

## The Connexional Team – Support Services in Manchester

### Statement of Need Example 2

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#### Tregillard (Grade II)

The chapel is small and the congregation, drawn from Tregillard and three other nearby hamlets, in proportion to it. The chapel is used for a weekly evening service and at various times by the Parish Council for its meetings and by a local craft club. Regular coffee mornings are also held.

Nearly half of the regular congregation of a dozen is of retirement age, but there are also three young families with small children, and we would like to reach out to the other families in the area, particularly by developing the chapel as a place of meeting to serve the wider neighbourhood. There are no other meeting rooms in this remote rural area. The local Parish Church has no facilities.

The most recent quinquennial Inspection, carried out two years ago, revealed no problems.

We feel that a modern washroom, kitchen and toilet facilities, with appropriate disabled access, is now an imperative to achieve this. The only place where this could be discreetly achieved, while simultaneously minimising the impact on this Grade II chapel, is in the former stable, presently a little used store room. The external appearance will be retained using timber boarding to show the building's origins. This will not affect the significance of this particular feature. The extension continues the linear form of the original buildings, is modest and in matching materials.

The increase in size of the hall can be achieved by adapting and relocating the moveable screen which is possibly an original feature. The pulpit is already on castors so its relocation as required is not a problem. In view of the significance of the leaders' pews these are retained but shortened. Although this is a loss of original fabric the same sense of the original arrangement is retained so the loss of significance is limited. Again the removal of some pews will have an impact but the visual effect is maintained in the reduced size of the worship area.

Increasing the use of the building will have a number of benefits including increased income through lettings, extended contact with the wider community and thus opportunities for mission outreach and a healthier building through being in greater use.

We have consulted with the Listed Buildings Advisory Committee, and within the local community from which we have strong support, and carefully considered the Statement of Significance. We feel that the need is proved, and we have attempted to mitigate any detrimental impact by retaining or adapting the most significant features.

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