HERTIAGE,
DESIGN AND
ACCESS STATEMENT
For a

NEW CHURCHYARD PATH

at
ST JOHN THE BAPTIST,
COLERNE

AUGUST 2023

HERITAGE, DESIGN AND ACCESS STATEMENT
For a
NEW CHURCHYARD PATH
at
ST JOHN THE BAPTIST,
COLERNE

APPLICANTS:

The PCC of St. John the Baptist
C/o Mr. R. Barker
6 Fosseway Close
Colerne
Wiltshire
SN14 8EE

AGENT:

Chedburn Codd
Gloce Factory Studios
1 Brook Lane
Holt
Bradford on Avon
BA14 6RL

SITE:

St John the Baptist, Colerne
Vicarage Lane
Colerne
Wiltshire
SN14 8EL

PROJECT:

Replacement of existing gravel path from Tower to South Porch with new pennant stone paving

THIS APPLICATION:

This application should be read in conjunction with the drawings and photographs provided.

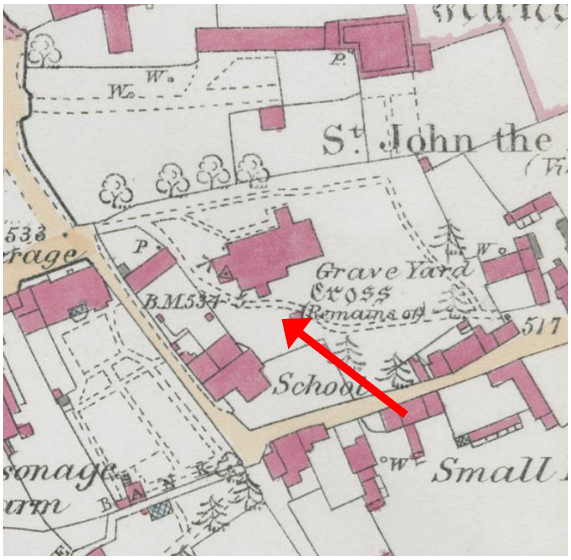
DRAWINGS:

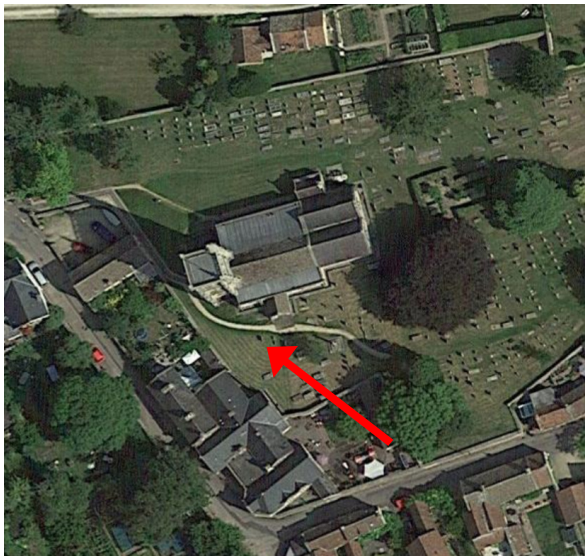
The following drawings are provided as part of the application:

019/30	New Path As Existing & As Proposed

HERITAGE STATEMENT

Setting





'Know Your Place' OS Map 1844-1888 Google Maps 2023

St John the Baptist sits within the village of Colerne to the Northeast of Bath. The church is located in an enclosed churchyard, set back from the roadside. Pedestrian access is via the main gate entrance to the northwest and a small gated entrance to the south east corner of the churchyard. The church is surrounded by adjacent residential properties and open land to the east.

Significance

St. John the Baptist is a large village church consisting of a nave, chancel, aisles and side-chapel. There is a tall, west tower and a vestry constructed on the northern side, and a south porch. The church is Listed Grade I and dates from the 13th century and was substantially re-built around 1450 and later heavily restored in 1854 and in 1877. The church is constructed of ashlar and rubble stone (local limestone) with a combination of lead, slate and stone roofing.

