



The Church of England
in Essex and East London
Diocese of Chelmsford

**APPLICATION TO THE
DIOCESAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE
SEEKING FORMAL ADVICE**

Parishes are reminded that the DAC does not have the authority to give permission to carry out any work; it advises the Chancellor who grants faculties, and it is only on receipt of a faculty that works may commence.

Please read through all the information provided below before submitting an application

DEDICATION NAME OF CHURCH: -

St Botolph

IN THE PARISH OF: -

Hadstock

PETITIONER - NAME & OFFICE HELD: -

(Incumbent, Churchwarden, PCC Member etc.)

The Revd Paula Griffiths, Priest at Hadstock

Mr Tim Boyden, PCC Treasurer

The Revd Margaret Davis, Acting Area Dean

ADDRESS with POSTCODE: -

Church Path, Hadstock, Essex CB21 4PH

TELEPHONE NUMBER: - 01799 599141

EMAIL: -

paula.greatford@btinternet.com

The DAC office will email confirming receipt of application. When entering the application onto the agenda for the next available meeting we will check all the documents received, if we find that information is missing we will email again. Please be patient as it could take up to 10 working days to receive confirmation of the outcome of your application after a DAC meeting.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF PROPOSALS

The proposed works comprise: -

1. Provision of area of cremated remains in Hadstock churchyard
2. Felling of 1 double-trunked sycamore tree and 1 yew tree to south side of the church

The existing structures affected by the works are: -

- No structures will be physically affected and no works to the church are taking place

The principal materials to be used are: -

- Small gravestones (detached from graves many years ago and currently lying in the churchyard) to delineate the area of cremated remains

Has the parish appointed architect or surveyor been: -

1. Instructed - **NO**

2. Consulted in relation to proposed works - **YES**

Informally consulted at an early stage on tree works

If another architect or surveyor is to be employed confirm their name and address and state why they have been instructed in relation to the proposed works on a separate document.

In the case of any work to the fabric of the building the parish architect is to be consulted and one of the following is to be included in this application: -

P.T.O.

1. The parish architect's detailed specification for chosen contractors to work to.
2. The parish architect's written approval of chosen contractor's specification or proposed method of work, including specified materials.

Please note, the DAC will not normally consider an application if an architect has not been instructed or has not approved a contractor's specification. You should allow a contingency sum to cover the cost of instructing your architect to produce a specification. Note also that The Construction (Design & Management) Regulations (CDM 2015) are the main set of regulations for managing the health, safety and welfare of construction projects. CDM applies to all construction work and includes new build, demolition, refurbishment, extensions, repairs and maintenance. Your architect will ensure that the regulations are complied with. However, if an architect is not being employed it is the responsibility of the parish to ensure that the regulations will be properly complied with. Full details regarding roles and responsibilities under the regulations can be found here: <https://www.hse.gov.uk/construction/cdm/2015/commercial-clients.htm>

Name and contact details of PCC's choice of contractor to carry out proposed works: -

- No contractor required to delineate area for cremated remains – placing of stones will be carried out by PCC volunteers
- Contractor for removal of trees: Masons Tree Contractors Ltd., Meadow Brook Farm, Cambridge Road, Great Abington CB21 6BL

Approximate cost of work: - £700.00 Including VAT at 20%

INFORMATION REQUIRED BY THE DAC FOR CONSIDERATION BEFORE A NOTIFICATION OF ADVICE CAN BE ISSUED: -

1. Quotation or Estimates for proposed works from contractors. *Contractors must have £10,000,000 Public Liability risks cover and also £10,000,000 Employer's Liability risks cover as directed by the Chancellor of Chelmsford Diocese - <http://www.chelmsford.anglican.org/chelmsford-registry-links#>*

See sheet 1 below

2. Detailed specification from architect or contractor - *(NB - extracts from quinquennial inspection reports will not be accepted as specifications. Where the specification has been prepared by someone else, e.g. heating engineer, it must be accompanied by a letter from the inspecting architect commenting on or approving the specification)*

See sheet 1 below

3. If a detailed specification containing other works not associated with the proposed works noted overleaf, please highlight the section in the specification relating to the exact proposed works. This will enable members during a meeting to consider the specific specification the parish are seeking recommendation by the DAC.

