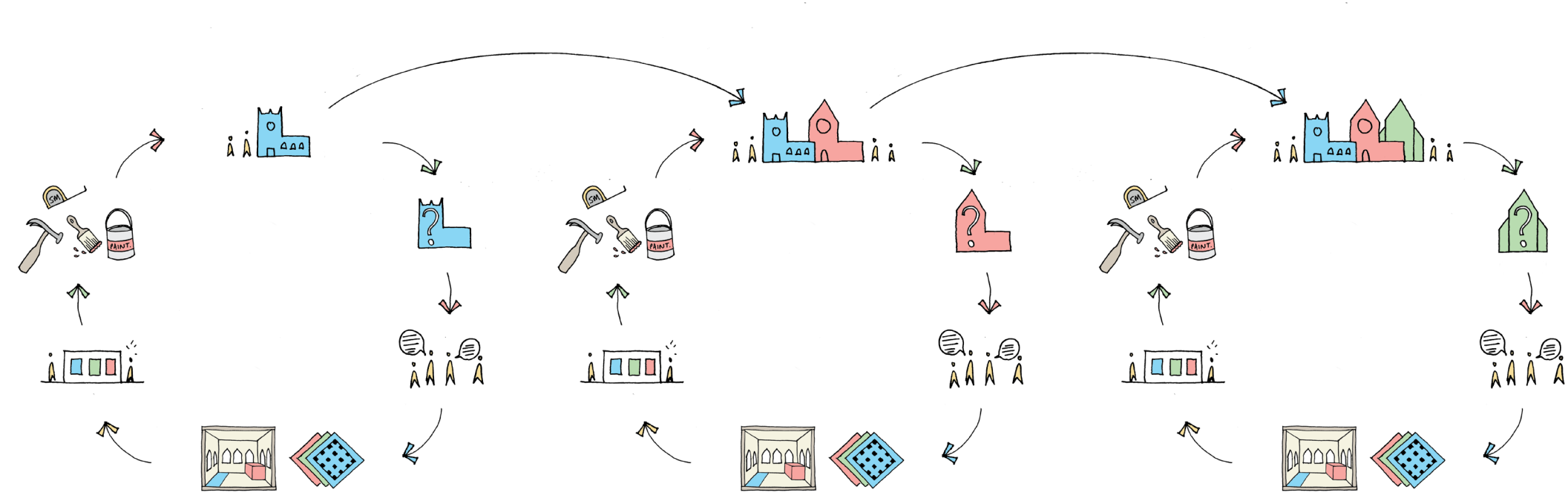
THE LEGACY: PARTICIPATORY DESIGN



The time line shows the process of the brief development where St Peters in Chester and Congleton are used as case studies. Key issues identified for other churches across Cheshire were also identified and focused on to create a body of work which should be as widely applicable as possible for the greatest overall benefit

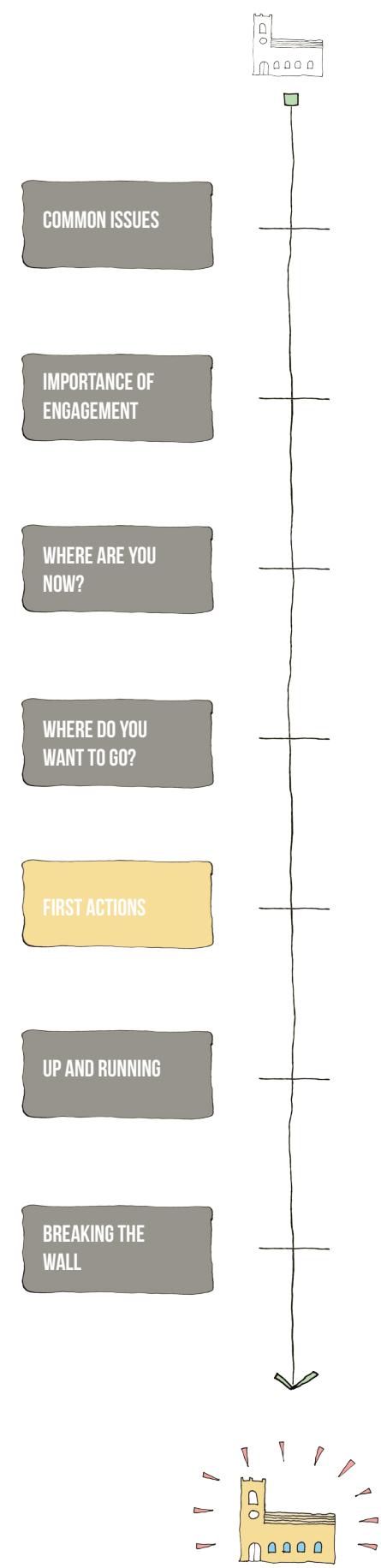
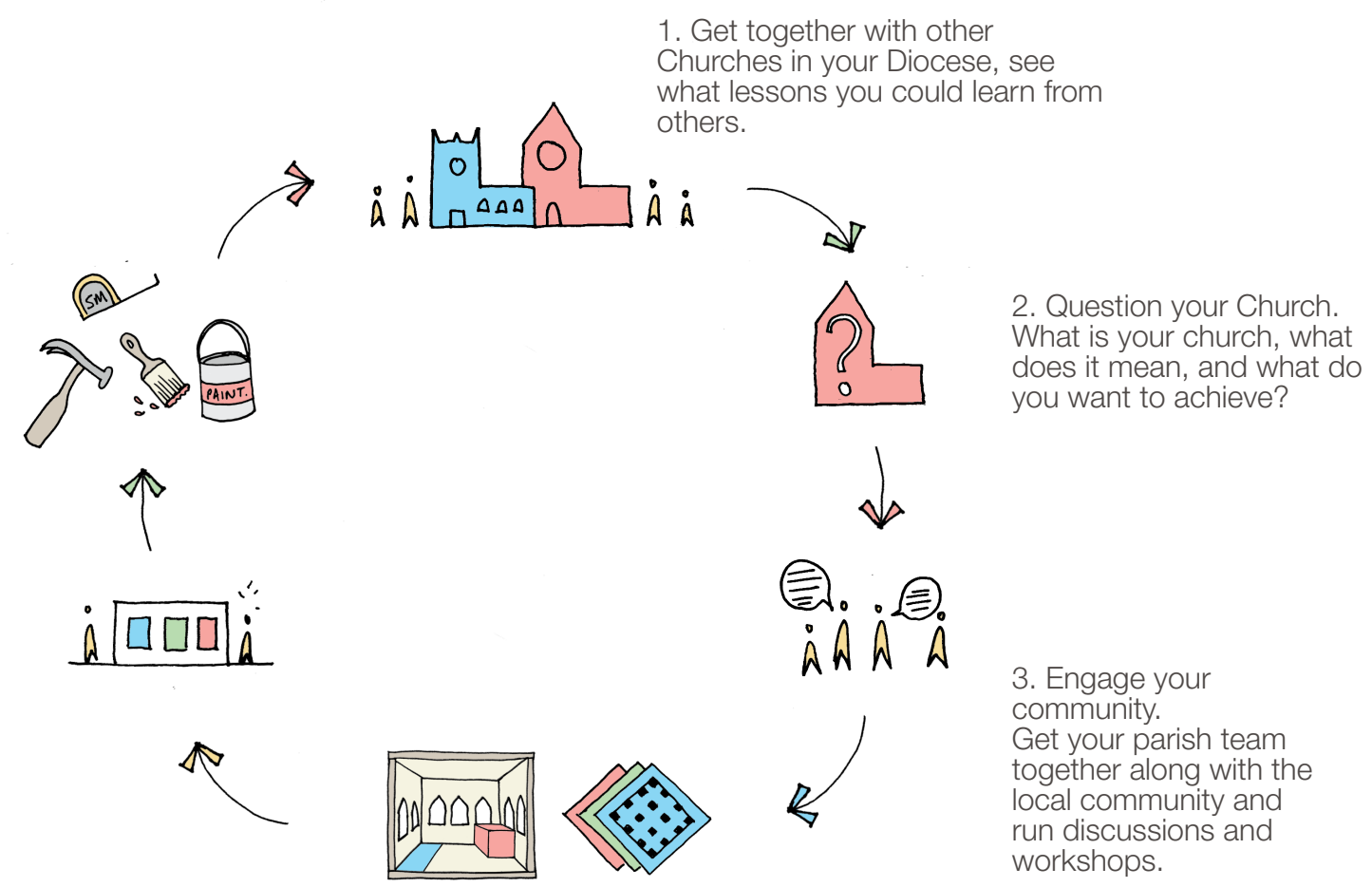


THE LEGACY: THE ONGOING CYCLE

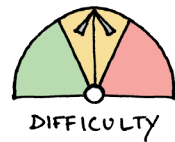


7. Change
With the approval of the community and all the required bodies you can then make changes to your Church.

6. Exhibition.
Once you have a set of ideas they can then be put into the public eye and see how the community reacts to the potential changes.