Nicholas Pevsner, in his "Buildings of England" series (Wiltshire) describes the church as follows:

ST. JOHN the BAPTIST. Colerne is a hill village. Approaching it from the s one may picture oneself in the Tuscan hills. The church stands out with its slender W tower against the sky. This - to change the picture - and the actual lane up from the s, are Cornish rather than Wiltshirish. The tower is tall and done *con amore.* Set-back buttresses, stair-turret higher than the tower top and crowned by a spire. Four-light w window, and the same repeated blank to the N and S. Then a stage of very tall plain blank panelling but with a canopied niche to W, N, and S. Then the bell-openings, two of two lights, lengthened below a transom, but blank. Somerset tracery, and indeed Somerset affinities. Parapet with a frieze of cusped trefoils in triangles. The tower and the aisles are ashlar-faced. Inside the tower tierceron-star vault with an octagon of ribs for the bell-rope hole. The aisles have large perpendicular windows too. Only the E view, with two Victorian E.E. windows, is disappointing. * As so often, the interior is much earlier than the exterior. Four-bay arcades of *c.* 1200-10, unfortunately over-restored. Round piers, octagonal abaci. The S arcade has decorated trumpet capitals and one-step pointed arches. The N arcade is a little later. The arches are double-chamfered, and among the capitals are two with stiff-leaf. The N chapel of two bays goes with the N arcade. In the chancel elaborately vaulted sedilia niches, banished to the N side by Victorian E.E. sedilia. In the S wall a C14 plain tomb recess with ogee top and fleurons. A tomb recess of *c.* 1300, with finely moulded arch, in the N chapel N wall.

SCREEN (under the tower). Perp. Of one-light divisions. Traceried dado. Fleuron frieze at the top. - SCULPTURE. Small bearded saint under an arch with colonettes. The arch is pointed. The style of the arcade and the drapery suggest a date *c.* 1200. - CROSS-SHAFT. Two large fragments of one of the best C9 crosses in the West Country. The motifs, wildly intertwined dragons, flatly carved, are very similar to the Danish Jellinge style. - STAINED GLASS. In a N window old grisaille glass. The E window by *Bell* of Bristol, *c.* 1850. -PLATE. Porringer, Cover and Salver, *c.* 1680, parcel-gilt. All three with chased decoration. - MONUMENT. Richard Walmesley, died 1893. Tomb-chest with very realistic white-marble figure asleep holding a bible.

See Appendix 1 and 2– for full church listing description and The PCC's statement of significance.

Statement of Need

There is an existing gravel path from the tower which slopes down to the south porch entrance into the church and is currently narrow and uneven. The existing path at the churchyard entrance (northwest corner), leading to the tower is of solid construction and at a wider width, to include Pennant stone slabs and limestone cobble boarder. The church is regularly used by all and there is a great need to replace the gravel path with a solid construction (to match the northwest corner path) to provide improved accessibility and safe access, aswell as enhancing the appearance of the entrance to the church and the churchyard.

See Appendix 3– for The PCC's statement of Need.

Statement of Intent

The PCC wish to improve the accessibility to the church and around the churchyard with the replacement of the existing gravel path from the tower to the south porch with a new paved path and increased width. The new path will be constructed with pennant stone slabs and limestone cobble boarder to match the existing path to the north west. The levels of the path will be retained to match existing and the ground to both sides of the new path to be re-graded to suit the new path width.

IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Significance:	Medium – The church is Grade I listed, an important historical building within the village and set in a prominent location.
Main Interventions:	New Path Replace existing narrow gravel path with new pennant slabs and cobble board to match main path to the north west to improve accessibility.
Effect/impact of change:	The proposed alterations have been designed to have minimal impact upon setting of the listed building and have been designed to be a positive enhancement with improved and safer access to the church and around the churchyard.

PLANNING ISSUES

The church is Grade I listed. The proposal must comply with **Core Policy 58: Ensuring the Conservation of the Historic Environment** of the Wiltshire Core Strategy (adopted January 2015) *and* the **National Planning Policy Framework (NPPG)** *and* **Planning Practice Guidance (PPG)** *('Conserving and Enhancing the Historic Environment').*

These policies and guidance documents have been carefully considered as part of the design process and we believe that the proposals comply with all of the above.

Planning History

There are no relevant planning applications relating to the site of St John the Baptist, Colerne.

