

Library Accommodation Working Group: Second Report

1) Introduction

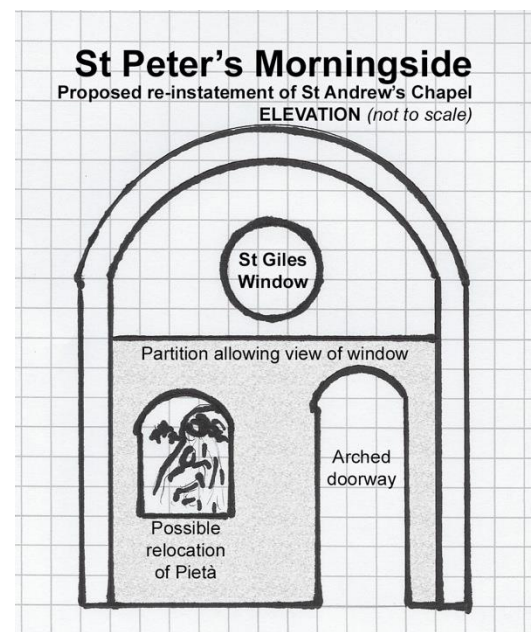
This Report is the result of actions by the Working Group since the PPC meeting of 11th September 2017: “**5.6 Library** ... Long-term proposal is that the space should be returned to use as a chapel, which will involve restoration work. In the short-term, there is a detailed plan for removal of items that have been stored in the room, and work on this has already begun. Medium term, the debate about the best location and content of the Library collection continues, as does the need for extra meeting room space.”

2) Short-term and medium-term actions

- a) **Library bookstock** It has been agreed that the open-access library in the Chapel should be disbanded, and a core collection of better quality / up-to-date / parish-specific books should be moved into the study in the Presbytery. The Librarian will maintain a catalogue of these books (plus any others in study recommended by Father Kevin for inclusion), and parishioners would be able to consult them by appointment.
- b) **Chairs** A timetable will be agreed for the disposal and replacement of the old chairs. Music Group find the standard folding chairs used by the rest of the congregation uncomfortable. We propose to purchase 28 Gopak “Comfort” chairs, which will stack on the existing trolley, but which have a padded seat. It is noted that the Music Group have of late left their chairs and equipment set up between Masses, and a ruling is sought as to whether this should be a permanent arrangement.
- c) **Disposal of duplicated/unwanted Music equipment** No action has been taken by the Music Group as yet.
- d) **Storage of music stands, music and other necessary music equipment in Loggia/Presbytery** Input of requirements is awaited.
- e) **Other short-term actions as listed in preliminary report to PPC** Considerable progress has been made: thanks in particular to SVDP, Florists, Hospitality, Fresh Start, Children’s Liturgy and Holy Dusters. Volunteers from among the younger Parishioners are requested to help take some remaining bulky items to the Basement. A number of items which will be needed over the Christmas period will be left in situ and then removed to the basement in January 2018.

3) Re-instatement for use as a Chapel

- a) **Wall Paintings** Three quotations for the restoration have been sought, and costs of up to £18,000 are likely. In addition, the Property Committee are currently investigating whether any exterior work is required to ensure the walls supporting the murals are watertight. It is recommended that before carrying out any of the re-instatement activities listed below, the application of a temporary protective facing to the paintings should be considered.
- b) **Curtains** Remove the curtains and the blocking-in of the archway in front of the paintings.
- c) **Altar Step** Remove the carpet and restore the original (marble?) floor surface if necessary.
- d) **Stained Glass** Clean the two stained glass windows. This is probably best done by a specialist
- e) **Partition** Build a partition between the pillars at the back of the Chapel, low enough to allow the continued viewing of the ocular window of St Giles. It should have an arched doorway to match the Romanesque architecture of the church. Father has suggested that the **Pietà** might be moved here, and a votive light stand set up in front of it, for devotional use.
- f) **Shelving** The top shelf should no longer be used, and, depending on whether it is still visible once the partition has been erected, this shelf may need to be removed
- g) **Lighting** The current PIR switching system to be replaced with conventional switches, and suitable spotlighting be installed for the murals and the Pietà.
- h) **Heating** an additional, matching, wall heater to be installed, and both should be set to provide constant background heating.
- i) **Loggia Archway and Baptistry Gates** Block up the northernmost archway with white painted plasterboard or ply, and move the Baptistry Gates to this position so that they can more easily be viewed
- j) **Loggia Storage** Remove the L-shaped cupboards, and replace with appropriate storage after establishing the requirements of user Ministries.



St Peter's Morningside

Proposed re-instatement of St Andrew's Chapel

PLAN *(not to scale)*