N/A

4. Working drawings, supporting plans, sketches, good quality photographs (see below #7) and samples.

See sheet 4 below

5. Catalogue or brochure pictures, showing items being purchased, including colour choice (e.g. light fittings, sound system equipment, cabinets, silverware, style of churchyard storage units, noticeboards to include sizes, choice of colour, lettering, font style and size, carpets samples or furnishing fabrics etc.) Detailed sketches or drawings by craftsman if bespoke items being handcrafted.

N/A

6. Internal or external site plan of church (*depending on where proposed work is required*), indicating location/s of area of proposed work/s.

SEE SHEET 6 BELOW

7. Good quality colour photographs internal and externally of church, showing proposed location/s of work/s. Where something is to be introduced to the church, photographs need to show clearly where the new item is to be located and its wider context within the church.

SEE SHEET 7 BELOW

8. Electrical, drainage works; details of wire/drain routes and proposed alternative routes. Drawings or marked-up photographs are best for showing new cable/drain routes.

N/A

9. Reports/specification from other specialists involved in the project where appropriate (e.g. conservators, stained glass artist/restorer, organ builders etc.)

N/A

10. Any relevant correspondence received from Church Buildings Council (CBC), Historic England, Local Planning Authority, and /or national amenity societies, or any other body or person/s.

See copy email exchange with David Carmichael, Diocesan Arboricultural Adviser, sheet 10 below

11. PCC Resolution with voting figures, if available (*only the relevant section from minutes are required*)

SEE SHEET 11 BELOW

12. Consultation with church insurers if proposals involve scaffolding, use or partial use of volunteer labour and submit their approval or letter.

N/A

- 13. Standard Information Form - Form 1A (Rules 4.2 and 5.5) – Please include a completed form with your proposals (The parish should already have a copy on file) **SEE ATTACHED – unchanged from previous applications****
- 14. In the case of listed churches or church buildings, a Statement of Significance and a Statement of Needs **must** be included with the application–** *(Where proposals involve making changes to a **listed** church or other listed building, applicants must provide the DAC with: (a) a document which describes (i) the significance of the church or other building in terms of its special architectural and historic interest (including any contribution made by its setting) and (ii) any significant features of artistic or archaeological interest that the church or other building has so as to enable the potential impact of the proposals on its significance, and on any such features, to be understood (a “statement of significance”); and (b) a document setting out the justification for the proposals (commonly known as a “statement of needs”). Where appropriate, the relevant statutory consultees will need to have been consulted. The consultees are the local planning authority, Historic England, The Church Buildings Council, The C20th Society, The Victorian Society, The Georgian Group, The Society for the Protection Of Ancient Buildings and the Ancient Monuments Society. Their response(s) must be included with the application. Guidance on consultation procedure is set out in the appendix below.*
- STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE ATTACHED (FEB 19)**
STATEMENT OF NEEDS FOR AREA OF CREMATED REMAINS AND TREE REMOVAL – SEE SHEET 14 BELOW
- 15. It is advisable not to purchase or commit to any ordering process until a Faculty has been granted.**
- 16. Please return a hard copy of this application form and all information relating to your proposals to **DAC Department, Chelmsford Diocesan Office, 53 New Street, Chelmsford, Essex CM1 1AT.****
- 17. When proposals are recommended by the DAC a ‘Notification of Advice’ will be issued and Petition for Faculty and two Public Notices will be printed off and returned to the petitioner named overleaf.**
- 18. Retain copies** of all information submitted with your application in case originals are lost in the post and for viewing by person or persons wishing to do so during the Public Notice display period.
- 19. If application to works proposed, parishes are advised to read through the advisory note for churchwardens on **Construction (Design & Management) Regulations 2015** (CDM 2015) on Diocesan website link: <http://www.chelmsford.anglican.org/the-dac/dac-guidance-notes>**

APPENDIX

CONSULTATION REGARDING WORKS AFFECTING THE FABRIC OR CONTENTS OF A CHURCH

INTENDING APPLICANTS MUST CONSULT

NATIONAL AMENITY SOCIETIES, CHURCH BUILDINGS COUNCIL, HISTORIC ENGLAND, AND LOCAL AUTHORITY AND THEIR RESPONSES MUST BE SUBMITTED WITH AN APPLICATION TO THE DAC

The Faculty Jurisdiction Rules 1st April 2020 set out the procedures to be followed with regard to consulting with a number of bodies where works to churches or their contents, especially those that are included in The National Heritage List for England (The List), are proposed. Ideally these bodies should be consulted at an early stage and prior to the making of an application to the DAC. All will insist upon seeing Statements of Significance and Need before they give any advice. A site visit will often be required. The following paragraphs set out the terms of engagement for the relevant bodies.

