

Frequently Asked Questions

1. What is happening to the present Chapel building?

The present Chapel building is the most underutilised building on our property. As a result it tends to be overlooked in terms of maintenance and upkeep. We will relocate the Chapel function so that it is integrated into the extension of the main auditorium. The new Chapel wing will be able to be used discreetly (there will be sound proof doors that enable it be separated from the main auditorium) or as part of the new, larger auditorium. We will move all the existing stain-glass windows and elements of importance to this new Chapel wing where they will be much more visible and where they can be appreciated as part of every service. The wall containing the stained glass windows will also front onto the walkway to the new Memorial Garden making for a beautiful entrance way to this special part of our property.

The present Chapel building will be renovated to become our new Infants and Pre-School Children's area. It will house a new and enlarged Crèche, Parent's Retreat, Pre-School Sunday School room, and children's toilets. There will be glass doors opening off this area into the Children's Playground. We think this new area will greatly enhance our facilities for young families!

2. So we will have a Chapel?

Yes of course! The new southern wing of the auditorium will be our new chapel. It will have movable, sound proof doors that can be closed to make for a discreet chapel, or opened up so that it forms part of the larger auditorium.

3. What will happen to the Memorial Garden?

As previously advised, we will relocate the memorial garden to a new area on the side of South Eastern side of the auditorium. This is a particularly lovely part of our property with expansive water views. The garden will be greatly enhanced in its new location. We will hold a service of closure in our current garden and then a service of dedication in the new garden. All of the current features of the garden will be relocated – including the plaques of course.

4. Will the extension of the auditorium take up some of our courtyard?

Yes – we will lose some of the current courtyard area to accommodate our new auditorium foyer. But we will more than make up for this loss by extending the courtyard toward the west.

5. Will the new extended courtyard be child safety fenced?

Yes – absolutely!

6. The courtyard will be covered?

Yes! It will feature a very high, water proof material covering similar to what you see at sporting stadiums that allows for a great amount of light and natural ventilation but provides protection from both the sun and rain. This is a very exciting part of the development!

7. Will the coffee shop move from its current location?

We hope to move the coffee shop and bookshop into a prominent position that both overlooks the water on the southern side of our property and opens into the courtyard.

8. Will we still provide free tea and coffee on Sunday mornings if the coffee shop moves to the courtyard?

Yes – absolutely. We would envisage always offering free tea and coffee on Sunday mornings. Moving the coffee shop to the courtyard will simply allow us to all be together again on Sunday mornings, no matter which type of coffee we choose.

9. What's happened to the proposed Village Green?

We will delay the development of the village green until the next stage of development. This is advantageous in spreading the financial load, but also because it will allow us to get the design entirely right in terms of the new building that will eventually be constructed on the southern side of it (between the current hall and op shop.)

10. Will there be additional paved car parks in this stage of development?

Yes – we will provide an extra 150 paved car parks in this stage of development.

11. Where will we worship whilst the present auditorium is being renovated and extended?

During construction we will worship in the hall. It is able to seat approximately 400 people. We will do some minor upgrades, particularly in regards to audio and visual technology, to make this a more comfortable experience for everyone before construction on the auditorium commences. Kidzlife will be relocated to various rooms and spaces on the property to allow this to happen – the Youth Centre, the Lakeside Lounge, the Administration and Office area, and the Manses if necessary. We hope to be out of the auditorium for not longer than approximately 9 months in total.

12. How much will it all cost and how will we pay for it?

Final costs and financial modelling details will be released next Sunday once we are entirely sure they are correct (we are just waiting on one or two small details to complete this work). We expect the auditorium extension to be in the vicinity of that which we anticipated and previously estimated. There will however be additional costs associated with renovating the chapel, extending and covering the courtyard, and building a new coffee/book shop.

We anticipate paying for the development through a combination of a capital raising campaign, maximising income from our property at the Isle of Capri, and borrowing funds