

CHRIST CHURCH, CHATBURN

IN THE ARCHDEACONRY OF BLACKBURN



DESIGN & ACCESS and HERITAGE STATEMENT

November 2018

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1.0 Introduction:

Overton Architects have been instructed by the PCC of Christ Church, Chatburn, to prepare and submit a planning application for: the instillation of a handrail to the basement boiler house, alterations to handrails to improve safety and accessibility of the existing emergency exit ramp and protective polycarbonate glazing for the stained glass windows along the north elevation.

1.1 History

The church is Grade II listed. A copy of the listing is appended to this report (appendix A)

1.2 Client Brief and Objectives

The South elevation of the church faces the road and is clearly visible to passers-by, while the north elevation of the church looks onto the church yard.

The church has recently suffered from vandalism to the stained glass windows along the north elevation due to air rifle pellets. We are proposing to replace the current unsightly and corroding wire guarding with UV stabilised protective polycarbonate glazing.

The existing steps to the boiler house are without a hand rail and are hazardous to use. The proposal is to add a hand rail to aid access and improve safety.

The existing emergency exit ramp features an open hand rail on the open side, the aim is to improve the safety and accessibility along the existing ramp.

2.0 Assessment:

The physical, social and economic characteristics of the site and its locality have been considered.

2.1 Physical

Located in the North-East part of the village, originally built in 1830's and extended in the 1880's, It is a liturgically orientated church built in the Romanesque style with Squared limestone and sandstone ashlar dressings. The church features a tower at the west end with a spire and stained glass windows from late 19th century. The Grade II listing description is in Appendix A.

3.0 Design:

To be read in conjunction with the following drawings –

2363_01_03	Site map and Church plan
2363_01_04	Existing North elevation with window labels
2363_01_05	Images, areas of work and protective glazing labels
2363_01_06	Proposed North elevation with window labels

2363_01_07 Proposed part North Elevation,

2363_01_08 Boiler house handrail detail

The proposed protective glazing will protect the stained glass. The current wire mesh guards are ineffective against vandalism to the windows and are causing staining to the adjacent masonry. The current glass secondary glazing on window nVb is of an unknown quality.

All stained glass windows along the north façade are to be protected with 8mm UV stabilised Polycarbonate, as detailed on drawing number 2363_01_05. An additional benefit of this would be the creation of a uniform window appearance along the north façade.

The proposed boiler house handrail is designed to both provide assistance when using the existing boiler house steps and to separate the steps from the existing ramp. The height and sizing is shown on drawing number 2363_01_08. Currently there is no separation between the ramp and the steps creating a danger for potential falls.

The proposed alterations to the ramp comprise the addition of a stainless steel weld mesh safety guard. Currently the hand rail comprises two horizontal bars and five vertical supports, (as shown on drawing number 2363_01_06-08). To improve safe use of the existing emergency exit ramp, a handrail is proposed on the adjacent church wall to match the height of the existing handrail.

4.0 Access:

The primary level access entrance to the Church is through the South porch which faces Sawley road.

The north porch emergency exit ramp runs along the north façade. It is currently has a single handrail on the open side. The proposal is to insert an additional hand rail adjacent church wall to improve the access to and from the church.

Currently the Boiler house does not have a handrail, the proposal includes adding a hand rail to aid access to the boiler house, the addition of the handrail would also protect ramp users from the steps which is currently unguarded.

5.0 Conclusion:

The aim of the works is, to improve the safety of both the existing exit ramp and steps to the Boiler house. In addition we seek to protect the historic stained glass windows from vandalism. The proposed works to the steps and ramp have little as impact as possible on the church. The proposed protective glazing will standardise the external appearance of windows along the north elevation, prevent staining of the masonry as well as improve the appreciation of the stained glass from within the church.

Appendix A – Copy of the Listing

CHRIST CHURCH

Overview

Heritage Category: Listed Building

Grade: II

List Entry Number: 1163617

Date first listed: 27-Apr-1984

Location

Statutory Address: CHRIST CHURCH, SAWLEY ROAD

The building or site itself may lie within the boundary of more than one authority.

County: Lancashire

District: Ribble Valley (District Authority)

Parish: Chatburn

National Grid Reference: SD 76992 44277

Summary

Legacy Record - This information may be included in the List Entry Details.

Reasons for Designation

Legacy Record - This information may be included in the List Entry Details.

History

Legacy Record - This information may be included in the List Entry Details.

Details

SD 74 SE CHATBURN SAWLEY ROAD

7/5 Christ Church - - II

Church, 1838, by Edmund Sharpe, with aisles and chancel added 1882 by F. Robinson (Pevsner). Squared limestone with sandstone ashlar dressings, and slate roof. Romanesque style, with additions in keeping. Comprises a west tower with spire, a nave with south porch, 3 transeptal gables on north and south sides forming aisles, and a lower chancel with semi-circular apse. The tower is of 3 stages broached to a spire of sandstone ashlar. The lower stage has 2 blank arches on each side, with 2 round-headed windows on the west side. The upper stages each have 2 similar openings on each side, separated by pilaster strips and with Lombard friezes. The bays of the main church are separated by pilaster strips and have Lombard friezes. The nave, of 2 bays on the north side and with one bay to the west of the porch on the south side, has tall windows with splayed limestone reveals and round heads. Each aisle bay has similar windows, paired with a single pierced quatrefoil above and under a semi-circular relieving arch. A plaque in the wall of the apse records that the chancel was built in memory of Robert Ingram, d.1879. Interior. The 3-bay nave arcades have semi-circular arches, banded round columns, and foliated capitals and responds. The moulded round chancel arch is carried on short corbelled shafts with foliated capitals. Below are piers with angle shafts, from which spring flanking arches opening into the organ chamber and the south chapel. An inscribed band in the south aisle wall records that the church was enlarged in 1882. At the west end is a gallery with timber front. The roof is carried on arch-braced trusses. The windows contain glass of various late C19th dates.

Listing NGR: SD7699244277

Legacy

The contents of this record have been generated from a legacy data system.

Legacy System number: 183324

Legacy System: LBS

Sources

Books and journals

Pevsner, N, The Buildings of England: North Lancashire, (1969)

Legal

This building is listed under the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 as amended for its special architectural or historic interest.