



Staverton Church Goes on the Market

Real estate company Colliers International wants to find a developer to buy the former St. Paul's Church in Staverton.

The Diocese of Salisbury has asked the company to find someone to take over the 13th century Georgian gothic church.

The Grade II listed building closed its doors to congregation in March 2011, due to a reduction of parishioners and because the building required investment for repair works.

Sam Williams, of Colliers International's consultancy team, said: "The successful conversion of St. Paul's church will require an imaginative yet sympathetic approach. Acquiring a closed church can prove a protracted, if rewarding, process."

The building, which has stained glass windows, is listed as being of Special Architectural and Historic Interest as is its iron gated churchyard entrance.

The church yard will not be closed and people will have permanent access to the gravestones.

Rev. Stephen Ball, the priest in charge of the Canalside Benefice which includes St. Paul's, said: "It is all unknown at the moment. Until we get all the proposals in we won't have any idea of its use."

"All I want to see is the people who care about the church be happy about what happens next, and a use for it that will conserve the building and recognise it has been a special place for a lot of people."

Anyone interested in purchasing the property can call Colliers International on 01179 172000.

Wiltshire Times, 3 May 2013