Consultations

In March 2023, a pre-application enquiry was submitted to Wiltshire Planning to confirm if planning permission would be required for the proposed path replacement works. Guy Bentham-Hill (Senior Conservation and Planning Officer – Wiltshire) visited site and later responded on the 6th June 2023. Guy confirmed planning permission would be required and confirmed the works would be fully supported from a historic environment perspective and the proposed choice of material is considered complementary to the historic context and thus complimenting the setting of the Listed Building and significance – see full response *(Appendix 5 – Pre-Application Response).*

DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS

Design & Layout

The proposed new path is to be simplistic in design to match the existing form and materials to the existing path to the northwest corner of the churchyard, aswell as providing and enhancing the churchyard and entrance to the church. The proposed path will replace the existing narrow, uneven and slippery gravel walkway and enable improved accessibility and safety.

Scale

The proposals are of small scale and have been designed to have minimal impact on the setting of the church.

Appearance

The path will be of solid construction with central Pennant slabs and limestone cobble boarder to match and line through with the existing path to the northwest of the churchyard and the paving outside of the south porch.

Landscaping

No major landscaping works are proposed other than new path and regrading of the adjacent grassed areas to suit the new path width.

Access

Accessibility to the south porch church entrance of the church and around the churchyard will be greatly improved.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Appendix 1
Listing Description

Appendix 2
The PCC's Statement of Significance

Appendix 3
The PCC's Statement of Need

Appendix 4
Existing Images

Appendix 5
Pre-Application Enquiry Response

APPENDIX 1

Listing Description

CHURCH OF ST JOHN THE BAPTIST

Official list entry

Heritage Category: **Listed Building**

Grade: **I**

List Entry Number: **1022922**

Date first listed: **20-Dec-1960**

List Entry Name: **CHURCH OF ST JOHN THE BAPTIST**

Statutory Address 1: **CHURCH OF ST JOHN THE BAPTIST, MARKET PLACE**

This List entry helps identify the building designated at this address for its special architectural or historic interest.

Unless the List entry states otherwise, it includes both the structure itself and any object or structure fixed to it (whether inside or outside) as well as any object or structure within the curtilage of the building.

For these purposes, to be included within the curtilage of the building, the object or structure must have formed part of the land since before 1st July 1948.

Understanding list entries *(https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/understanding-list-entries/)*

Corrections and minor amendments *(https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/minor-amendments/)*

Location

Statutory Address: **CHURCH OF ST JOHN THE BAPTIST, MARKET PLACE**

The building or site itself may lie within the boundary of more than one authority.

District: **Wiltshire (Unitary Authority)**

Parish: **Colerne**

National Grid Reference: **ST 82093 71136**

Details

COLERNE MARKET PLACE ST 8271 (east side) 8/259 Church of St. John the Baptist 20.12.50 GV I

Anglican parish church, c1200, c13, much rebuilt c1450 and heavily restored c1854 and in 1877 by Wilson, Willcox and Wilson of Bath. Ashlar and rubble stone with stone tile and slate roofs with coped gables. C15 West tower, c1200 nave with later C13 clerestorey, C13 chancel much altered, later C13 north east chapel and C15 aisles and porch, probably incorporating earlier work. Fine ashlar tall west tower, 3 stages with set-back buttresses and north east stair turret. Heavy moulded plinth and string courses. Lower stage with large 4-light window over small arched door to west front and similar 4-light blank panels to sides. Second stage with 5 long cusped head panels with statue niche to each face and top stage with paired cusped bell-openings continued as blank panels below transom, pierced stonework to bell-openings. Moulded coved cornice and trefoil pierced parapet with corner pinnacles and stone spirelet to stair tower. One-handed clock on west face. South aisle has low roof with parapet, 2 flat-headed 2-light windows flanking much restored porch with sloping buttresses and statue niche, to right a restored Perpendicular 4-light arched window with hood. Clerestorey rebuilt in C19 with moulded eaves and 3 windows. Chancel with slate roof and rebuilt south wall with moulded eaves and 2 C19 flat-head Perpendicular style 3-light windows (outlines of lancets were visible' 1855). East C19 decorated style 3-light window. North chapel has slate roof and east end in line with chancel east end. 3-light restored Decorated east window with sexfoil head. corbelled eaves to north side, Cl9 blocked door and restored 2-light window. Attached is 1877 vestry, High Victorian Gothic with large truncated east end stack over octofoil light. North aisle has parapet, carved gargoyles, buttresses and moulded plinth. 3 renewed Perpendicular style north windows, 3-light with pointed heads and large 4-light Perpendicular style west window. Interior: tierceron star vault with octagon bell-rope opening to tower. Screen part of C15 chancel screen. 4 bay nave with heavily restored circular piers and trumpet capitals with square abaci to south side, north side has 2 stiff leaf capitals and octagonal abaci. Pointed arcade with one step soffits to earlier south side and double chamfer to later north side. West arches are C15. Cl9 collar-rafter roof with pierced spandrels to straight braces. South aisle has C19 south door and C19 roof. At east end effigy of R. Walmsley (d.1893) signed H.H. Armstead. North aisle has fine carved corbel heads and C19 roof. Inset fragment of C9 cross and c1200 figure of saint. 2nd window has glass of 1881, 3rd fragments of medieval glass. Chancel heavily restored, east window c1854 with faded glass by Bell of Bristol, stone reredos 1905. On south wall

