

John Macholc
Building and Development Control
Manager
Ribble Valley Borough Council
Council Offices
Church Walk
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Fax:
Email: douglas.moir@lancashire.gov.uk
Your ref:
Our ref: ASM/ASP/DM
Date: 15 May 2012

F.A.O Graeme Thorpe

Dear Mr Macholc,

PROPOSED: Conversion of the existing Chapel and Sunday School building to form 2no. four bedroom dwellings including creation of a garden and parking area. Old Methodist Chapel, Lower Chapel Lane, Grindleton (3/2011/0896).

The Old Methodist Chapel lies within the Grindleton Conservation Area (a designated heritage asset), and has been identified as a Building of Townscape Merit within the Grindleton Conservation Area Appraisal (2005). Datestones on the building show the Chapel to have been built in 1862, and the attached Sunday School in 1899. The rural areas of Lancashire produced a number of nonconformist sects (including the only one, other than the Plymouth Brethren, to be named after its place of origin, the 'Grindletonians' in the later 17th century), which must reflect the attitude of the population to the 'Establishment' and the State organised religion of the period. In their architectural style and size the chapels often contrast strongly with the surrounding domestic and industrial architectures and therefore form a strong focal point in the historic environment.

The building is considered to be of some local significance, and LCAS would therefore recommend that should the planning authority be minded to grant planning permission to this, or any similar scheme, that the building be recorded prior to its conversion, and that such works are secured by means of the following planning condition:

Condition: No works shall take place on the site until the applicant, or their agent or successors in title, has secured the implementation of a programme of building recording and analysis. This must be carried out in accordance with a written scheme of investigation, which shall first have been submitted to and agreed in writing by the Local Planning Authority.

Reason: To ensure and safeguard the recording and inspection of matters of archaeological/historical importance associated with the building.

This is in accordance with national guidance as laid out in National Planning Policy Framework paragraph 141.

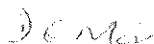
Specifications and a list of professionally qualified building recording consultants and organisations which could carry out the appropriate archaeological works can be obtained from Lancashire County Archaeology Service:

Lancashire County Council
Transport & Environment
Development Management
PO Box 100
County Hall
Preston
PR1 0LD

tel. 01772 531734

Please note that the above comments have been made without the benefit of a site visit. If you have any questions or require any further information please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely



Doug Moir
Planning Officer (Archaeology)