

## **Nurses Memorial Chapel Media Brief Update – 15<sup>th</sup> June 2018.**



*View to the left of new reinforced concrete Arch to the Nave with Limestone installed ready for the window frame and stain glass to be re-installed.*

### **Building History & Description**

The Nurses Memorial Chapel was completed in December 1927 and is dedicated to the Nurses of Christchurch Hospital who died on the Marquette, a transport ship that was torpedoed in the First World War and two nurses who died as a result of the influenza epidemic of 1918.

The building is of a brick construction with Sandstone architectural features a timber roof covered with Welsh Slate tiles. The interior has a timber Parquet floor, timber panelling to the walls, ornate trusses with timber sarking to the ceilings. There are several stain glass windows that commemorate events over the period of its history.

As you enter the building through a small porch with service areas on either side you immediately enter the Nave with the Chancel directly to the front of you. On either side of the Chancel is the East and West Vestry. There is also a basement to the building.

### **Contract & Establishment on Site**

The contract for the main contractor's role has been awarded to Max Projects.

### **Building Consent / Heritage Works Plan**

- The work is being undertaken under a Heritage Works Plan which has been completed by Tony Ussher Heritage Architect and Consultant with Support from George Sinclair of Beca Engineers.
- An approved Building Consent has been issued for the works.

### **Summary of Works**

- Basement level is to receive new masonry block walls to support the existing ground floor slab.
- Part of the existing timber panelling to the interior will be carefully removed and stored on site for re-installation. The inner brick wall will be removed in places and replaced with masonry block.
- The brick buttresses will be partly dismantled from the inside and a concrete core will be built that will connect to the inner block work and new ring beam.
- The two gable ends, sanctuary arch will be carefully deconstructed and new reinforced concrete walls built that will then be clad with the Limestone and brick outer skin.

- A new reinforced ring beam will be constructed between the top wall of the building and the roof. This will tie in the
- The slate tiles to the roof will be carefully removed and a new ply timber diaphragm will be installed before the tiles are relaid.
- All the internal timber panelling, parquet flooring, Limestone and associated interior fittings will then be re-instated.
- Undertake a design for a new sprinkler system for the building following a request from the Chapel Trust.

#### **Current Status / Progress on Site**

- Structural basement work is now 100% complete and the interior has received a new moisture barrier to the ceiling. The new installation of the sprinkler system pipework and main valve control box is approximately 90% complete.
- The inner columns to the Buttresses, the ring beam, Dormer ends have been poured and works to these areas completed.
- The gable end to the Nave has now been completed with RC. This has now been poured.
- The Chancel Arch is now completed.
- New window lintels / extension of the top wall ring beam has been installed to the toilet and cleaners room.
- The blocking to the ceiling rafters that ties the ring beam into the roof structure has been completed. Existing sarking has been re-installed and the new ply diaphragm roof is approximately 80% complete.
- The new Welsh slate tiles have arrived and are currently being stored on site.
- The reinstatement of the bricks to the gable ends and the Limestone capping and centre support for the finial crosses are being reinstalled.
- Service work to the chapel including the upgrade of the electrical services and the installation of the sprinkler fire protection system are currently underway.
- With the revisions to the construction details we have had to issue two amendments to the Heritage Works Plan. These have been completed and the amended plans have been re-issued by the CCC planners.
- The new concrete floor to the Nave slab has been poured and completed.
- 80% of the inner Limestone has been reinstalled.

#### **Moving Forward**

- Roofing work is to be completed with the installation of the new Welsh slate tiles and the lead flashing details.
- Remedial work to the exterior brick work will follow the roof work and at the completion of this the copper flashings and gutters will be installed.
- The internal scaffolding will be removed the second week of June and this will allow for all the make good work to the decorative trusses.
- Battening of the reinforced walls will be undertaken ready for the re-fixing of the internal timber panelling.
- All limestone work to the interior will receive a final make good and the blocks pointed.

#### **Risks & Issues**

- The site is small and has limited access for the deliveries, access by contractors and subcontractors, storage of items and working space. To date we have had minor issues regarding this and the contractor is managing the site well.

### Programme

- We are currently working on Construction Programme Version 4. Acceleration of works in the form of additional labour has been brought in to bring us back on programme due to the delays with the Asbestos removal.

### Expected Completion Date

- An estimated construction period on site will be 12 to 14 months. This will be dependent on the existing building structure and what is found as we deconstruct the existing fabric.



The original timber sarking to the roof has now been re-instated.



LVL timber packing has now been installed between the existing rafters and decorative trusses. This completes the structural work between the ring beam, reinforced Nave walls and the roof structure.