EXHIBITION / COIN VOTING



Activity

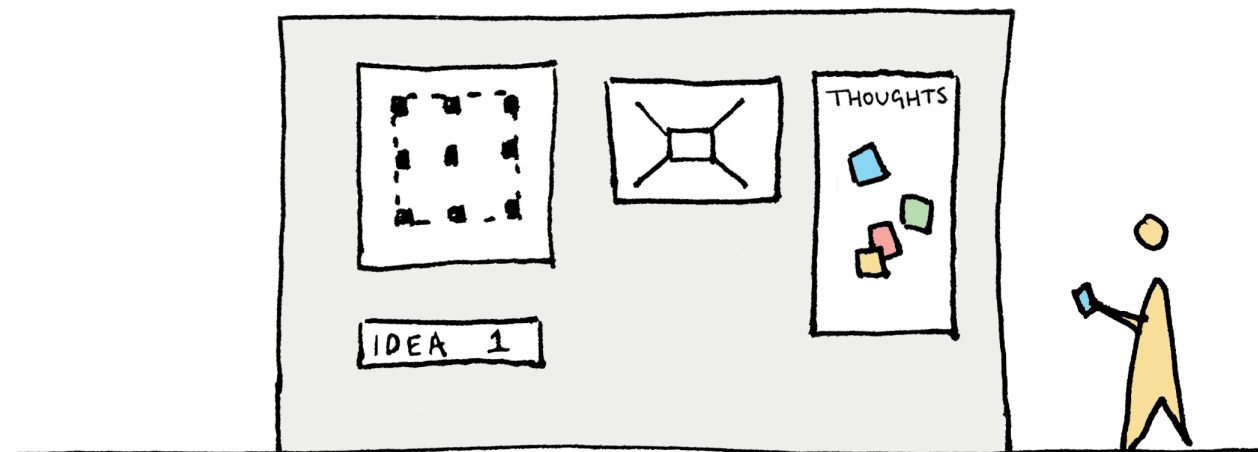
Exhibiting proposals and visions for the project in the church, or in the local community. This could include architectural drawings, imagery or just big ideas for the project.

The work could be exhibited as a stand alone workshop allowing participants to view and discuss at their own will, or the exhibition could work as a coin voting task. A box could be placed underneath each design option allowing the participant to vote on their favourite option. Voting could be completed either in a translucent box, or anonymously in an opaque box.

Aim

By hosting an exhibition the project is then opened up into the public eye creating awareness of the project. It allows people to view the work at their own leisure and can engage as and when suits.

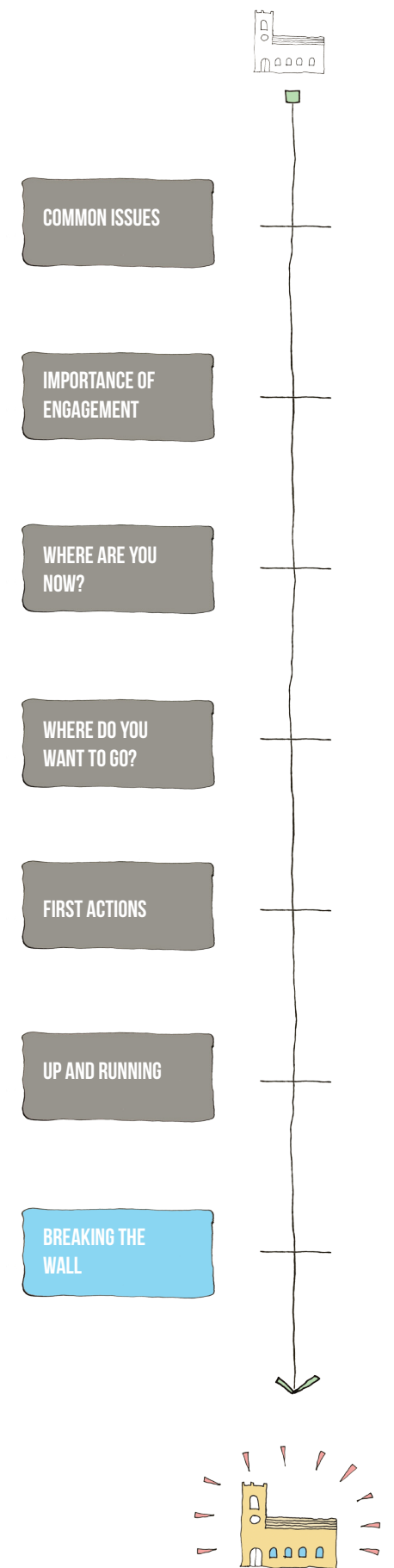
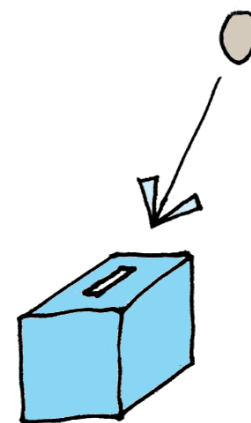
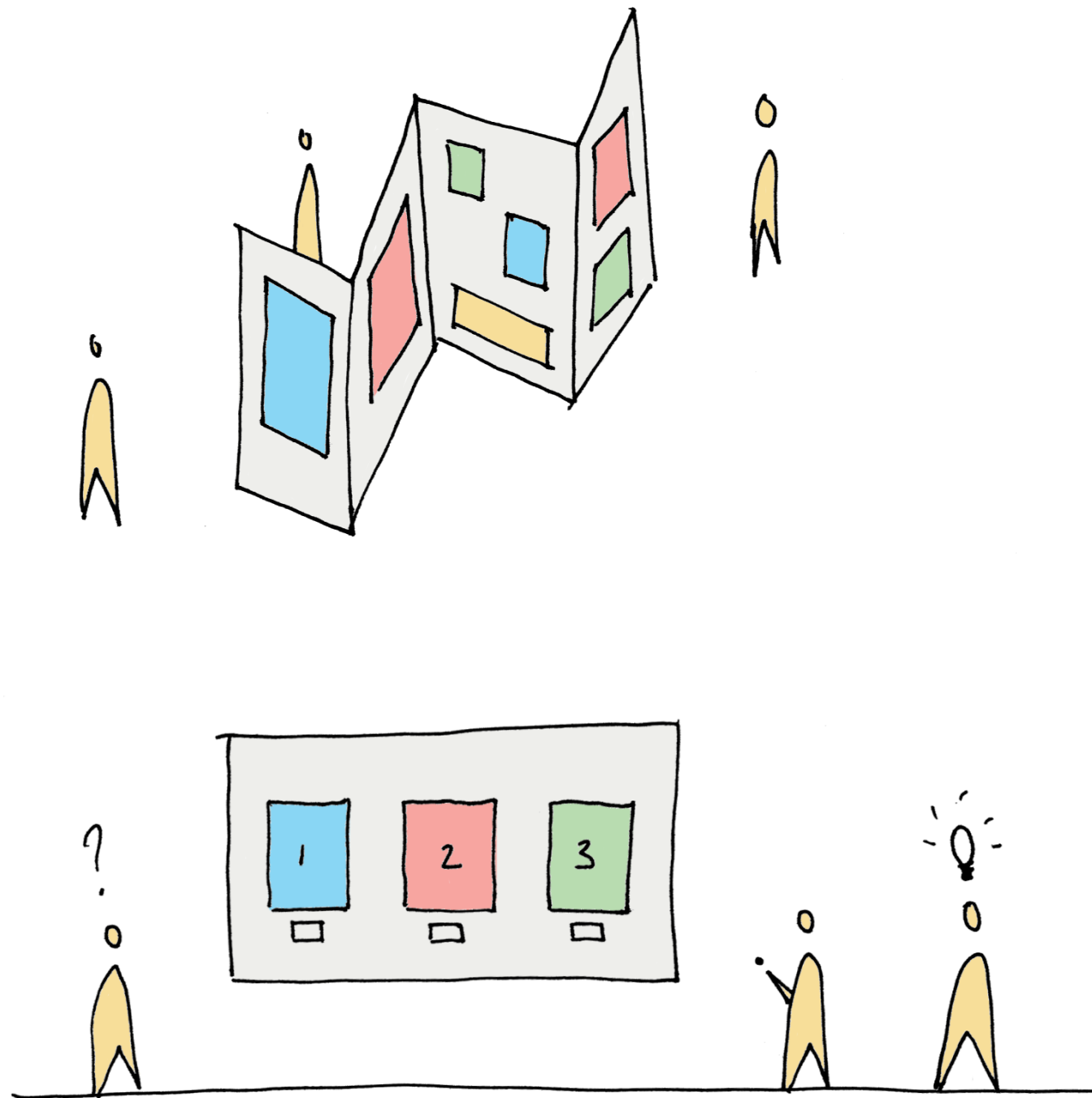
Having a voting system allows people to express their views in a slightly more private manner, where some people might not be as confident to voice their opinions.



