Heritage Statement – February 2022

The Chapel, 640 Hunsworth Lane, East Bierley, BD4 6PY

Prepared on behalf of Mrs P. Duerden (property owner)

This heritage statement has been prepared in support of the proposed replacement windows which are the subject of this planning application.

The Chapel is a stone built building which fronts onto Hunsworth Lane. The original property dates back to 1889. The property was originally built as a Free Church, before being converted into a residential property in 2013 in accordance with the previous planning approval (2013/62/92963/E).

The property is located within the East Bierley Conservation Area being sited close to the village green and near the village pond.

The Chapel is situated in grounds which consist of a parking area and surrounding garden beds. It is accessed via Bierley Marsh which includes vehicular and pedestrian access. The property can also be accessed by pedestrians from Hunsworth Lane.



Image 1 – Satellite view of the centre of East Bierley with The Chapel marked with a red cross.

Whilst the property lies within the Conservation Area, the property is not listed with the property having limited architectural details. The applicant seeks to protect the character and heritage of the original property whilst minimising damage to the structure and internal walls caused by adverse weather conditions. To do this, the applicant seeks to replace the present windows with replica UPVC windows in the same style and finish. The applicant is keen to maintain the character of the property

and has therefore chosen to purchase windows that were designed for use in listed/conservation area buildings.



Image 2 – Front of the property (view from Hunsworth Lane) showing existing windows which currently do not need replacing.



Image 3 – Side of the property (view from Bierley Marsh) showing existing windows to be replaced.

It is believed that the replacement windows will have limited impact on the street view of the property as they are to the side of the buildings and are replicas of the existing ones, with identical style and finish. The current windows are causing damage to the plaster internally each time it rains, particularly when conditions are windy. The applicant has been advised that further unseen damage may be happening within the structure of the walls causing lasting damage to the property. The applicant has been unable to source replacement wooden windows due to the style and shape of windows and has extensively researched UPVC ones to find windows that replicate the existing ones. In order to achieve the arched shape of the first floor windows, the company will make them by hand, rather than machine as is standard.



Image 4 – Shows damage to the internal frame (rotting wood, peeling paint and mould) that has been regularly painted to minimise the effects of adverse weather conditions.



Image 5 – Shows damage to the internal plasterwork.