



The PCC of St Bartholomew's Church, Hyde  
12<sup>th</sup> January 2024

## Sale of Hyde Parish Hall

With the approval of the Diocese, as custodian trustee, and following proper professional advice, in line with its obligations under Charity Commission regulations, the PCC has now completed the sale of the Hall to the Winchester Muslim Cultural Association (WMCA).

The proceeds of the disposal of the Hall, in conjunction with the ongoing 'Giving for Living' Appeal, will enable the PCC to prioritise the refurbishment and upkeep of St Bartholomew's Church, which holds a significant place in the heritage of the city and is in serious need of repair and upgrading. Some exciting initiatives are planned, designed to breathe new life into this ancient building, and equip it as a vibrant place of

- **Living History:** as the only complete remnant of Hyde Abbey and the base for the commemoration of King Alfred the Great
- **Living Faith:** as the Parish Church for Hyde and Abbotts Barton
- **Living Community:** as a comfortable and welcoming space for concerts, plays, talks and other social gatherings.

These will include increasing the comfort by installing a more efficient and environmentally friendly heating system; creating a heritage area to tell the story of Hyde Abbey to visitors; improving the level access path for the benefit of wheelchair users and buggies; creating a more flexible space for wider use; renewing the internal decor; and investigating the possible existence of medieval wall paintings.

The PCC is delighted that WMCA will be able to restore and refurbish the hall, and will continue to make it available for community use. Enquiries about booking the Hall should now be directed to [secretary@winchestermuslims.org.uk](mailto:secretary@winchestermuslims.org.uk).

As Christians, we share with the Muslim community our ancient roots in faith and our desire to love and serve our neighbours, so we look forward to seeing both the Church and Hall continue to bless the community for many years to come.

On behalf of the PCC of Hyde

The Revd Karen Kousseff, Rector  
[karen@threesaints.org.uk](mailto:karen@threesaints.org.uk)

Malcolm Bruce, Churchwarden  
[malcolm.bruce@gmail.com](mailto:malcolm.bruce@gmail.com)

[www.threesaints.org.uk/st-bartholomew](http://www.threesaints.org.uk/st-bartholomew)