Above
Treasurer's House, North Yorkshire (National Trust)
Example of coin voting - 24/10/2016

Below
Waitrose charity voting system - Nationwide

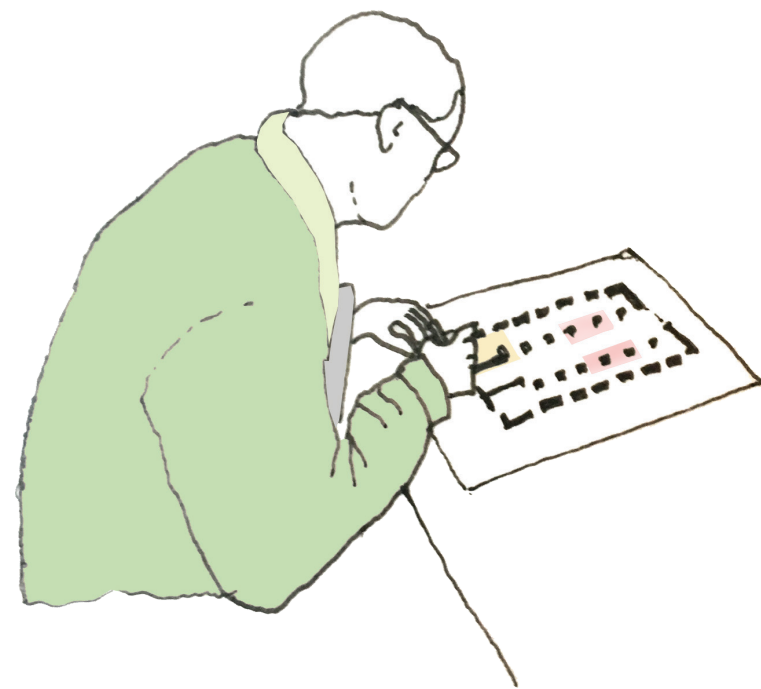




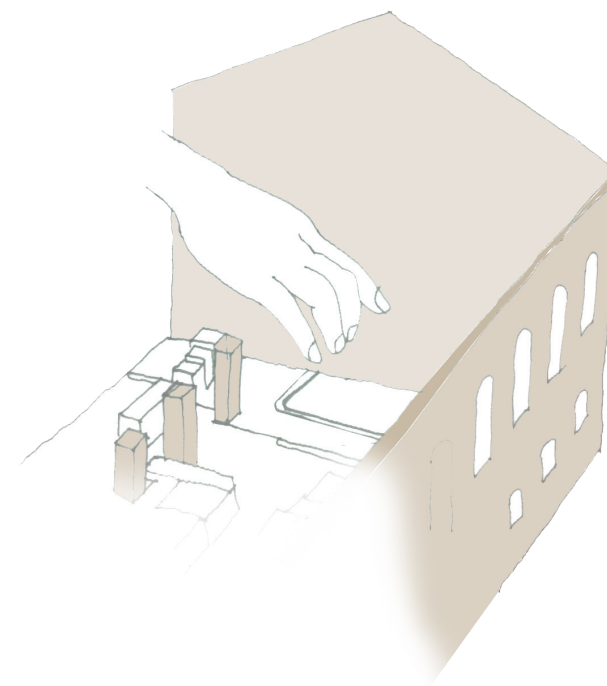
LEGACY WORKSHOPS

Legacy workshops are exercises that can be carried out in your church in order to continue the design process that we have started. These workshops are a great way to keep the community updated interested and involved, at the same time an effective tool to keep generating ideas and testing them as you proceed with the design.

Previous workshops such as the Trace plan activity and Model activity can be repeated to further refine, to arrive at conclusions and to test out various design questions

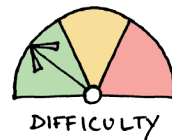


Trace Activity



Model Activity

POST CARD



Activity

Post cards showing the plans, sections or drawings of the church can be kept at the pews or kept next to the entrance.

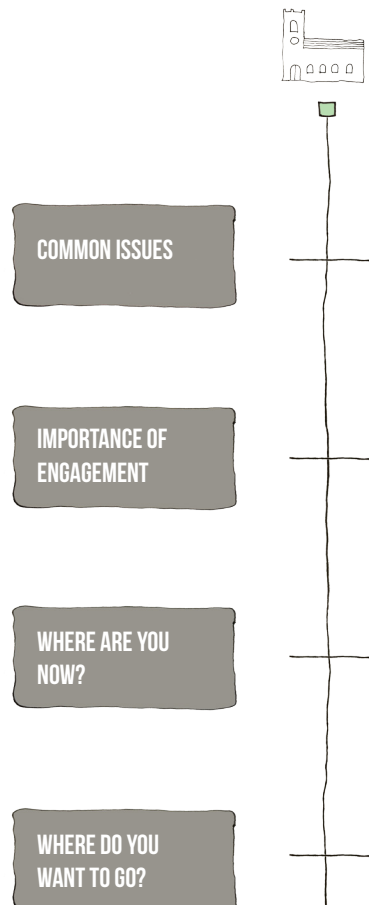
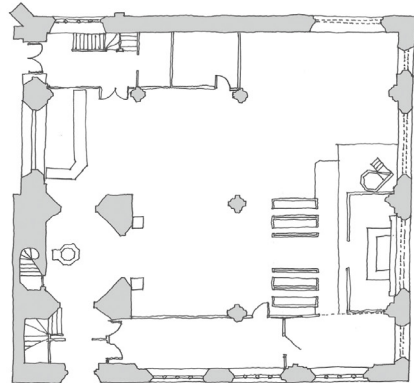
Members of the church community can then draw their ideas or write their suggestions for the church on them and send it back to the church.

Aim

The aim of the task is to get as many people in the community as possible involved in the design process. This will help the church to build a data base of ideas for the design.

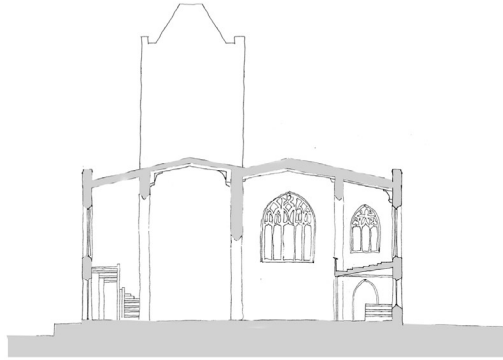
It also generates an attitude of “My church” and how they can contribute to improve it.

The post card activity can be redesigned and adopted in many ways to gather feedback and keep the community involved.

My Church is...

St. Peter's Church
The Cross
Chester
CH1 2LA



My Church is...

