



19 May 2009

The new St Barnabas receives development approval from the City of Sydney

St Barnabas Anglican Church Broadway, locally known as Barneys, today announced that it has received development approval from the City of Sydney for construction of its new church buildings at the Mountain Street site on Broadway.

"We are absolutely delighted by the City of Sydney's decision to approve development consent. Construction can now proceed on a new building which we believe will be both beautiful and functional, and an inviting centre of activity for the local community", said The Reverend Ian Powell, Senior Minister at St Barnabas.

The new buildings will include a worship space/auditorium which will seat up to 600 people, and can be used by other groups for large meetings and conventions. This will be complemented by several smaller meeting rooms, some office space, catering facilities and underground parking.

Development consent has been granted almost three years to the day following the destruction of the old buildings by fire on 10 May 2006. It follows a lengthy and thorough process of consultation, preparation and design. Consent is subject to a small number of conditions including retention of certain period features which survived the fire and minor site amelioration works.

"It is important to us that the new buildings become a useful meeting space for the local community. More importantly, we want it to be a place in which relationships are created and nurtured; where people can come together and make deep and lasting connections with each other. It is our principal goal to serve the local community in this way", said Mr Powell.

"Our regular Barneys members embody a broad cross-section of the people of the city fringe and inner west, and the doors of Barneys will remain ever open to those who would either make purposeful use of its facilities or experience the warmth of its community", added Mr Powell.

The next stage will involve finalising clearance of the site and excavation to allow for construction of the foundations and underground parking facilities. Arrangements for this will be made in the coming weeks and it is hoped that this first phase will be completed by the end of this year.

"Now, the big challenge for Barneys is to finish raising the necessary funds. We need to raise an additional \$5 million dollars to bring the project to completion. We aim to raise these funds by seeking support from both the corporate and community sectors. Barneys is an iconic part of Sydney's history and all support for this project would be appreciated. For donation or fundraising enquiries contact: Michelle Hillman on 02 9211 3496 or donate on our website www.barneys.org.au

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