

## Building Search Committee 2020 Report to Trinity Church 2020 AGM

At recent Annual General Meetings Council was asked to consider the question of Trinity Church moving from the current full-time rental arrangement to buying its own building. This question was taken up by the Church Council in the last year.

The first question addressed was that of financial capability without any building option in view. The initial assessment was that €550,000 would be what Trinity Church in its 2019 economy could consider. This was later revised upwards. (See below)

In late 2019 the owners of Frederik Hendrikplein Church invited Trinity Church to consider making a bid as they were wanting to sell. This led to several visits and unhurried considerations. In the end the building was bid on by a property developer who had a pre-existing conditional option.

Beyond considering this option a sub-committee was convened taking in interested members from beyond the Church Council. This subcommittee worked as a task group assessing relevant issues so that some reference points could be established around how purchasing a building might happen.

The Task-Group comprised of: Arul Shalom, Guido Crevecoeur, Rajesh Datti, Joan Schutte, Jan Waterschoot and Pastor Francis.

The following areas were addressed:

1. Financial Support beyond Trinity Church. This was researched and we learned that mortgage funding could be available from the PKN Church Fund at rates of 1-2% that would raise the amount we could consider to € 700,000.
2. The floor and room spaces necessary for being Trinity Church as we are with multiple ministries on Sunday morning was researched. The advice from ministry leaders was:

Stepping Stones (0-3)	50 sq. m	With access to facilities
KidZchurch (4-10)	2 x 40 sq. m	With access to facilities
1Tim4Twelve (11-13)	30 sq. m	
TYDE (14-18)	30 sq. m	Not necessarily on Sunday morning

For the main worship space regular seating in the range 350 to 400 was set as necessary.

Other necessary features noted were:

Requirements	Current Reference	Desired Needs
Toilets	1 each for women & men	1 each for women & men; adequate privacy
Kitchen space	About 6 sq.m	Functional; 10-12 sq.m
Location	Aalst instead of Eindhoven; free parking space.	Within the inner ring; at least within Eindhoven. Free parking space.
After service play space	Sports hall next door	Open space or a planned arrangement.
Multi-purpose flexi space	Only sanctuary is available in Aalst	Multi-purpose flexi space for use of cell groups; Alpha; ministry meetings accessible from Eindhoven centrum.

3. Some current possible candidates for consideration were noted and visited by a few committee members including Jan Waterschoot. They were the St. Thomas and St. John churches. The report was that St. John didn't seem suitable; St. Thomas could still be a candidate (in the long run).
4. Clarity was sought as regards a decision making process. It is clear from our constitution that a decision on buying or not buying a building lies with the Church Council. It does not lie with the Bishop or Diocese. For a Church Council to make a decision it would need to be united in itself and have the clear support of the congregation. This would entail timely information provided in stages.

This brief report brings the reader up to the situation in March 2020.