St. Peter's Church
The Cross
Chester
CH1 2LA



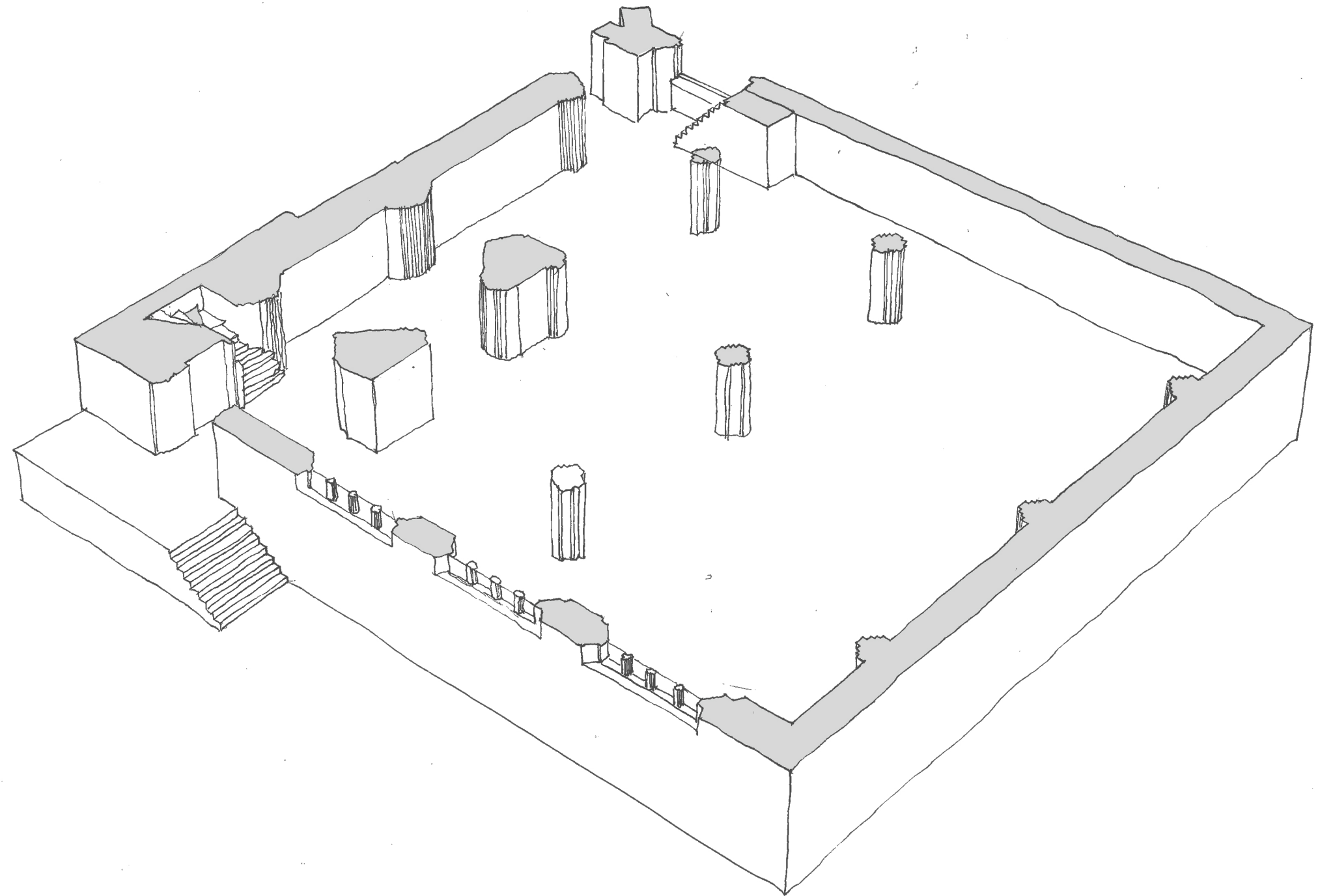
My Church is...

St. Peter's Church
The Cross
Chester
CH1 2LA

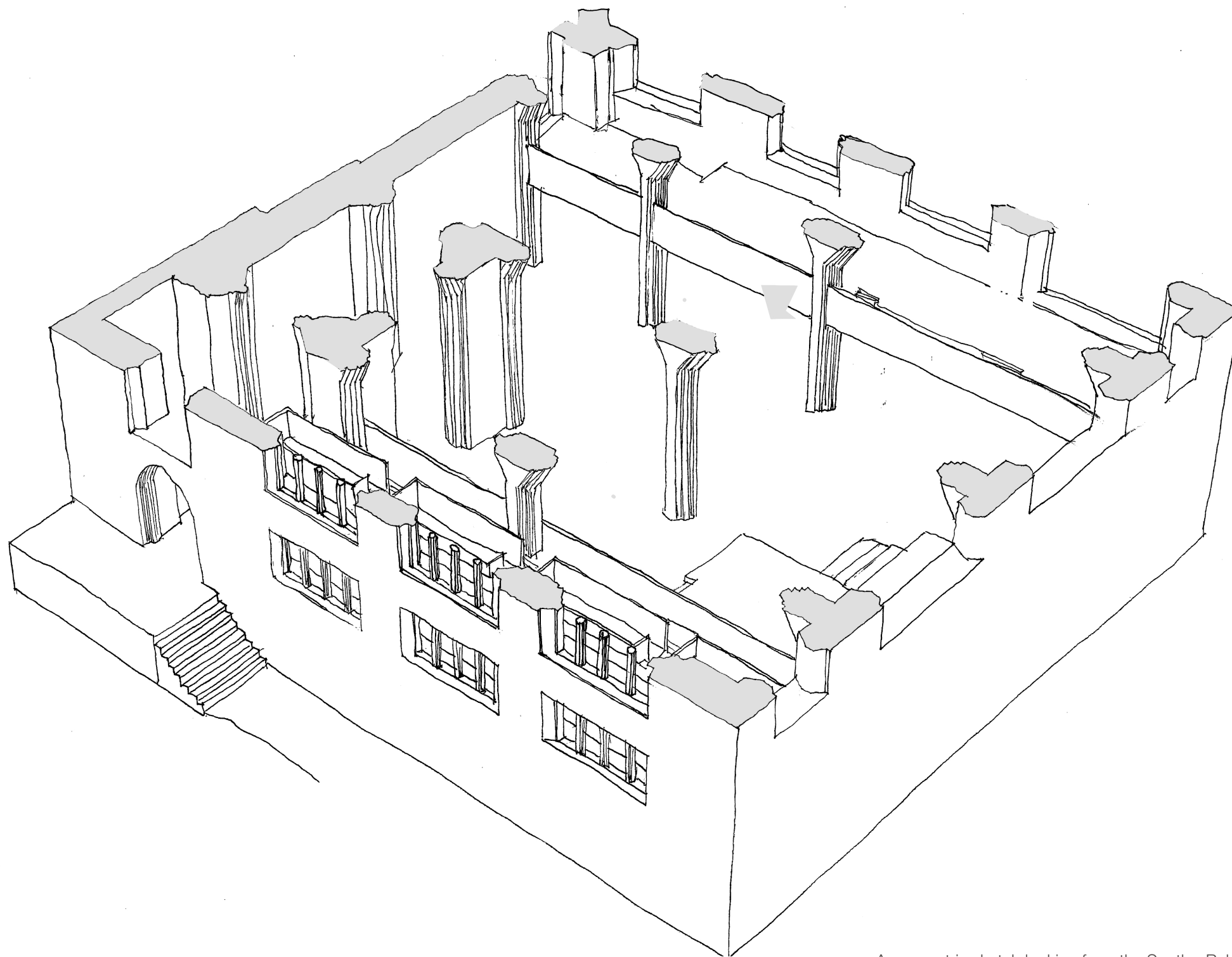


Activity

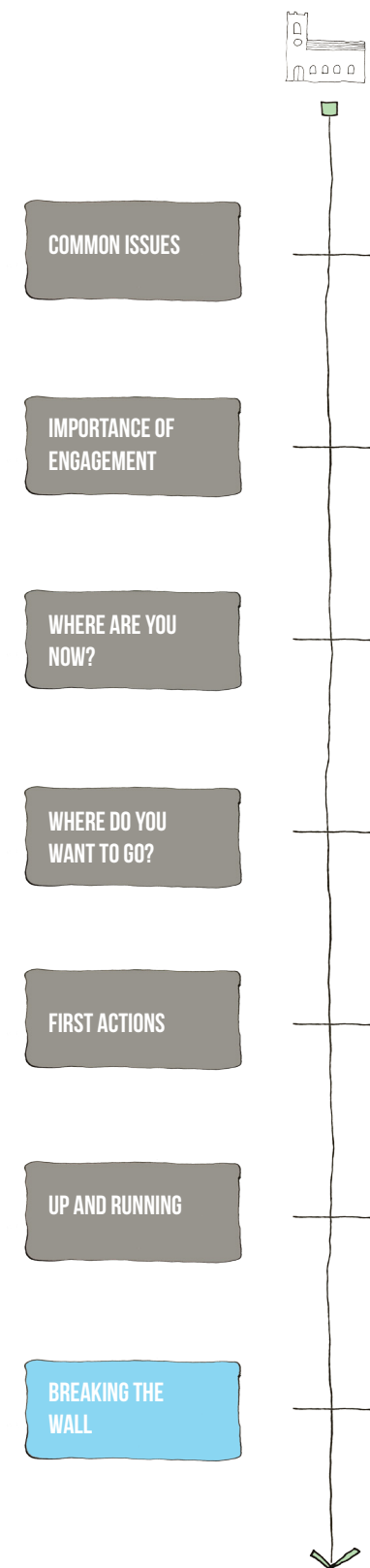
By using the following sketches, these can be reprinted, allowing you to sketch out your own ideas and share them in future workshops.

