

# SIDMOUTH, ALL SAINTS

Case study  
Church Buildings Office  
November 2014

## SUMMARY OF WORKS

- Creation of flexible community space in the West end of the nave.
- Altar enclosed by glazed screen with retractable AV screens to form small chapel.
- Creation of raked and enlarged gallery in West end with salvaged pews.
- Removal of galleries from both transepts and general renovation and decoration.
- High spec AV and projection systems with alternative control locations.
- Existing hall renovated and linked to church with attractive glazed narthex.



Grade II listed  
1837 by J H Taylor  
Plain lancet architecture

This Victorian, 'stripped-down gothic' building comprises aisles nave, chancel and transepts.

The extensive re-ordering has created a single complex under one roof that is wheelchair-accessible throughout (other than the West gallery) and provides a high-quality worship/function space, large multi-purpose hall, toilets, kitchen, office and exceptional audio-visual systems.

The project was not driven either by community needs, though there is now some outside use and letting income, nor by structural factors. The intention was to provide a far more welcoming and attractive worship space that would appeal to a younger congregation and, especially, to families. This has been very successful with weekly attendance around two hundred and young families using the complex throughout the week.

The heating is now largely under-floor, with some vertical radiators. It has not provided quite as much flexibility as intended, but is a huge improvement in both comfort and running costs over previous under-pew system.

There are some ongoing problems with damp penetration through poorly constructed walls.

The new complex provides for:

- A small meeting room at the West end, used by the PCC and Mission Community.
- The needs of disabled persons are well met throughout.
- A sustainable building, with modest running costs and dependable income.
- Great flexibility e.g. the organ console is completely moveable,
- The AV systems can be controlled from various locations, including the gallery.
- Projection screens, visible from all parts, can be retracted into the attractive chancel screen.



The works were completed in 2010 and cost around £650,000.

Architect: Russ Palmer