Open Doors Case Study Wesley Memorial Church, Oxford



The story so far Have spent £1.1m out of £1.5m plus VAT cost

	Source	Planned	Actual
•	Direct giving and pledges	£ 250,000	£ 363,000
•	Local fundraising events	£ 50,000	£ 68,000
•	Methodism	£ 100,000	£ 270,000
•	Oxford Methodist Circuit	£ -	£ 90,000
	(Loan)		
•	External bodies	£ 800,000	£ 200,750
•	Refund of VAT	£ -	£ 103,763
	Totals	£ 1,200,000	£ 1,095,513

Phase Four still to do Heritage Atrium

Estimated cost	2015	£ 451,000
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Funded by

 Methodist Fund for Property 	£ 180,000
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•	Own membe	ers £	82	,000
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• External Grants £ 36,000

• Total in hand £ 298,000

• Current shortfall £ 153,000

- Be prepared to change your funding approach as the scheme develops:
 - Mini projects within the whole scheme to appeal to criteria used by different funders - elderly, disabled, children
 - Time-limited appeals to members
 - Match funding schemes Big Give and localgiving.com – raised £20,000

External Grants excluding Methodism

Year	Applica	ations made	Sa	id yes	Amount
• 203	10	4	•	0	£ O
• 202	11	90	•	9	£ 24,750
• 203	12	82	•	5	£ 8,000
• 202	13	13	•	4	£ 16,500
• 203	14	15	•	6	£ 61,000
• 202	15	15	•	5	£ 59,000
• 202	16	14	•	6	£ 29,500
• 202	17	18	•	10	£ 38,000
• Tot	als	251	•	45	£ 236,750

- Direct relationship between external grants received - 60% of grants total - and prior visits made by funders
- Note criteria and conditions used by funders only like new-build fixtures and fittings have 50% project costs in hand time-limit to spend grant

Local fundraising events

184 events

- Auctions
- Celebrations
- Oxford Walks
- Concerts
- Tabletop sales
- Cream Teas on the forecourt
- Talents
- Student pudding parties
- Amazing Love musical
- Model railway days

Raised £ 68,000



Supporters

- Lord Lieutenant
- MPs
- City Councillors
- Current tenants
- Local engineering firm
- Chair of Northampton
 District
- All wrote letters of support



Partnership Funding

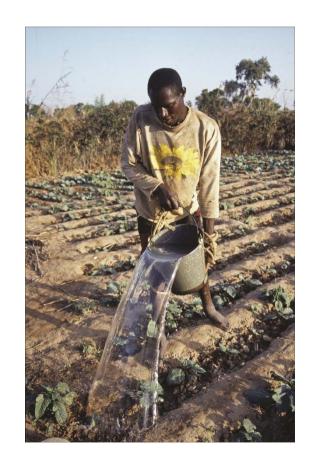
5% of local giving

£17,122

Burkina Faso



Quadrupled by the EU



Monthly meetings of Steering Group maintained momentum for:

- Writing business plan
- Arranging fundraising events
- Sub-group writing grant applications
- Receiving reports of building progress
- Planning the next phases

Consultation with users

- Survey over two weeks in March 2012
- Wednesday Coffee 72 users
- Rainbow House three days per week- 92 users
- Friday Lunchbreak 45 users
- Questionnaire and face to face interviews

Survey January 2015 – 45 Hall users by email

 We should have been more proactive with our consultation of our existing users rather than being reactive – having the idea suggested by others

Competitive Quotations

- Eight on tender list
- Asked for quotes for phasing and the whole
- Lowest tender of four received exceeded our own estimates
- Decided to negotiate with one contractor to achieve the greatest effect with the money we had at that time
- Useful for external fundraising purposes

- The Energy Audit in 2010 and the Competitive Tendering process were useful tools also in our fundraising
- Be prepared for financing the removal of asbestos in old buildings!
- Explore refund of VAT if a Listed Building

Ground breaking ceremony November 2015

We celebrated the letting of the building contract for Phase Two with a brief ceremony during coffee after the Sunday Morning service involving our younger and older members!



Use of Hall for site storage facilities

As we were limited for space for site storage, we were able to make full use of the Hall during Phase Two



Monthly Site Meetings

Our Church Manager and the Chair of the Open Doors Steering Group attended the monthly site meetings

November 2015 to December 2016



Communicating with church members

- Each month we provided a progress report on yellow A5 paper for members to take away.
- The report included such items as the current cost of the works, the amount of VAT reclaimed and progress on construction.

Open Doors

Wesley Memorial Church redevelopment project

Progress report no. 11 01/10/2016



The John Wesley Room with old light fittings removed and asbestos removal continuing in the heating ducts.

More stripping out of the 'Blue Kitchen'.



We are keeping the table and cupboards in the 'Blue Kitchen'.



Los Altos Starfire Singers

Visit from the Starfire Singers of Los Altos Methodist Church California in August 2017 having supper before their performance of *Borderless*.

They asked to come - they had made a previous visit in 2012 - and were very enthusiastic about our Open Doors project.

We raised **£1,200** that evening for Open Doors



Do differently?

- Think about phasing earlier than we did cost of project had excluded some funders
- Update our Business Plan more regularly as this is often looked at on-line by prospective donors
- Consultation with existing users should have been proactive not reactive
- Might have been useful to have identified some 'new' activities as part of the planning process

Roll on Phase Four!