When a body is consulted they must be informed by letter or electronic communication (emails) that it is being consulted in accordance with those rules and that a response to the consultation will be taken into account if it is received within 42 days of the date of the letter or electronic communication. Copies are to be retained of the letters or electronic communications and enclosed in an application, providing evidence the parish have consulted and no response has been provided within 42 days. No DAC Application can be submitted until a response has been received from the consultees or that 42 days have lapsed.

For full details on the new Faculty Jurisdiction Rules please click on link below.

<https://www.churchofengland.org/more/church-resources/churchcare/church-buildings-council/how-we-manage-our-buildings>

HISTORIC ENGLAND

Consultation with Historic England should take place as follows.

In the case of a grade I or II* listed building Historic England should be consulted on any works that involve demolition of a listed building or its alteration or extension to such an extent as would be likely to affect its character as a building of special architectural or historic interest. In the case of a grade II listed building Historic England should be consulted on works which comprise the demolition or removal of all, or a substantial part, of the structure of the interior (including any principal internal elements such as staircases, galleries, load-bearing walls, floor or roof structures and major internal fixtures such as pews, screens and organs). Historic England should also be consulted on works that are likely to affect the archaeological importance of any building or archaeological remains within the building or its curtilage.

THE NATIONAL AMENITY SOCIETIES

There are six: The Council for British Archaeology, The Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings (SPAB), The Georgian Group, The Victorian Society, The Twentieth Century Society and the Ancient Monuments Society.

Any national amenity society which is likely to have an interest in the works should be consulted where they involve demolition of a listed building of any grade or its alteration or extension to such an extent as would be likely to affect its character as a building of special architectural or historic interest (this includes significant re-ordering of the interior and especially where fixtures, fittings and furnishings are to be permanently removed); or they involve demolition affecting the exterior of an unlisted building in a conservation area.

Whether a national amenity society is likely to have an interest in works will depend on the age of the building (or the relevant part of it) and the likely effect on it of the proposed works. For example, the removal of Victorian pews from a medieval building is likely to be of greater interest to the Victorian Society than to the SPAB. If in any doubt, contact the relevant society's case worker (all of the amenity societies have contact telephone numbers on their websites) or e-mail the details of the scheme to casework@jcnas.org.uk

THE LOCAL PLANNING AUTHORITY

The local planning authority (lpa) should be consulted where works—

- (a) involve demolition of a listed building of any grade or its alteration or extension to such an extent as would be likely to affect its character as a building of special architectural or historic interest;
- (b) are likely to affect the archaeological importance of a building or archaeological remains within the building or its curtilage; or
- (c) involve demolition affecting the exterior of an unlisted building in a conservation area.

In addition, the lpa should be consulted for any works to a church, whether included in The List or not, which affect its external appearance and for which planning permission will be required. This is likely to include such things as the erection of notice boards, the erection of fencing or some other boundary treatment or the creation of hard standing for car parking. In case of doubt, consult the planning department of your local council.

THE CHURCH BUILDINGS COUNCIL

The Rules require The Chancellor to seek the advice of the Church Buildings Council (CBC) on the proposals that fall within the following categories:

- (a) the introduction, conservation, alteration or disposal of an article of special historic, architectural, archaeological or artistic interest;
- (b) the alteration, extension or re-ordering of a church in a way that is likely significantly to affect the setting of an article of special historic, architectural, archaeological or artistic interest; or
- (c) the movement or removal of an article of special historic, architectural, archaeological or artistic interest such that the article might be adversely affected unless special precautions are taken.

Unless the Chancellor is satisfied that there has already been adequate consultation with the Church Buildings Council and the Council's advice is available to the court.

It is possible of course that the CBC may object to a scheme or call for significant changes to it. For this reason it is **recommended** that the CBC is consulted prior to the making of a Faculty application and at the same time as any other consultations are being made.

