

NOVEMBER 2013

02 November 2013

A start was made on the decorating and installation of more fittings in toilets. Also the big room divider to enable separation of the main rooms has been installed with its floor track. The second electrical fix (when all the sockets and light fittings go in) had been started, but we still await the electricity meter without which the final mains electricity connections cannot be made.



05 November 2013

Indications were that handover might occur in the last week of this month and that we might be able to have at least some of the Advent services in our new building,

but the Relocation Committee considered today that we would not have time to furnish and familiarise ourselves with the Centre in time.

We now have a target to open in the first weeks of January. The weather had been unkind and there were a few other uncertainties. Whilst it would have been truly wonderful to be able to have Christmas services in the Emmanuel Centre it was unfortunately not realistic.

07 November 2013

Back on site the electricians were busy as were the plumbers. Many of the lights were now installed.

The false ceilings were starting to be fixed in the kitchen and office. Externally the larch wood cladding of the tower was nearly finished and the tower was finally waterproof, so was internally plastered. A false start was made on the external rendering above the brickwork, when the incorrect material was used, but this was rectified and with some better weather the rendering should be completed by the end of next week.



14 November 2013

Major frustrations this week as once again a utility connection quotation came in so very late and way over estimate.

This time it was the connection to the main drain, which was much more complex than we had been led to believe.

These sort of problems started to make it very difficult for us in the approach to handover as the budget became more than 'tight'. It seemed frustrating to have to spend large sums of money on things which are

normally never seen, but are nevertheless essential, and have to be done.

However on the bright side a bit of good weather and the return of some blue skies over Battle meant that the aborted start on external rendering was rectified and a 'warm white' self-coloured render was being applied. As it is self-coloured this will decrease maintenance costs longer term as we shall not have to regularly repaint the exterior.



Internally things progressed and the photos show the continuing fitting out with the disabled toilet installations and wash basins etc.



20 November 2013

A possible much easier and cheaper easier solution to the drainage connection were being chased with some urgency by our agent and project leader, as time was getting short.

Meanwhile the external render work was completed. Work on the car park continued, clearly difficult due to the soil conditions. A lot of hard core was being imported, and some of the spoil was being taken off site. Internal work on plumbing and electrics and fittings continued and today's pictures show the main meeting room, the main rooms divider and a view of the windows of the main meeting room that face northwards, the left hand one forms the top of a cross.

The clear decision not to attempt to move into the building before Christmas was confirmed as there would be too little time for preparation.

Members were soon to be asked to choose the names of the rooms, which will be based on the trees that surround the site and the whole area.



23 November 2013

Scaffolding had been removed from the tower and right hand end. Outside work to form the car parks continued and to redistribute the large pile of excavated soil.



28 November 2013

The larch wood cladding of the tower was now complete and the majority of the scaffolding had been removed. Internally flooring had been laid and works on the fixings continued.

External wall lights have been fixed to the front and rear of the building.

Externally more excess soil had been removed and was being shifted to raise levels and gradually landscape the site.

Rother District Council agreed to allow connection to the drain that connects from Starrs Mead to Harrier Lane - which will be a cheaper option than that previously envisaged.

The overall costs of service connections overall are well over the originally budgeted amounts and these caused some last minute financial issues. An appeal for some extra assistance with the way over estimated spend on essential services was made to Methodism.



30 November 2013

The photo below was taken at the very end of the month - of the building with no scaffolding!

It looks as if we are getting there at last....now to finish things off, ready for 2014.