C13 style sedilia and piscina, C19, but piscina part original, and C14 style ogee arched tomb-recess. On north wall elaborate C15 style triple sedilia, originally on south wall next to piscina, but moved and almost entirely remade 1877. C19 roof. 2 heavily restored arches to north east chapel, similar to nave north arcade. North east chapel has Cl9 roof and original carved heads to east window. Tomb recess of c1300 in north wall. Numerous C17 to C19 wall plaques colledted in north east chapel. In north aisle plaque to E. Teyly dated 1627 with Ionic,pilasters. [E.W. Godwin: Wiltshire Archaeological Magazine 3 1857 358-366.

Listing NGR: ST8209471148

Legacy

The contents of this record have been generated from a legacy data system.

Legacy System number: **317351**

Legacy System: **LBS**

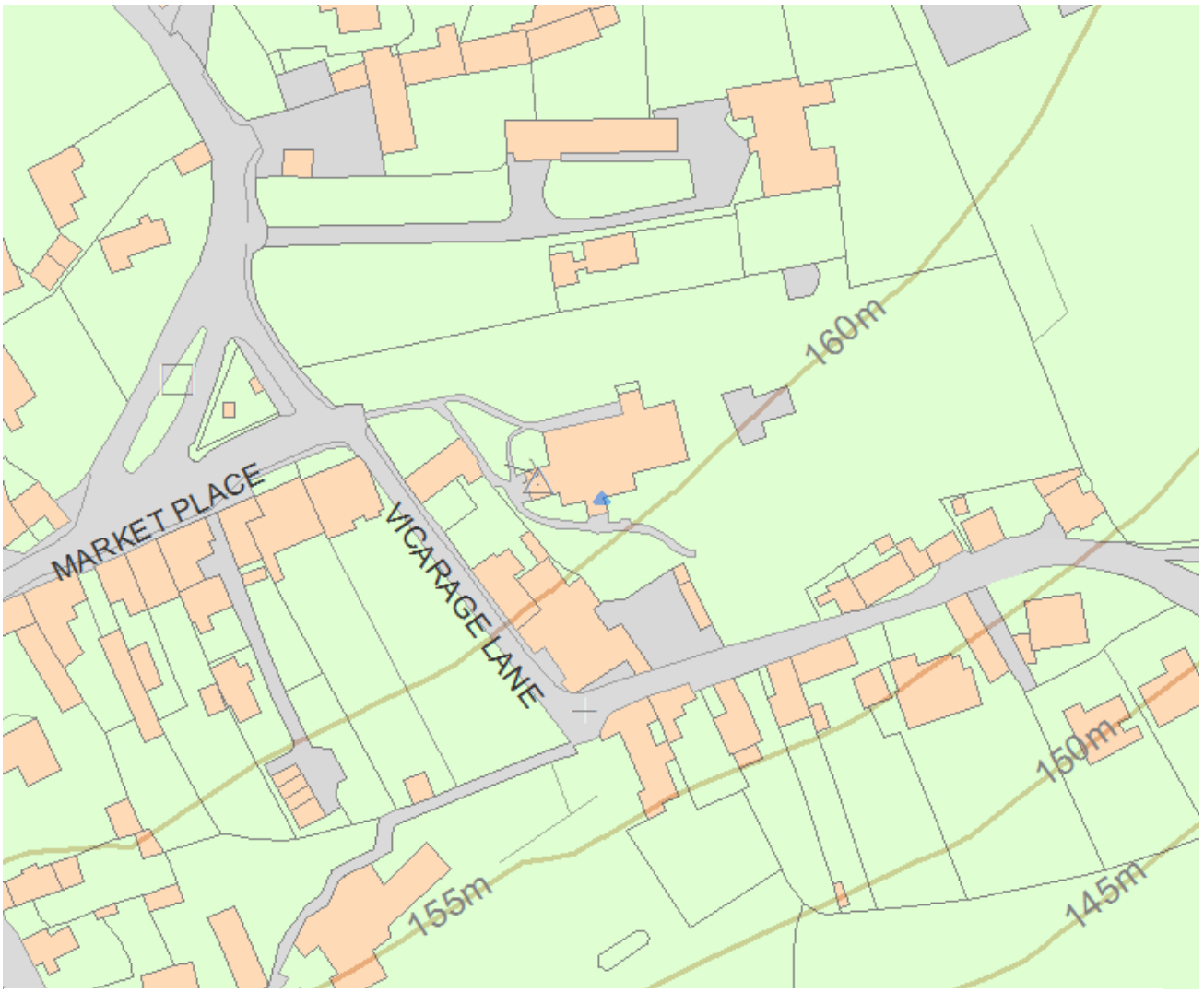
Sources

Books and journals

'Wiltshire Archaeological and Natural History Magazine' in Wiltshire Archaeological and Natural History Magazine, , Vol. 3, (1857), 358-366

Legal

This building is listed under the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 as amended for its special architectural or historic interest.



Map

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End of official list entry

APPENDIX 2

The PCC's Statement of Significance

Statement of Significance

(prepared by R L Barker, PCC Treasurer)

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST, COLERNE PARISH CHURCH.

Section 1; Brief History and description of the church building, contents, churchyard and setting.

The Parish Church of Colerne is within the Diocese of Bristol and the Deanery of Chippenham. We share Ministry with the Parishes of Box with Hazelbury and the Parish of Ditteridge.

ORIGINS It is reasonable to suppose that a place of Christian worship existed here in Saxon times since the Manor of Cullerne was recorded in the Doomsday Book as a 'vill' held directly from the King, and of some significance. Moreover, fragments of a Saxon stone cross, associated with the last journey of St Aldhelm in 709 when his body was being carried to Malmesbury for burial, were found in the wall of the Church when it was considerably restored in 1877, and if the Saint's body rested here overnight it would surely have rested in a Church.

