

## FORMER ST MARY'S CHURCH, TREMADOG

### *Contact*

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Cyfeillion Cadw Tremadog (Friends of Tremadog), is a charitable trust which seeks to raise awareness of the historic buildings of Tremadog, as cultural and economic assets, and to promote their protection and repair where possible. Besides raising awareness of the importance and potential of Tremadog's distinctive architecture, it is a core concern of the Trust that project work adds value to the whole community without competing or undermining existing businesses. The Trust involves the community in its projects continually, having worked with the local primary school and the design and technology department of the secondary school.

The former St Mary's Church, Tremadog was closed in 1995 but failed to sell on the open market – repair costs being prohibitive. The Trust initiated plans for repair and conversion. Many non-residential uses have been explored and conversion to offices with a large meeting/training room appears to be the most viable option. The prospective tenant is a national charity offering care in the community.

As environmental friendliness and sustainability are of key importance, the conversion of the former church is to include:

- Repair using traditional materials, most of which are inherently less energy-intensive and polluting than their modern equivalents
- Insulation of the building
- Specially designed low-emissivity double glazed windows
- Installation of a condensing gas boiler with zoned controls
- Rainwater to be collected for use in the grounds.

*Tips for others (specific):* Identify the possible end-uses of the building early on. Be realistic about ongoing revenue costs of insurance, maintenance, salaries. Make these findings public. Identify a champion in the local authority – ideally, your local elected member.

*The future:* Alongside the above-mentioned project, to press for the repair and re-use of the old Loomhall on the tannery site at Tremadog

*Status of organisation:* Registered charity and limited liability company