

Dear

I am writing to you on behalf of the Dun Fell Christian Trust - DFCT, who own and operate the Knock Christian Centre (KCC) and employ our Wardens Phil and Beth Reed).

Many of you will know that for the last 2-3 years we have been exploring the possibility of providing a significant upgrade to the Centre so that it better meets your needs without us having to greatly increase the tariff we charge. Meeting both those objectives is not straight-forward, as you can imagine! However, we are now persuaded after much prayer, research and planning, that a complete rebuild of KCC is the correct way to proceed.

We have taken advice, held a neighbourhood meeting, employed architects and surveyors, drawn up plans and, in September 2024, we had them approved by Eden District Council. and we are working on several fronts to move the project forward, namely new marketing materials, a full website upgrade to include e-booking, donations, group leader paperwork and admin, KCC policies, and an area to keep supporters updated on progress with the plan to rebuild. Our legal and banking arrangements are being upgraded, and project managers and bid writers are being engaged.

Fantastic backing and support in prayer has been received from our local MP Tim Farron, who is a fine Christian brother. I have had the joy of a tremendous discussion with him, he has been to visit the Centre to meet our wardens, neighbours and trustees, and he is happy to assist and advise where he can.

I am so privileged to serve a Trust where God has brought together a team whose abilities and gifts, and especially their love for Christ, constantly amaze me. I assure you they are already working hard to bring about what we believe God is asking us to do. Of course we are aware that we do not have all the answers, and, since 4 out of 5 of us are still in full time paid employment, we are going to need professional advice, and suggestions from you, our group leaders.

Is there something that you might be able to do to help at this point?

- Please pray for wisdom and clarity of thought the Trust, for good relationships with local communities, and that funds will be made available for completion.
- Please spread the news of our plans. Whether a spot in a church service, distributing leaflets on paper or electronically, host a funding roadshow in your area (we will supply the people and the materials), or telling us about a grant body we may not have uncovered.
- You may have a suggestion for the Centre plan to pass on to us. We may not be able to incorporate all your ideas but we would still value your input.
- Please consider if you partnering with us in giving. Estimates we have from builders suggest we need to raise between **£4-6m** to complete the project.

We would be so grateful if you feel able to contribute any amount to our fundraising total. For those paying income tax, the Gift Aid reclaim system makes a very significant increase to the value of your gift, so we urge you, where possible, to allow us to claim back the extra income from HMRC.

The majority of donations we expect to come in via our Stewardship account www.stewardship.org.uk/partners/DunFellChristianTrust. Any gifts of £10,000 or greater should please come direct to the Trust by contacting our treasurer on the following email address: treasurer@DFCT.org This would enable us to retain a greater proportion of your gift within the Trust. We are asking for donations to the overall work of the Trust, meaning that we aim to use these funds to demolish and rebuild the Knock Christian Centre. **Thank you.**

As a Trust we are keenly aware of our need to rely on God's Holy Spirit to guide, strengthen and inspire us. We regularly pray a similar thing for all our group leaders at our Trust meetings. Our goal ultimately is to help your work as you seek to know Christ and make Him known. If we are able to provide you with a new Centre, we will have done it together and the glory will be God's alone.

Thank you for your partnership in the gospel, your support and for all the practical ways I am sure you will be helping us in the future.



Phil Wildsmith

On behalf of Dun Fell Christian Trust.