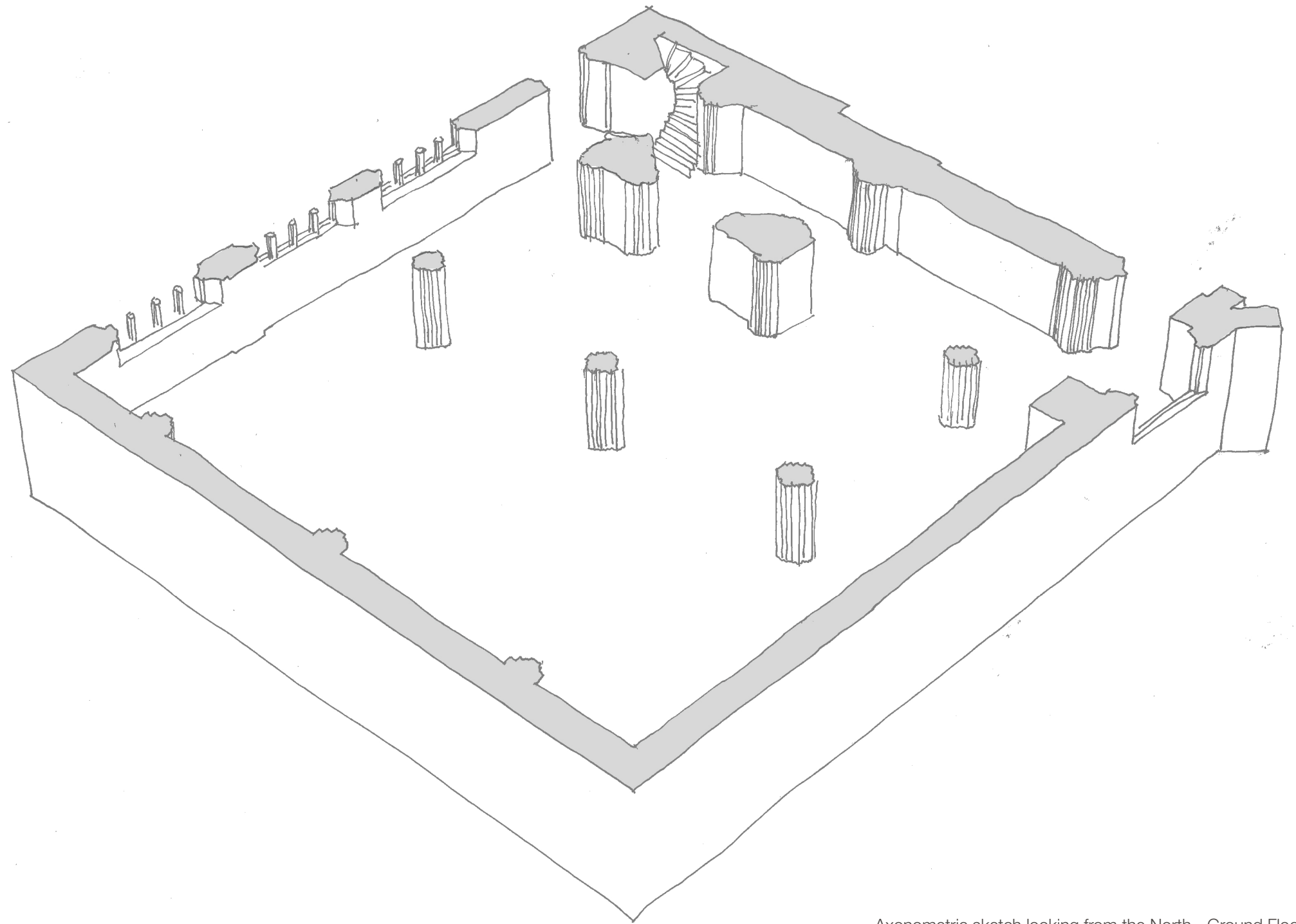


Axonometric sketch looking from the South - Ground Floor

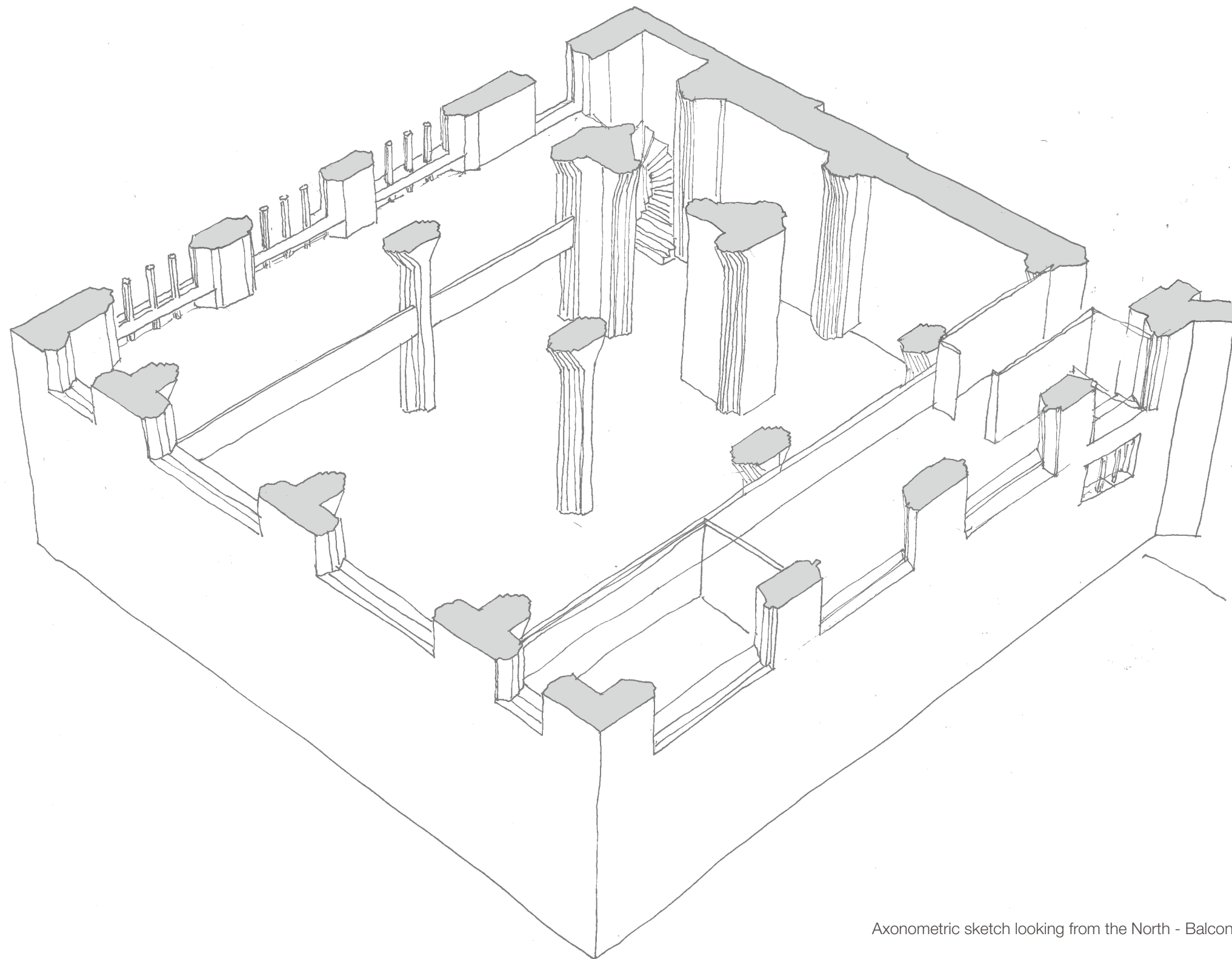


Axonometric sketch looking from the South - Balcony Level

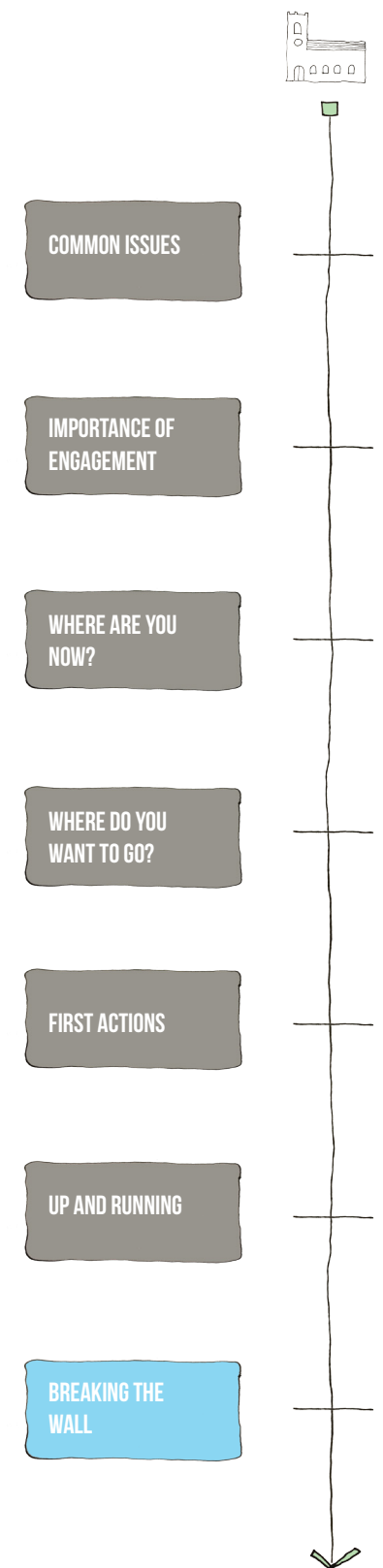


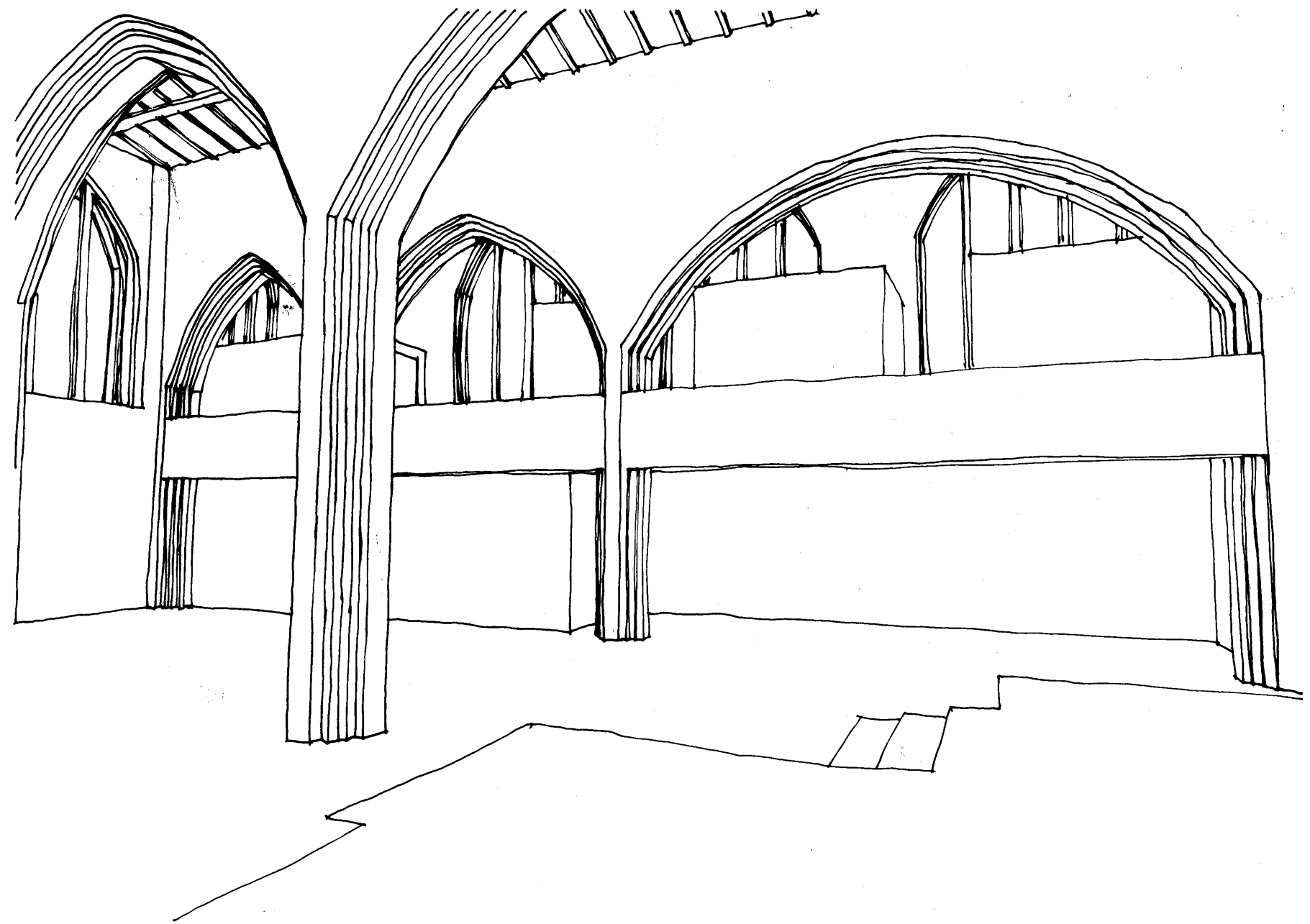


Axonometric sketch looking from the North - Ground Floor



Axonometric sketch looking from the North - Balcony Level

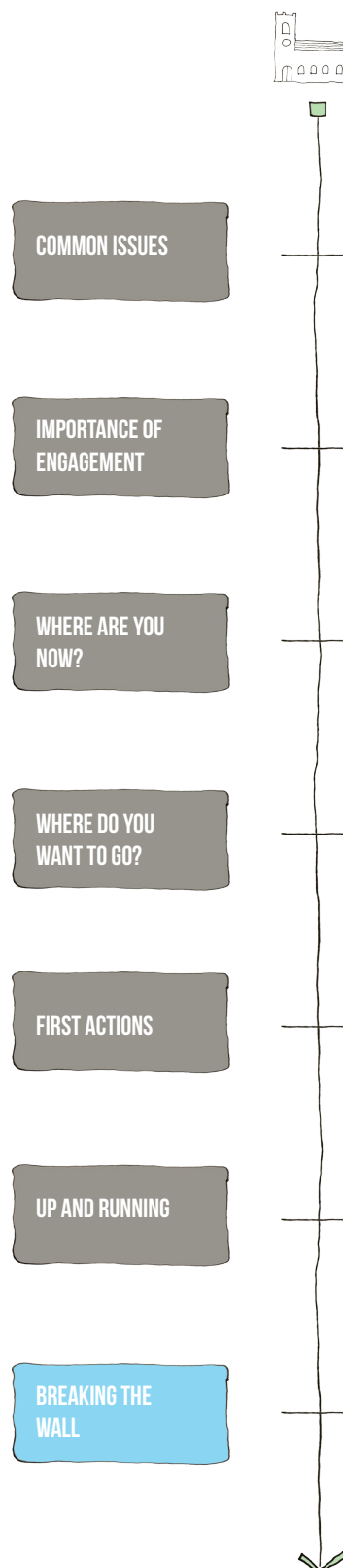


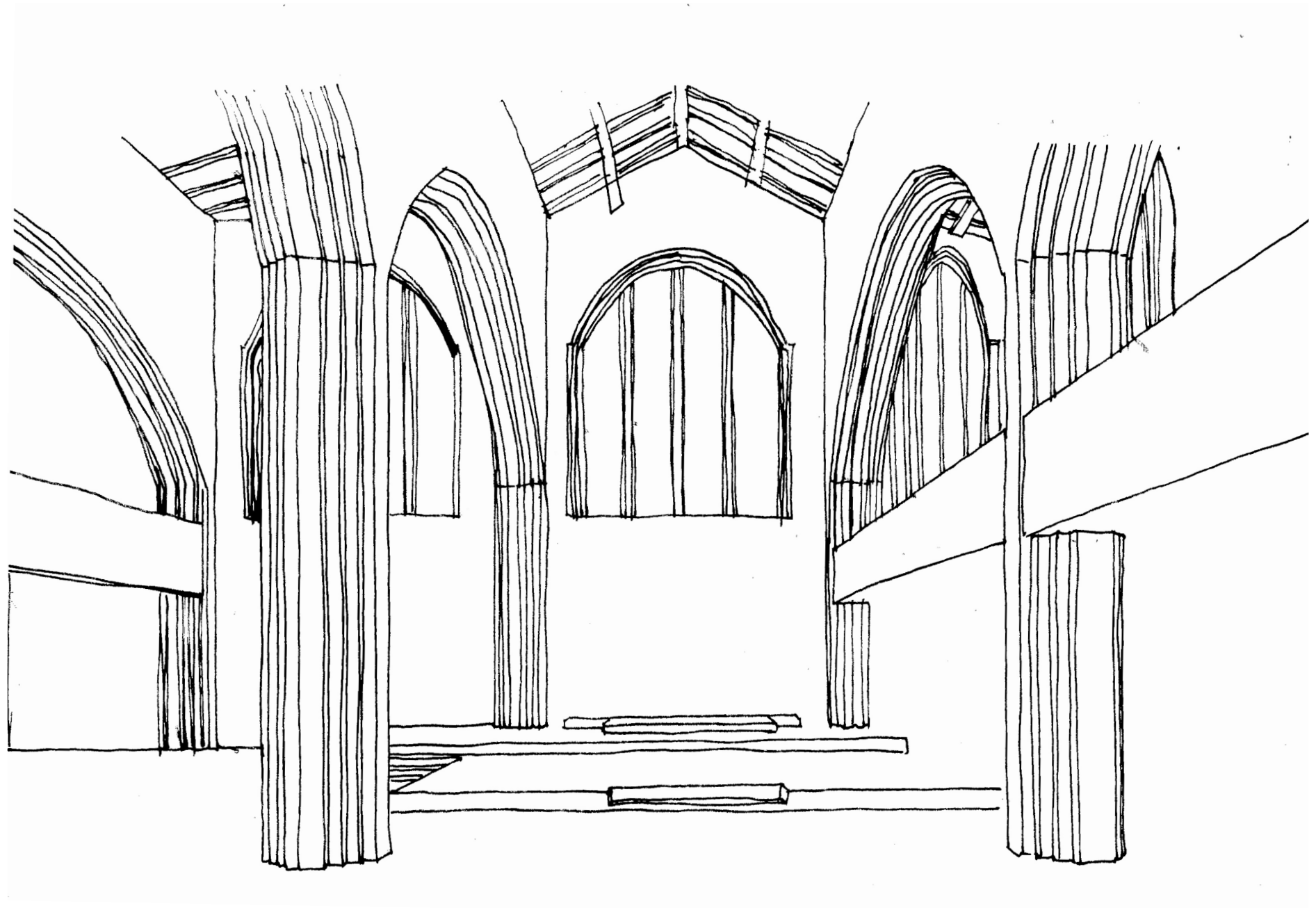


View from the South East corner of the main nave



View from the North East corner

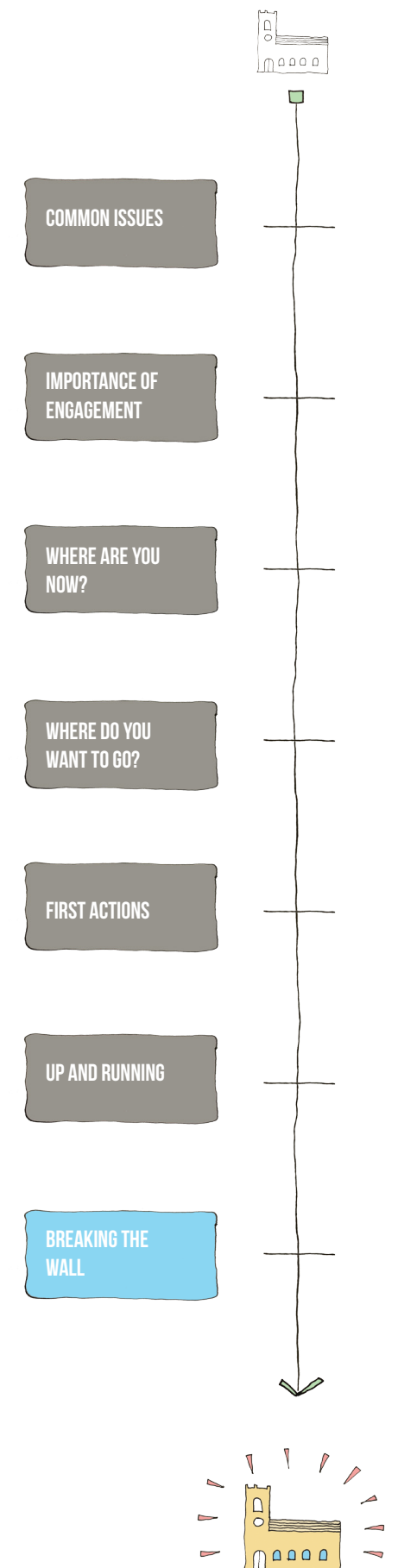


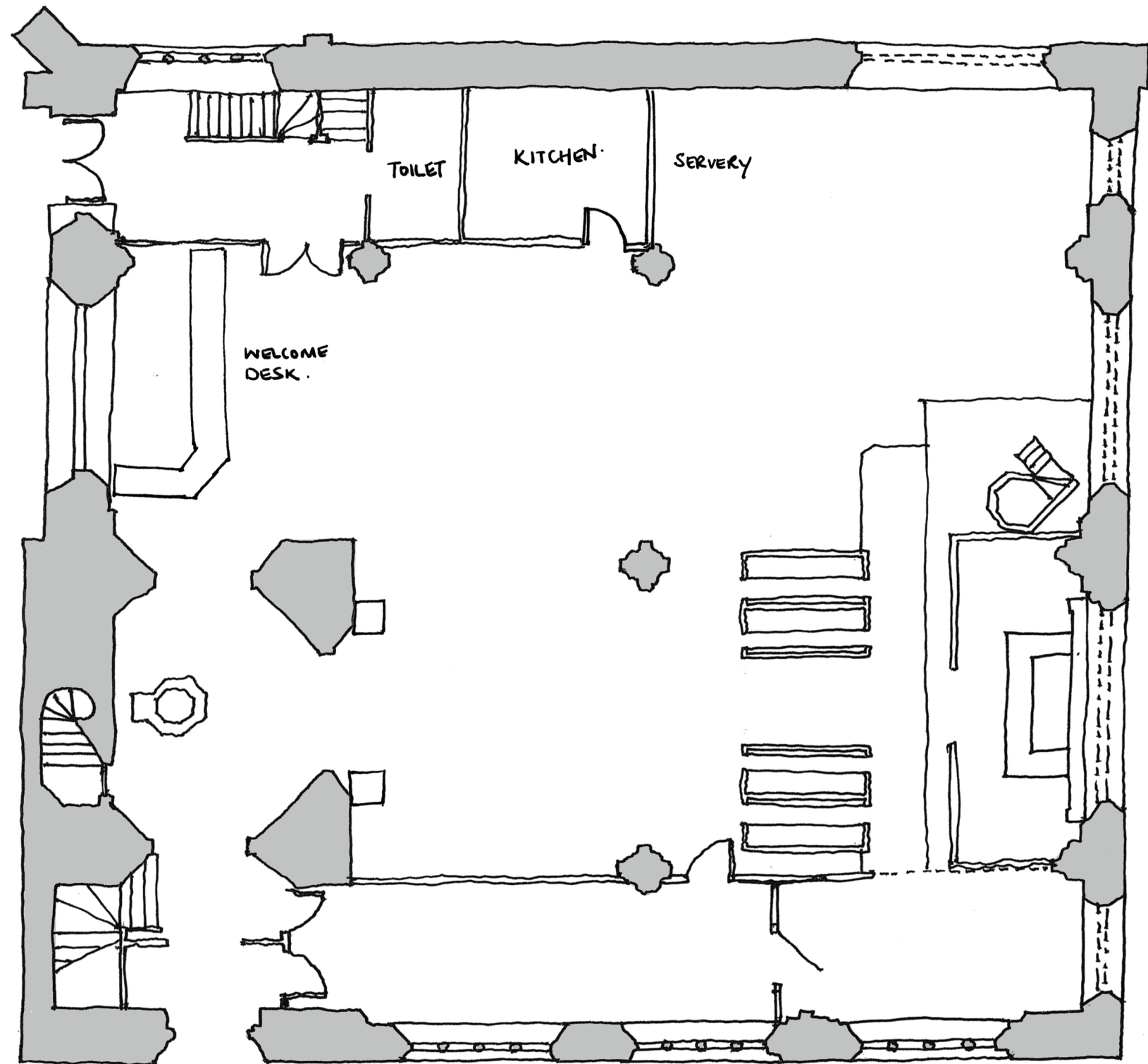


View into the main nave with the altar

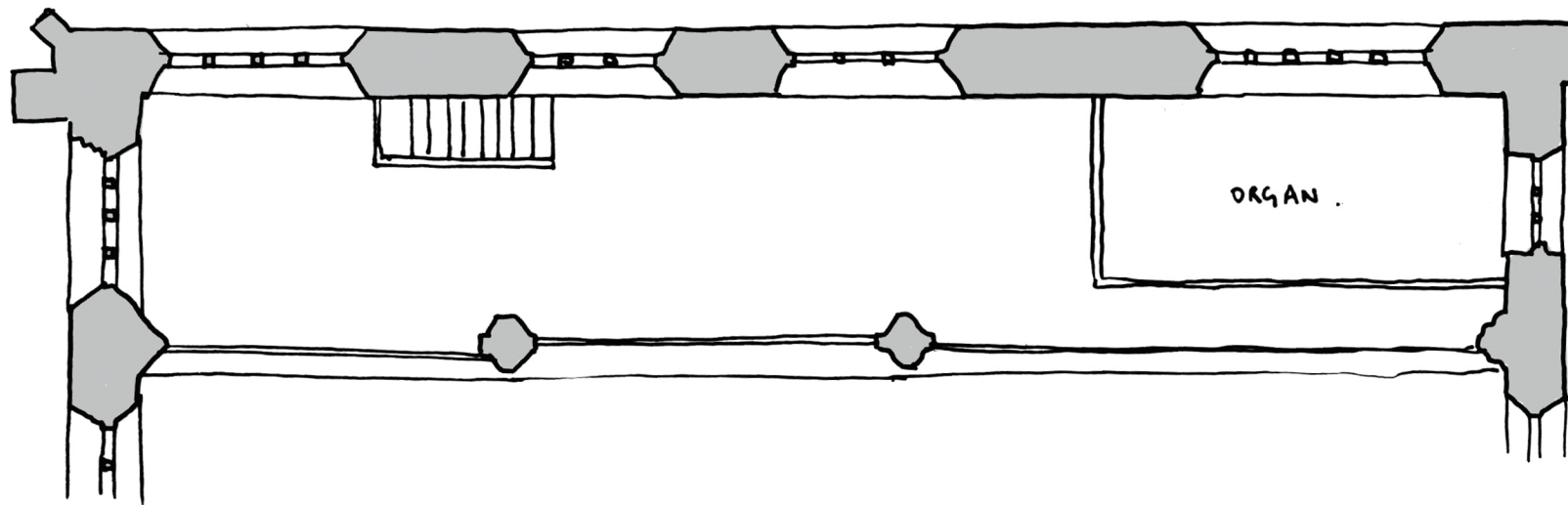


View into the west nave with the font

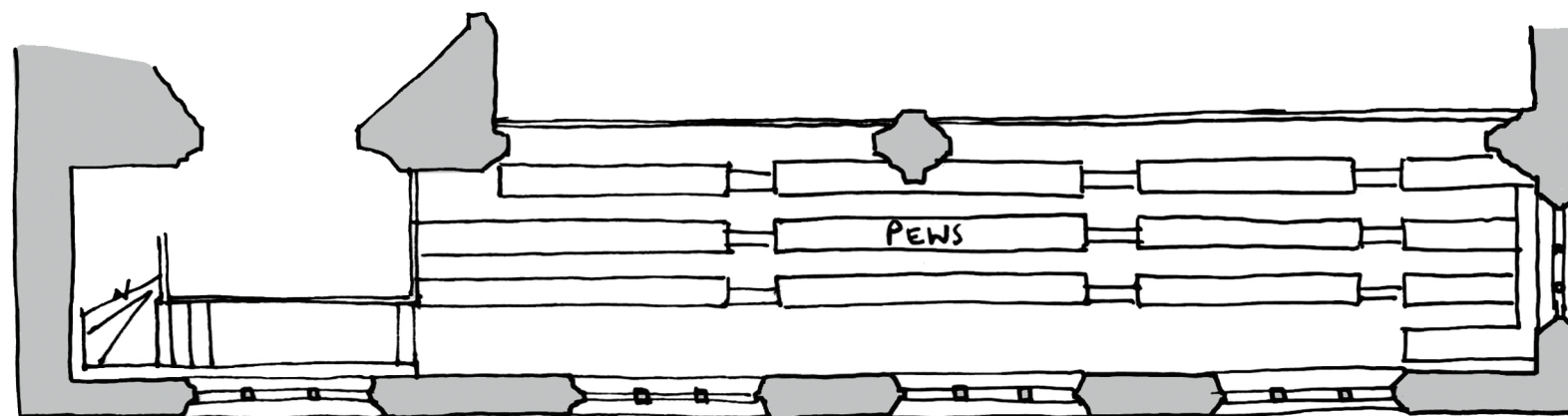