Consultation with CBC email the details of the scheme to: consultchurchbuildingscouncil@churchofengland.org

N.B. The CBC's areas of interest where they wish to be consulted are wider than those of the amenity societies. Full details of the CBC's terms of engagement can be found here ~

https://www.churchofengland.org/sites/default/files/2019-03/CCB_When_to_consult_August_18.pdf

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Limited

www.thetreeprofessionals.co.uk

www.abingtonsawmill.uk

Mobile: 07846-590-254

Office: 01223-897-277

7th July 2020

Mr Tim Boyden
Ploughlands
Hadstock
Cambs
CB21 4NX

Dear Sir,

Further to your recent enquiry for work, I have pleasure in enclosing the following:

QUOTATION

1x Yew tree and 1x twin stemmed Sycamore tree, both in Church grounds.
To fell both trees to ground level.

£700.00 Including VAT at 20%

Should you have any questions please feel free to call me to discuss.

All work shall be completed in line with BS3998 'Recommendation for Tree Work' where appropriate. All work is subject to good weather and working conditions. All arising waste will be returned to our premises for recycling. We ensure working areas are left in a clean and tidy condition. This quotation is valid for 60 days from the above date.

If acceptable, please contact us to discuss a suitable date for you.

Payment to be made within 7 days of invoice.

Yours Sincerely,

Mr. A Mason

*Meadow Brook Farm
Cambridge Road
Gt Abington
Cambridge
CB21 6BL*

*Our company is fully insured for your benefit and peace of mind.
Company Number 06525482 Registered in England.*



Certificate of Employers' Liability Insurance^(a)

(Where required by regulation 5 of the Employers' Liability (Compulsory Insurance) Regulations 1998 (the Regulations), one or more copies of this certificate must be displayed at each place of business at which the policy holder employs persons covered by the policy)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. Name of policy holder: | Insurance Policy No: B105320ARB541270
Mason's Tree Contractors Limited |
| 2. Date of commencement of insurance policy: | 17/03/2020 |
| 3. Date of expiry of insurance policy: | 16/03/2021 |

We hereby certify that subject to paragraph 2:-

1. the policy to which this certificate relates satisfies the requirements of the relevant law applicable in Great Britain, Northern Ireland, the Isle of Man, the Island of Jersey, the Island of Guernsey and the Island of Alderney, or to offshore installations in any waters outside the United Kingdom to which the Employers' Liability (Compulsory Insurance) Act 1969 or any amending primary legislation applies^(b); and
2. (a) the minimum amount of cover provided by this policy is no less than £5,000,000 ^(c).

Signed on behalf of those Lloyd's Underwriters subscribing to the above insurance (Authorised Insurers)

Notes:

- (a) Where the employer is a company to which regulation 3(2) of the Regulations applies, the certificate shall state in a prominent place, either that the policy covers the holding company and all its subsidiaries, or that the policy covers the holding company and all its subsidiaries except any specifically excluded by name, or that the policy covers the holding company and only the named subsidiaries.
- (b) Specify applicable law as provided for in regulation 4(6) of the Regulations.
- (c) See regulation 3(1) of the Regulations and delete whichever of paragraphs 2(a) or 2(b) does not apply. Where 2(b) is applicable, specify the amount of cover provided by the relevant policy. (Paragraph 2(b) does not apply and is deleted.)

Note: The information below this line does not form part of the statutory certificate. Those Underwriters at Lloyd's on whose behalf this certificate is issued require the following information to be entered by the issuing intermediary:

Name and address of issuing intermediary:

Lygon House

Camberford Underwriting
Binding Authority Agreement Number: B1053BA027

50 London Road
Bromley
Kent
BR1 3RA

Issuing intermediary's reference:
(if different from the Policy Number stated above)

28/1/99
NMA2838

Arboricultural Contractors Insurance Scheme

VERIFICATION LETTER

Date: Tuesday 17th of March 2020
Policyholder: Mason's Tree Contractors Limited
Business Description: Landscaping, Fencing, Planting, Tree Surgery, Forestry Felling
Policy Number: B105320ARB541270
Period of Insurance **Start Date:** 17/03/2020
End Date: 16/03/2021

COVER	Limit of Indemnity / Sum insured	Insurer
Contract Works	Not Operative	Certain Underwriters at Lloyd's. The individual syndicate details and proportions of this insurance underwritten by them are available upon request.
Employees Personal Tools & Effects	£2,500	Certain Underwriters at Lloyd's. The individual syndicate details and proportions of this insurance underwritten by them are available upon request.
Owned Plant	£160,450	Certain Underwriters at Lloyd's. The individual syndicate details and proportions of this insurance underwritten by them are available upon request.
Hired in Plant	Not Operative	Certain Underwriters at Lloyd's. The individual syndicate details and proportions of this insurance underwritten by them are available upon request.
Employers Liability	£10,000,000	Certain Underwriters at Lloyd's. The individual syndicate details and proportions of this insurance underwritten by them are available upon request.
Public Liability	£5,000,000	Certain Underwriters at Lloyd's. The individual syndicate details and proportions of this insurance underwritten by them are available upon request.
Products Liability	£5,000,000	Certain Underwriters at Lloyd's. The individual syndicate details and proportions of this insurance underwritten by them are available upon request.

