

HERITAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT

For proposed work in Thurlstone Conservation Area

- 1 Property: Providence Particular Baptist Chapel,
- 2 Location: Ingbirchworth Road, Thurlstone S36 9QN
Grid ref: Easting 423278 — Northing: 403787
- 3 Scheme: Planning application for widening the existing gate off Work Bank Lane to access parking for disabled persons.
- 4 Details:
 - (1) Widening the clear access off Work Bank Lane (within the dry-stone wall) from 2850 to 5000 by providing a second 5-bar timber gate to match the existing.
 - (2) Clearing existing scrub vegetation and providing tarmac finished access and parking for two cars for disabled persons.
 - (3) Widening stone flag paths to improve access for disabled persons.
 - (4) Removing up to four trees to ease vehicle manoeuvring. As many as permitted of these trees for removal is desirable to this application but not essential to it.
- 5 History: The chapel was built in 1867 with stone walls and blue slate roof. There was an old miserable brick-built external toilet block on the site adjoining the location of the proposed gate extension. This was demolished in 2000 when a stone wall / slate roof porch and toilet block was constructed at the main entrance to the chapel. Some time ago, the small boiler house appended to the east elevation of the chapel was demolished and the elevation was rendered.
- 6 Impact:
 - (1) A section of dry-stone walling, approximately 2150 long x 1400 high, will be replaced by the proposed new gate (4.1 above). This work is aesthetically sympathetic with the surrounding built environment, will improve vehicle manoeuvring from the narrow lane, and will enhance sustainable use of a public building within a conservation area. It has little visual impact on the existing chapel building.
 - (2) The proposed tarmac finished parking area is of course consistent with the finish to Work Bank Lane. It replaces a hitherto grotty scrub / weed area visible from the Lane. It would not seem to be incompatible with the adjoining rendered east end to the chapel. It facilitates ambulant disabled and wheelchair user access to this public building.
 - (3) Slightly widening the path round the toilet block, using matching stone flags, to facilitate access for disabled persons is not detrimental to the chapel's visual character.
 - (4) Removal of up to four trees. Three have diameters 130—160mm (at 1500 from ground level). They are shapeless poor specimens which could be considered as no loss to the ambience of the conservation area, but whose removal would greatly benefit car manoeuvring within the site.
Removal of the fourth tree (750 dia) would certainly impact views along Work Bank Lane, especially from the east. Conversely, its removal would benefit onsite car movement, would remove risk to the chapel structure and would improve daylight and sunlight for the properties on Matthew Gap. The fact that there are mature trees fringing the site boundary along Ingbirchworth Road would disguise the loss of this tree in this part of the Conservation Area.

A Planning Application for Tree Work in a Conservation Area was submitted 02-10-2023.

- 7 LPA: The following are some of the contacts that have been made with Barnsley MBC.
- (1) 07-08-2023 Building Conservation enquiry REQ469535 with notes, drawings, photos.
 - (2) 16-08-2023 Reply from LPA Charlie Atkinson.
 - (3) 01-09-2023 Tree Preservation Order enquiry to your Forestry officer, including drawings and photographs.
 - (4) 01-09-2023 Application for pre-app advice.
 - (5) Some conversations with planning officer (Georgina Brayford).
 - (6) 21-09-2023 Highways comments via Georgina Brayford.
 - (7) 02-10-2023 Planning Application for Tree Work.
 - (8) 18-10-2023 Full Planning Application for the access widening and car park upgrade.

So far, it can be drawn from the above in relation to this heritage assessment, that the LPA conservation section might accept the widened access [7 (2) above] and the Highways likewise [7 (6) above].