LATER DEVELOPMENT The existing building dates from 1190–1195 and was built in the lifetime of Walter de Dunstanville, first Baron of Castle Combe. It would have been a plain rectangular building, the area of the three eastward bays of the Nave only. About 1240, Walter, the third Baron, added the South Aisle and the Chancel. About 1280, probably under the direction of William de Colerne, Abbot of Malmesbury, the North Aisle and Lady Chapel were added and a clerestory made, i.e. a series of windows below the roof to give light to the Nave.
In 1384, William of Wykeham granted to the Warden and Scholars of New College, Oxford, the Manors of Colerne and Sterte and the advowson of the Church of Colerne after the life interest of one Margaret Burcester, wife of Sir William Burcester, was extinguished. But in 1389 New College bought out this life interest in the Manor and Church of Colerne for an annual rent of 100 marks and so established the involvement which persists to this day in their patronage of the living. About 1450 a major extension took place. The North Aisle and Nave were lengthened westward and the tower built. After two and a half centuries the Church had grown to the size we know today, except for the vestry which was added in 1877. The main effects of the 1877 restoration are noted under the various headings which follow.

INSIDE THE CHURCH the following features are of interest:-

THE TOWER The ceiling above the west entrance (actually the floor of the ringing chamber), is described as a tierceron-star vault with an octagon of ribs for the bell-rope hole. The door in the corner leads to the 108 tread spiral stair giving access to the ringing chamber, clockroom and belfry. The wooden 15th Century screen across the entrance to the Nave is part of a Chancel screen which was removed in 1877. Another portion of this screen was later used in making the priest's stall at the Chancel arch.

THE NAVE The font dates from the 15th Century; the lead lining and drain are probably original. Each of the Norman pillars has a foliated pattern at the capital. Note that the abaci (heads) of the South pillars (the oldest) are square, those on the North side are octagonal. The pair of arches at the West end are lower than the others – they were built when the Church was lengthened in the 15th Century. The two corbel heads near the chancel arch were evidently added in 1877. One is of Queen Victoria, the other possibly of Gladstone.