All insurance is subject to the terms conditions and endorsements of the respective Policy. This verification notice confirms the cover in force on the date shown above. Neither Camberford Underwriting nor the respective Insurers/Underwriters accept any liability for reliance on this document by the Insured or any third party in the event that any of the insurances detailed are cancelled or not in force for any reason.

Signed on behalf of the Insurers



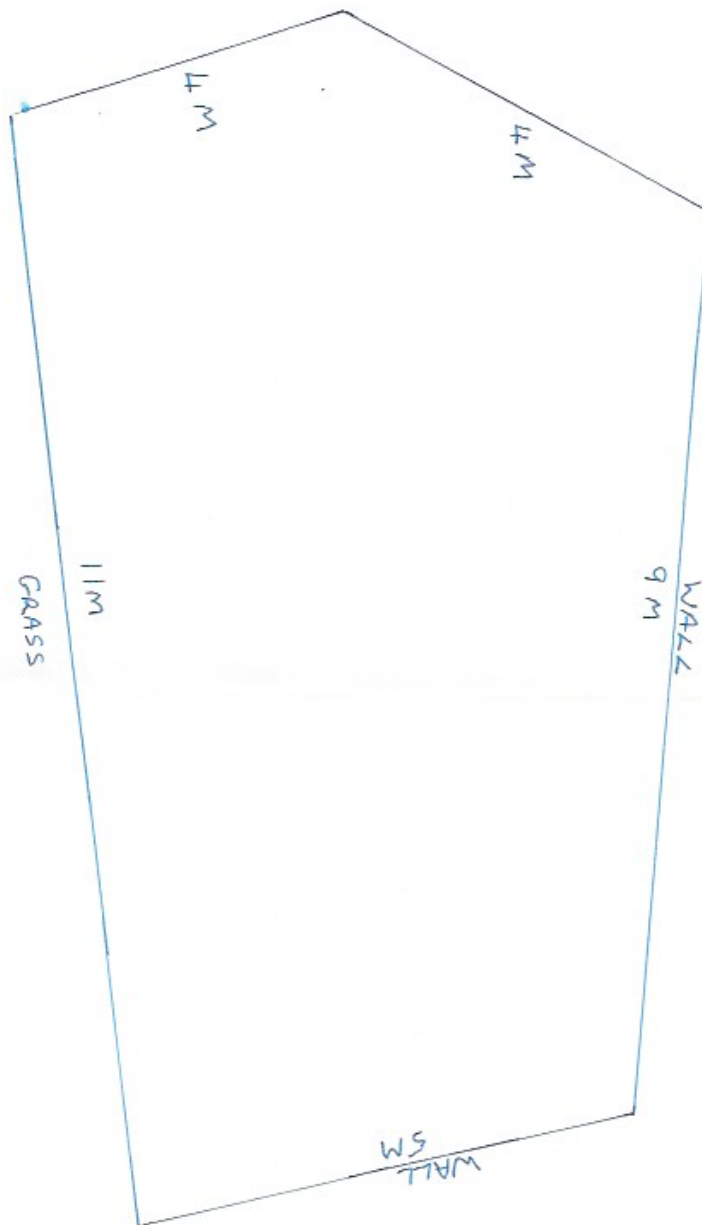

t: 020 8315 5000 w: camberford.com

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Sheet for Q 4

See sketch of area proposed

(APPROXIMATE DIMENSIONS)



SHEET FOR 96

29/08/2020 14:15

AREAS NOW
PROPOSED FOLLOWING RECENT
CLEARANCE OF VEGETATION



Imagery ©2020 Bluesky, GeoMapping plc, Infoterra Ltd & Bluesky, Maxar Technologies, The GeoInformation Group, Map data ©2020

