

Alterations and Extension to 'The Methodist Church at Brierley'.

Design and Access Statement

This statement is required because the site lies within a conservation area.

DESIGN:-

The existing building consists of a church (adapted from a club in the 1930s) and a more recent community centre. The external alterations consist of a new entrance and canopy to the church, with altered external steps to the community centre. At the rear, a new fence is proposed round the play area. An extension to the car park is proposed at the rear along with minor adjustments to the existing car park.

Canopy.

The new entrance to the church is a more formal and usable route than the existing entrance via a side path to a cramped entrance lobby. The new entrance is readily seen and accessed from the car park / pedestrian entrance to the site, and has sufficient height to the doors to permit funeral processions to enter in a dignified way (unlike the current entrance).

The new canopy identifies the entrance and protects the doors and adjacent steps from the weather.

The design of the canopy is to suit the existing church section of the combined building.

Fence.

The rear play area (which is to have recent overgrowth removed) is to have a secure fence around the perimeter with a matching gate related to the fire escape provisions.

Car Park:-

The existing car park is to be slightly extended and re-surfaced in tarmac as existing. An extension to the car park is to be formed by a new ramp leading to the rear raised area which is currently muddy and disused. The new area of car park is to be a self draining stone surface. The existing access from the adjacent track (Wager Lane) is retained.

ACCESS:-

The existing access to the combined building is generally by the uncovered steps from the car park. A recent ramp gives level access through the kitchen to the community centre, but not the church.

The proposal forms a new, identifiable entrance to the church with level and sheltered access. The steps to the community centre remain but are improved with a larger external landing and revised step details. A stair platform hoist is proposed in the new link between the two parts of the building.

The current ramp leading through the kitchen can remain for goods deliveries and only if necessary for disabled access. This kitchen ramp access is improved by the separation of the access corridor from the kitchen.

A new disabled toilet is provided within the church's social space (at the level of the church) and a further disabled toilet is provided off the community centre lobby (at that level).

The church is to have the raised area in the worship space removed.