Design and Access Statement

We currently have two signs affixed to the piers at the entrance to Emmanuel's Yard that were installed in late 2018. They have been designed to fit within the blank sections of the carved stone to avoid covering the pattern work. These signs label the building as Emmanuel's Yard and point out the various community functions operating within the building.

The piers have been used historically for signage from when Emmanuel Baptist church was still running as a church. There are still remaining screws from previous signs (photos of these fixings can be viewed in our attached plan documents).

The piers are positioned at the public access point for the property which is the only visible location that can be seen from the street.

Some of the public benefits serviced by the signs are listed below;

The Storehouse Food bank works with local agencies (Wiltshire County Council, Rowan House, Future, Green Square and many more) to donate 2313 bags in the 1st quarter or 2023 to people suffering from food insecurity. In 2022 we donated 8388 bags.

Re:Fresh project works within local schools to provide hygiene & sanitary products to children who are not provided for these. In the 1st quarter of 2023 58 bags were provided

Nexus project (homelessness or mental health support) issued 177 meals in the 1st quarter of 2023

Community Lunch is open to anyone in need of a hot meal provided 242 meals in the 1st quarter of 2023

Cookery School runs quarterly to teach basic cookery skills to individuals identified by local organisation who would benefit from this course

Alongside the charitable work we utilise the premises for West Wilts Vineyard Church and for private hires. As part of this we present the building in a smart and clearly signed manner accessible to the community.

One of the challenges with operating Emmanuel's Yard is ensuring the public can find us. One of the the most frequent conversations we have with people during our open events is how many people have lived in Trowbridge for 'x' number of years and never knew the building was here. Having clear signposting is a paramount help to be able to overcome this.

As lessees of the premises we are responsible to make good any impact on the building from our tenancy and maintenance of the interior of the property. This does not include the exterior or building structure. We are committed to the restoration of any damage caused by the signs which were fixed in 2018. However, our understanding is that the landlord will continue to be responsible for any maintenance and repair of the piers in order to conserve them appropriately.

There has been a church on this site since the mid 1700's. Over time the building has been developed and added on to as it grew. The quality craftsmanship and historic value of the building is a real asset to the town. We have designed the signs to be in keeping with the general style presented in Emmanuel's Yard whilst still functioning as signposting.

As a charity and tenant of Emmanuel's Yard, we are fully committed to the upkeep and sympathetic maintenance of our responsible areas under the terms of our lease. This is demonstrated by how we have restored the property from where it was when we took on the lease. During our restoration we found a number of historical features covered up and we have invested in the conservation of this beautiful building. The We have opened this beautiful 18th century church to the public benefit thus signposting lends its importance to this.

Design and Access questions provided by Karen Fryer (Wiltshire Planning)

For applications for development in a conservation area, explain what impact the proposal will have

on the character and appearance of the area.

The signs have been designed to fit in with the character of the building by matching the existing lines and shapes of the piers. They are traditional font and neutral colours.

For applications for listed building consent, explain what impact the proposal will have on the

special architectural or historic importance of the building. Where any part of the fabric of the building is being removed or altered, explain the significance of that part of the fabric in relation to the special interest of the building and why it is necessary to remove or alter it.

The impact of the signs to the special architectural and historic importance of the building is minimal. If/when the signs are removed, any damage will be made good. It is necessary to have signs to point people to the various community and business projects within the building.

For applications for development in the World Heritage Site, explain what impact the proposal will

have on the setting and appearance of the World Heritage Site and on any archaeology likely to be disturbed by the works.

N/A

Please explain the principles behind the design of the proposal - what are you trying to achieve and

how does the layout, floorspace and scale of the development relate to the site and its surroundings? Where an application relates to an extension to a listed building, explain how the design takes account of the setting of the listed building.

The design of the signs has been kept smart and simple. They fit within the existing shape of the piers and are subtle whilst still performing their function of pointing people to Emmanuel's Yard.

What materials and design features are proposed and how do these relate to those used on the

existing property and its surroundings?

The signs have been printed onto a high quality grey plastic to be long wearing and removable.

Are any landscaping features (walls, hedges, fences) being removed, altered or provided? If so,

please provide details (and ensure that these are shown on the plans submitted with the application)

N/A

Consultation -

Have you consulted any of your neighbours or any other interested parties about your proposals? If

so, please give their details and a summary of their comments and how you have addressed these in the final design of the proposal

No negative feedback has been given in regard to the signs.

Access -

What changes to the existing access arrangements to the property are proposed and will these

facilitate access for the disabled? Where the works affect the exterior of a listed building, please explain how the special architectural or historic importance of the building has been taken into account in the design of any alterations to the access to the building.

N/A