<https://www.google.co.uk/maps/@52.0791721,0.2732244,65m/data=!3m1!1e3>

Sheet for Q7: Photos

A. Area originally considered for cremated remains, delineated by cones



View from area originally proposed looking towards church – showing impact of trees



View from area originally proposed towards far end of new churchyard extension (church is to the right)



Impact of trees in winter

B. Area currently proposed



Area as recently cleared (it has since been grass-seeded and the grass has taken well, but this view clearly shows the extent of the area proposed)



Area in context, showing existing graves and bench



View of the Church from the proposed new area (on the right of picture)



View of the church from the existing bench

Email from David Carmichael

16 January 2019

To: paula griffiths Cc: Archdeacon of Stansted TIMOTHY BOYDEN saf.seward@btinternet.com
RE: Hadstock - area of cremated remains and trees

Dear Rev Paula,

Further to your request as detailed below, I met with Timothy Boyden, who showed me the works you wish to undertake. I am very much in sympathy with the requirements as there will be damage to the internal walls within the churchyard from the Sycamore trees and the Yew does both block the visual aspect and create damp to the main church structure. Given this I have advised Tim that I believe a faculty application will be required and also permission from Uttlesford District Council as the trees are also protected by Conservation Area legislation.

I suggest a specification for the exact works is prepared and some consideration for low-level mitigation planting provided (not trees but shrubs).

I hope this is helpful and please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any additional queries.

Kind regards

David

David M Carmichael

Practice Manager & Honorary Arboricultural Advisor to Essex Diocesan Advisory Committee

From: paula griffiths [<mailto:paula.greatford@btinternet.com>]

Sent: 03 December 2018 15:55

To: David Carmichael

Cc: Archdeacon of Stansted; TIMOTHY BOYDEN; saf.seward@btinternet.com

Subject: Hadstock - area of cremated remains and trees [Filed 03 Dec 2018 17:28]

Dear David

You'll remember coming to Hadstock church just over a year ago to look at a yew tree next to the vestry and a willow tree on the far side of the churchyard. I'm approaching you again now following a visit made by the DAC in October to discuss a possible area for cremated remains in the new churchyard. We are now going to take that forward in the light of their advice, and would appreciate your help too please.

In the discussion we considered the scope for a bench for people to sit and contemplate, possibly at the east end of the new churchyard (next to the laurel hedge). This could give a good view of the church itself, but the DAC themselves noted that the sycamore close to the yew tree near the boundary of the old churchyard [not the yew on which you advised last year] does rather inhibit that view, and that it would be worth considering whether it would be appropriate to take it down. This would at least give the yew a little more space to flourish. However, the yew itself is believed to be a seedling, and the PCC would appreciate your advice on whether both could in fact be removed (subject of course to the views of Uttlesford District Council's Tree Officer).

I attach a photo, taken last week from the east end of the churchyard, which shows the trees in question right in front of the church tower.



Perhaps you could kindly come and have a look? If you would like a representative of the parish to be there when you visit, please let me know and we will try to see if one of us can be available.

Many thanks and best wishes

Paula Griffiths

The Reverend Paula Griffiths
Priest at St Botolph's Hadstock
Associate Priest in the Saffron Walden and Villages Team Ministry

EXTRACT FROM THE MINUTES OF

St Botolph's Hadstock PCC

Meeting held on September 1 2020 in St Botolph's Church at 19.30hrs

Attendees: Revd. Paula Griffiths, Tim Boyden from Item 8, Patricia Croxton Smith, Jane Devlin, Peter Jarritt, Ann and Malcolm Seward, Janice Snell from Item 4 Moire Jarritt Minute Secretary

Apologies: Rick Albrow

ITEM 11. APPROVAL OF DAC APPLICATION FOR AREA FOR CREMATED REMAINS AND TREE REMOVAL

Tree Removal: an application was made to Uttlesford District Council in July and Tim was informed that if there was no further communication by 7 September it could be assumed permission to remove the trees was granted. DAC approval and faculty will still be needed and will be included in the application for cremated remains

Cremated remains: The draft application which is held on file was agreed unanimously

Proposed: Tim Boyden Seconded: Patricia Croxton-Smith

(Note: all voting members of the PCC were present at the meeting.)

Sheet for Q 14

Statement of Need

AREA FOR CREMATED REMAINS

The historic churchyard at St Botolph's is now effectively full. An extension to the churchyard on the south side of the church was approved about 12 years ago and is now in use for burials – 8 burials have taken place so far, in 6 graves, beginning at the west end of the extension.