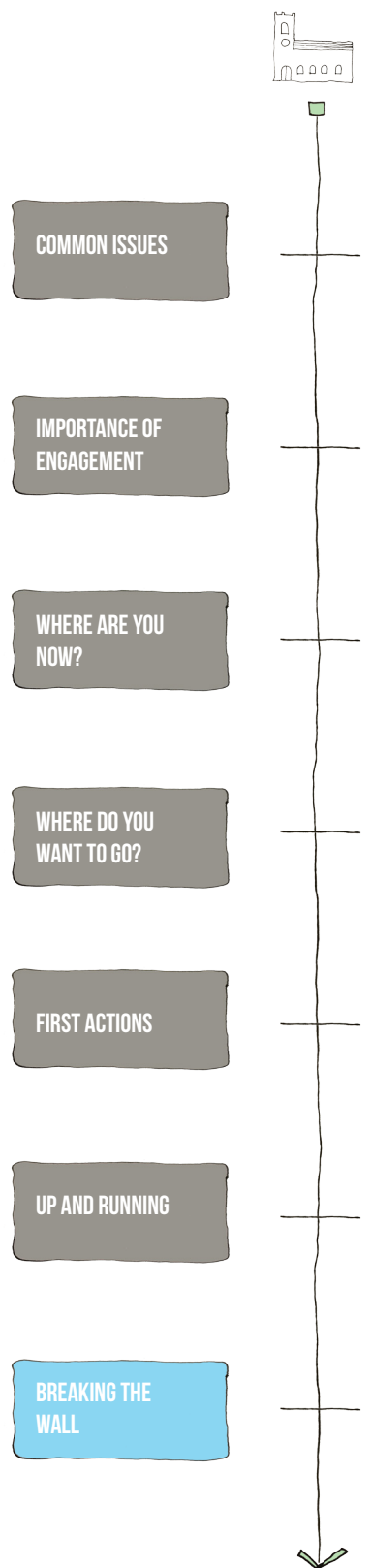
Ground Floor Plan



North Gallery



South Gallery



COMMON ISSUES

IMPORTANCE OF
ENGAGEMENT

WHERE ARE YOU
NOW?

WHERE DO YOU
WANT TO GO?

FIRST ACTIONS

UP AND RUNNING

BREAKING THE
WALL



FINAL THOUGHTS

Conclusion

St Peter’s Chester is a vibrant and socially engaging hub in the centre of the city. It’s energy is absorbed and shared with a large variety of community groups that love and use the space every day of the week. Despite the large changes to the parish over the last 5 years and the majority of the congregation having moved from local town Newton, the church has a large amount of motivation and passion to keep the church community moving ever forward.

This medieval church is untraditional in many senses, including its square form, meaning the church doesn’t have a central nave. The