

Ref: 2021-064592

Church: Lechlade: St Lawrence

Diocese: Gloucester

Archdeaconry: Cheltenham

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(17/08/2021)

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Status: Await applicant completion of the petition form

Form 2

Rule 4.9

Diocesan Advisory Committee Notification of Advice

This notification constitutes advice only and does not give you permission to carry out the works or other proposals to which it relates. A faculty must be obtained from the Consistory Court before the works or proposals may lawfully be carried out.

The Committee should delete any parts of the form that are not applicable when completing it.

In the diocese of Gloucester

Parish of Lechlade

Church of Lechlade: St Lawrence

The church is listed under the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990.

The listing is grade I

At a meeting of the Diocesan Advisory Committee held on 22/06/2023

The following works or other proposals were considered:

Restoration and reordering works to comprise:

1. The reopening of the north porch as the main entrance with external timber door and internal doors.
2. The construction of a new limestone flag floor at a higher level than existing enabling level access by all abilities from the north porch to the communion rail.
3. The relocation of three existing ledgerstones, previously moved.
4. Raising the pulpit and relocation of the font to the east end.
5. The removal of the deal pews (retaining four shortened pews in the chancel) and replacement with 'Theo' design chairs.
6. The provision of a hybrid heating system including underfloor heating in the raised floor, trench heaters, air source heat pumps and modifications to the existing boilers.
7. Three phase electricity supply, rewiring the power and lighting circuits and provision of enhanced lighting.
8. The provision of new audio-visual system with associated WIFI and projector screen above the chancel arch.
9. Repairs to areas of lime plaster, cleaning and repainting of the walls.
10. Minor roof repairs as may be identified during the works.
11. The provision of a gallery at the west end similar to that in place prior to 1881.
12. The provision of a kitchen in the south west corner of the church.
13. The provision of two toilets - one for all abilities - to the north west corner of the church.
14. The provision of rooms for Sunday school and bible studies at the west end including occasional use of the ringing chamber.
15. The provision of a timber floor to the lower tower room.
16. Retaining the side chapel with some minor reordering including removal of the C20 reredos.
17. Reopening and restoration of the south door.
18. Modifications to the vestry for shared use as an office, provision of roof lights to provide enhanced natural light and a reclaimed stone footpath to provide level access to the vestry external door.
19. External works including locating the air source heat pumps adjacent to the south wall of the tower.
20. The construction of two small churchyard maintenance buildings on the south side of the churchyard.

The works or proposals should be described in the petition for a faculty and in the public notice in the same way as they are described here.

The Committee recommends the works or proposals for approval by the court [subject to the following provisos]:

