

DC Admin

From: Lucy Taylor
Sent: 20 December 2024 14:26
To: DC Admin
Subject: FW: 2024/93188 at location Christ Church, Sude Hill, New Mill, Holmfirth, HD9 7ER

Hello

Please can the email below be redacted and uploaded to anite and the website as a consultation response from KC Conservation & Design for application 2024/93188.

Thanks

Lucy

From: Conservation Design <ConservationDesign@kirklees.gov.uk>
Sent: 20 December 2024 13:28
To: Lucy Taylor <Lucy.Taylor@kirklees.gov.uk>
Subject: RE: 2024/93188 at location Christ Church, Sude Hill, New Mill, Holmfirth, HD9 7ER

Lucy,

Having considered the submitted details, Conservation offers the following.

As noted Christ Church, is a Grade II Listed. The Church an active place of worship, therefore, matters relating to the fabric of the building are dealt with under the Church Faculty. The assessment of the proposals is on the visual impact, impact on setting and the way the Church is experienced.

The proposals are to fit the solar panels to the southern roof plane of the Church. The Church can be experienced off Fulstone Hall Lane to the north and Sude Hill which runs to the south. Within the Churchyard and around the boundary wall there are several mature trees, which when in full leaf do, from certain angles screen the Church from views. However, as currently in the winter months the trees provide limited screening, and the Church is widely visible.

The Church does have a slightly shallower roof pitch and a slight parapet gutter. However, the panels are to be set in the middle of the roof plane. Once fitted the panels will be visible from views off Sude Hill to the south and more so when the trees are not in full leaf. We do however acknowledge that the panels would not be visible from views from the north, nor views when within the Churchyard or looking from the south west. But to reiterate they will be visible when viewed from the south, south east off Sude Hill.

Conservation has concerns with the proposals and the way this will impact the way the Church is appreciated. The panels will be partially screen during the months of full leaf but will be visible during the autumn and winter months and the panels will have a negative impact. We appreciate the reasons set out for the fitting of solar panels, however, we are not convinced this is the only approach which could be considered. There are other options which could be considered which would have a lesser degree of impact and achieve the same aims. We would also note that while solar panels provide sustainable energy, they themselves are not sustainable, as panels have a limited life span (with lab testing suggestive of 25 years, but real-world factors have not been taken into account) and currently there is limited ability to recycle spent panels.

On balance we consider the proposed would cause less than substantial harm which as set out under the NPPF would be required to be balanced against the public benefits, and where applicable against secure the long term viable use of the building. We consider that a row, possible 2 rows of panels closest to the parapet may be possible, with a lesser impact. We would also suggested look to fit panels to the roof of the tower,

which will have minimal impact. We would also advise looking at alternative options such as ground/ air source heating.

Regards,

Sebastian Pickles – MSc, IHBC
Senior Conservation Officer
Planning and Development Service
Growth & Regeneration
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From: Planning ContactCentre <Planning.ContactCentre@kirklees.gov.uk>

Sent: 15 November 2024 11:15

To: Conservation Design <ConservationDesign@kirklees.gov.uk>

Subject: Attached letter from Kirklees Council regarding application number 2024/93188 at location Christ Church, Sude Hill, New Mill, Holmfirth, HD9 7ER

Dear Sir/Madam

Please find attached documentation relating to the above application.

Kind regards

Kirklees Planning