church has undergone some drastic changes over the decades, including the removal of a large number of its pews in the 1960s, with a lot of the scars being visible and troublesome today. It’s also clear that St Peter’s church building is not the only thing untraditional, but also their ethos towards the Anglican church, with their vibrant and busy cafe in the heart of the church.

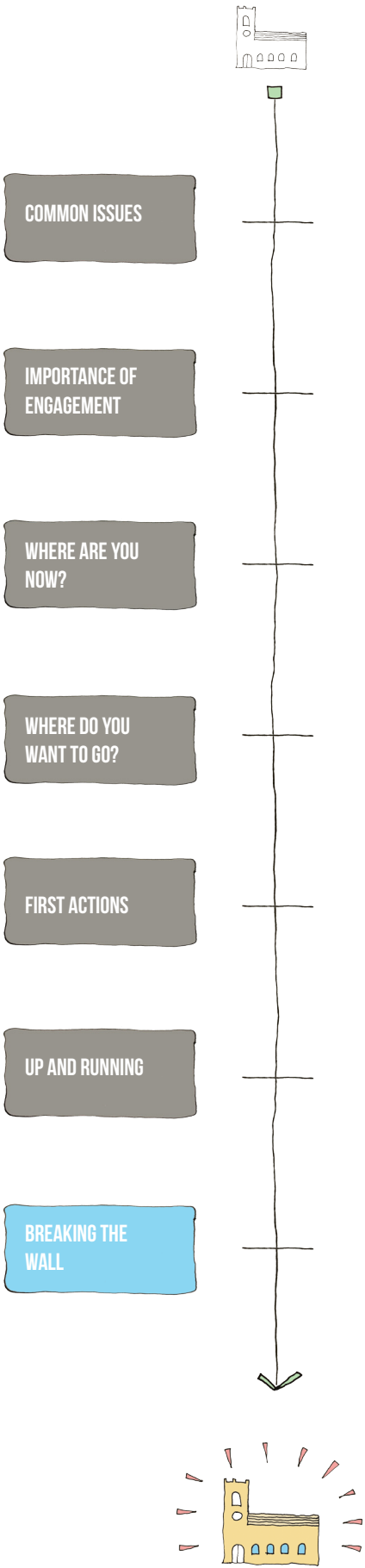
Following the discussion of “What is a Church?” it became clear that St Peter’s Chester has a much more social and communal view than the original designers of the building did. This view means that St Peter’s look to use their church in new socially engaging ways, but still respect the heritage of the medieval church building.

Flexibility is one of St Peter’s Church biggest issues, and the investment of new furniture could provide a massive change, improvement and ease to the daily running of the church.

St Peter’s Chester supports people from all walks of life, and aims to facilitate them all. Improving access into the building, and providing the correct facilities for various individuals, is key to improving accessibility for all. Making greater use of the courtyard entrance and increasing signage could make the disabled entrance more praised and improve ease of access.

The church has many large ambitions and dreams, many of which will require large amounts of planning and funding. With this in mind, a wider plan is required, looking at short term to long term options. We hope this document provides you with the tools and ideas to aid you on your journey.

Happy Navigating!



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