1. The DAC must be involved in a meaningful dialogue with the PCC and the Cotswold District Council planners about the proposed external works, most importantly: the design and location of the proposed sheds and the ASHP enclosure. Planning permission for all external work must be obtained before construction starts on site. 2. The path to the vestry must be made with reclaimed stone matching the stone used recently to pave Shelley's walk and not be made with new stone. 3. Four shortened pews must be preserved within the chancel as per relevant drawings. The design and the number of new chairs must be agreed by the DAC. 4. The DAC shall require more information on the impact of the changing floor levels on the south door. The Committee wishes to see a decorative motif incorporated into the new floor to visually break up the large expanse of flooring of the same colour and texture. Proposals for said motif are to be discussed with and agreed by the DAC. 5. The DAC accepts the proposal for the west gallery of the proposed footprint, but not to the currently suggested design(s). An acceptable design will be one that is in keeping with and sympathetic to the significance of the church interior. The quality of craftsmanship of this new intervention must reflect and enhance the significance and character of the church. Structural glass should be avoided. The DAC must be involved in conversations with the project architect and the PCC on suitable design options. 6. The DAC wishes to see more detail regarding the suspended flooring in the base of the tower. The PCC should confirm the details of the heating solution chosen for this space. The recording of the ledgers, which are to be concealed by timber flooring, must be carried out by an archaeologist, and archived in line with best practice (please see condition 11 below). If the underfloor heating option is to be pursued, detailed drawings should demonstrate how the ledgers would be protected and isolated. 7. The DAC has made a decision not to recommend the removal of the chancel screen. The DAC felt strongly that this proposal, as well as any proposals affecting the integrity and significance of the chancel, should not be revisited unless there is a very good reason to do so, and not until the reordering has been completed and the parish has had an opportunity to use the newly created spaces and facilities over a period of time. 8. The location and fixing details of the proposed projector screen shall be shared with and agreed by the DAC. 9. Documents and details the DAC shall be presented with for comments, and approve before construction work commences, include: a set of finalised scheme drawings, reflecting the final proposals, taking into consideration the advice of the DAC and planners, once all details are agreed. These should include annotated plans, sections and elevations, along with all of the necessary relevant details i.e. floor build-up, joinery details; generally and of the storage units, and any glazing, if still applicable as part of the scheme, as well as doors, stairs, gallery, screens, WCs and kitchen etc.; along with a full written specification and schedule of works to support the drawings. 10. A suitably qualified and experienced structural engineer and M&E engineer (for the part of the scheme with regard to heating, lighting and AV etc.) should be involved in all relevant stages of the design process and liaise closely with the project architect, to ensure that all aspects of the scheme can be adequately integrated without compromising or impacting upon other aspects. Evidence of their involvement will be required. 11. Archaeology: a) Watching brief: Prior to the commencement of any construction work an archaeologist must be appointed to undertake a watching brief during all ground and floor disturbance associated with the works. The DAC Archaeological Adviser will issue them with a suitable brief for archaeological recording. A competent and professional archaeologist or archaeological organisation will be appointed to undertake the required levels of archaeological recording. The individual or organisation will be able to demonstrate suitable experience of archaeological excavation, including church archaeology and a proven track record of archaeological excavation and publication. The archaeological contractor shall be or be managed by a Member of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists and will adhere to the Chartered Institute of Archaeologists Code of Practice for the Regulation of Contractual Arrangements in Field Archaeology. b) Report: On completion of the on-site work a report on the results of the work should be prepared for the parish, the Diocesan Archaeological Adviser, the DAC Secretary, and the County Historic Environment Record. c) Archive: Arrangements must be made for the deposition of the site archive and finds in an appropriate local museum. The digital archive must be deposited with the Archaeology Data Service <https://archaeologydataservice.ac.uk>. Summary reports should be disseminated as appropriate, either by submission to the Bristol and Gloucester Archaeological Society's Proceedings for inclusion in the annual round-up of work in Gloucestershire or OASIS, the online system for reporting archaeological investigations: <https://oasis.ac.uk> 12. A protocol and a risk assessment to help manage the proposed shared use of the ringing room as a multipurpose space must be developed with the bell ringers and agreed by both the ringers and the PCC. Said protocol must emphasise that the primary purpose of the space is bellringing and that it will have priority over any other uses. A copy of relevant documents must be shared with the DAC Secretary.

This advice does not constitute authority for carrying out the works or proposals and a faculty is required.

In the opinion of the Committee rule 9.9 of the Faculty Jurisdiction Rules (publication of notice on diocesan or other publicly accessible website) applies.

In the opinion of the Committee the work or part of the work proposed is likely to affect -

- the character of the church as a building of special architectural or historic interest Yes No
- the archaeological importance of the church Yes No
- archaeological remains existing within the church or its curtilage Yes No

The following have been consulted on the works or other proposals:

- Historic England Yes No
- the local planning authority Yes No
- the following national amenity societies
The Victorian Society Yes No
- SPAB
- the Church Buildings Council Yes No
- the following body or person:
Historic Buildings & Places and the Georgian Group Yes No

Objections have been raised by Historic England and SPAB and have not been withdrawn. The Committee's principal reasons for approval or not objecting to the works or proposals being approved despite those objections are:
Please see relevant correspondence. N.b. The Victorian Society wishes to be served a Special Notice by the Chancellor

This advice is valid for 24 months from the date given below.

Signed: Adam Klups Date: 09/08/2023

Secretary to the Diocesan Advisory Committee