



Wilford library closed in 2010 following a Nottingham City Council decision and the building on Pinfold Lane has been unoccupied since then.

Cafe plan for former library

By Alexander Britton
Political Correspondent
alexander.britton@nottinghampost.com

A LIBRARY which closed following budget cuts could get a new lease of life as a community cafe.

But the plans have had a mixed reception from residents.

Wilford library closed in 2010 following a Nottingham City Council decision and the building on Pinfold Lane has been unoccupied since then. The authority considered selling the building last year but it was withdrawn from auction.

Now the council is looking at giving a 999-year lease on the

building to the West Bridgford Spiritualist Church. Ann Monks, from the church, said the plans were to demolish and rebuild.

"The building will be one



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Ann Monks

third a church and the rest given to create a small kitchen and community space.

"We're hoping to be able to

serve breakfasts to school children at a reasonable price, lunches to older people who want something to eat and it will all be run on a not-for-profit basis."

She said plans also included running a range of activities in the hall - from line dancing for the over-60s and movement to music activities.

"We want to build something for the community to really use and appreciate, and we'll be looking to see what kind of things they want here."

The library was closed despite a campaign by residents.

The city council said the number of active borrowers at the library was 555 in its last full year and that the usage was a "concern", but people living nearby said they wanted it restored to its former use.

Rebecca Davis, 38, of Wilford Lane, West Bridgford, said: "I wasn't living here when it was a library, but having one for the area would be great."

"I'd rather see something done with the building than nothing, but I'd probably get more use from a library."

But George Stamford, from Wilford, said: "The building

National Libraries Day celebrations



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looks sad in the state it is in - I'm glad someone is stepping in and has plans to give something back to the community."

Do you think libraries are worth preserving?
E-mail opinion@nottinghampost.com