In recent years a few interments of ashes have taken place in the existing graves of family members, but there are virtually no plots available in the main churchyard.

It seems prudent therefore to set aside a specific **area for cremated remains**. We were grateful for the opportunity to discuss this with DAC members at a site visit in October 2018.

Location

We seek to maintain the sense of a quiet, rural churchyard and also to provide space for bereaved families and others to sit in peaceful contemplation. We also want this to be an area which is light and comfortable to sit in, with a strong view of the church.

Options

At the time of the DAC visit, we had in mind an area in the churchyard extension.

- The west end is already used for burials
- The north side (next to the wall adjoining the church) needs to be kept clear for access for equipment eg for building works/erection of scaffolding (there is a legal agreement with the adjacent owner allowing the PCC access through their land and into the churchyard)
- The south side has substantial plant growth on the boundary and would be difficult to maintain
- This left the east side, which was our original choice after we had considered the DAC's advice.

We considered an area set against the laurel hedge on the east side of the churchyard, so facing into the churchyard with the church to the right. This would give a view from the area towards the church - as in the photo below.



However this area of the churchyard gets very boggy in winter and also is in shadow most of the day.

The PCC therefore considered further, and now proposes an area in the main churchyard which has recently been cleared of vegetation. See photos under Q7. It has recently been reseeded with grass seed.

This has distinct advantages over the site originally considered:

- The size is appropriate
- There is an existing bench with a good view of the area and the church itself
- The ground is much firmer, and the area much lighter throughout the day.

Size, shape and boundaries

See sketch plan on sheet 4- the proposed space is approximately 60 sq metres.

We have considered various options for delineating the boundary, while keeping it looking like a rural churchyard, and also ensuring that the area is easily maintained. A post and chain arrangement would feel somewhat municipal here, and a new low hedge would require maintenance. We have also taken account of the preference for natural materials.

The best option seems to be to make sensitive re-use of a number of small stones from graves which have long been separated from their context and have been left loose or propped up against the church walls – somewhat detracting from the appearance of the church itself. These were mainly footstones from graves, apparently collected up when the churchyard was levelled many years ago and it then proved impossible to relate the stones to particular grave locations. Some DAC members may remember that at a previous site visit we raised the question of what we could do with these, and the members present suggested we could consider moving them to place against the walls of the churchyard, not least to avoid the scope for damp to the walls of the church itself.



See example above. The typical size is approx. 70 cm high by 40 cm wide.

Some of the stones have now been carefully cleaned and respond well to cleaning.

Using these to mark the boundary by laying them flat lengthwise along the perimeter of the proposed area would put them to appropriate reuse, move them away from the church itself, and provide a subtle boundary for the new area which was unobtrusive and would not inhibit the existing mowing regime, thus fulfilling several objectives.



The picture above gives a sense of how they might look in context. Please note that this **is purely illustrative** – the stones have been propped up simply to ensure that they stand out in this photograph, but the intention would be to lie them flat.

Marking the plots

Having considered the question of what kind of memorials should be permitted, the PCC proposes the following, aiming to keep the space simple but not regimented:

- Plots to be marked by mini headstones (as in Broxted cemetery)
- Stone: Portland or granite
- Inscription: simply name and date
- No Gothic or italic font
- No plastic flowers
- No receptacle for flowers

A plan of the plots would be maintained and kept in the church. Double depth plots should be permitted where appropriate.

We estimate that the area would take at least 40 plots, each one metre apart. For a small rural community, this would be sufficient for many years to come.

REMOVAL OF TREES

In considering the options for the area of cremated remains, the PCC also carefully looked at the view to the church from the extension to the churchyard. It considers that it would be advisable to take away one double-trunked sycamore and one yew tree (which was self-seeded) on the other side of the churchyard wall.

The trees are very close to the wall and potentially threaten its stability as well as overshadowing the church itself, thereby adding to the potential for damp inside the building. Removing them would provide major benefits in terms of opening up the view, and make this part of the churchyard more attractive to families and visitors. We therefore wish to apply for faculty for their removal.

The Diocesan Arboricultural Adviser has been consulted and favours the proposal – see above. A notification has been sent to Uttlesford District Council, as the churchyard is within a conservation area. The statutory notification period has now expired, and they have made no comment.

We commend this application to the DAC.