THE SOUTH AISLE At the East end is a tomb chest with a realistic white marble figure. This is a monument to Richard Walmesley of Lucknam Park who died in 1893 and was a great benefactor of the Church.

THE NORTH AISLE Ten of the thirteen corbel heads are medieval, as are the two detached heads on the window ledge – presumably replaced in 1877. The heads represent kings, queens, bishops and a religious.
Built into the North wall are two large fragments of a Saxon cross, ascribed by Pevsner to the 9th Century, and considered one of the best in the West Country. The motifs, wildly intertwined dragons flatly carved, are similar to the Danish Jellinge style (an early Viking style of carving). There are fragments of a cross similarly carved in Ramsbury Church. Pevsner suggests that they could be the work of the same man. Between the two fragments is a small bearded saint under a pointed arch with colonettes (probably 12th Century). Also on this wall are

memorials to the dead of two World Wars and a plaque given by the Royal Air Force who were at Coleme from 1939 to 1976. The old airfield is now used by the army, and the Bristol University Air Squadron.
The only ancient glass in the Church, a small panel of 'grisaille' glass, is set in the first window from the east. All of the other glass is 19th Century, except for the South window above the choir stalls showing the visitation of Mary to Elizabeth, which was designed and made by John Potter in 1990, in memory of Mrs Jane Williams.
The list of incumbents since 1298, hanging on the eastern-most pillar, is worth studying and is self explanatory.
Before this aisle was restored in 1877, a staircase rose across its east end, leading to the gallery perhaps housing a priest's vestry or a private pew. This is clearly shown in a plan of the Church dated 1855 which appears in an article by E.W. Godwin, in the Wiltshire Archaeological and Natural History Magazine of 1857.

THE LADY CHAPEL was restored to use in 1934 and further developed in 1999 with the creation of an organ loft, revealing the medieval piscina in the south wall, which was previously hidden. In the North wall is an Easter Sepulchre, an arched recess used as part of the Easter celebrations. Sometimes such recesses contained a tomb-chest to receive a symbol or effigy of the dead Christ on Good Friday. On Easter Sunday, to celebrate the resurrection, the recess would be filled with flowers, and linen wrappings would be laid within it according to the description of the empty tomb contained in St. John's Gospel. In this recess is the oldest monument in the Church – a rectangular stone inscribed 'ARTER COSLET WAS HERE BYRED IN THE YERE 1625'.
A number of other memorials have been grouped on the North wall, one of which uses the dual calendar in use in the 17th Century (1649/50 etc). They include memorials to the Ford family, distinguished stone workers of the 18th Century. John Ford the Elder was responsible for building Bath Grammar School in 1752, and his epitaph here declares that 'his abilities and enterprise in business in a great measure contributed to the erection of the handsome streets and buildings of Bath.'
The door in the south-west corner of the chapel may be opened to reveal a spiral staircase which led to a stone rood screen in medieval times.

THE CHANCEL was significantly altered in the restoration of 1877. Much of the stonework was replaced and the sedilia (triple seat for clergy and/or acolytes) was transferred from the south to the north wall. This had previously been superimposed on the piscina and the Easter sepulchre, interrupting the arch of each. The detail of this is clearly shown in the drawings accompanying the article by Mr. Godwin already referred to. This is, perhaps, why the second Easter sepulchre (an unusual feature) had been put into the Lady Chapel when medieval alterations were made. The Victorians remade the piscina blocking up the drain (it is now used as a credence table), built a new triple sedilia, and moved the Easter sepulchre westwards, restoring the broken arch.
The small niche at the extreme East corner (shown in a sketch of 1855 as having a door) may well have been a medieval sacrament house or aumbry.
A brass plate on the south wall, by the Communion rail, records the carving of the Reredos by the village masons in 1905. Colerne was for many years famous for the skill of its 'banker masons'.

REGISTERS The Church Registers go back to 1560 (though incomplete). In October 1560 the marriage of Thomas Abram to Edith Smythe was recorded. The Churchwarden's account books start from 1692. All but the current registers are now kept at the Wiltshire & Swindon History Centre, Chippenham, SN15 3QN.

CHURCH PLATE The only items of any importance owned by the Church are a silver-gilt porringer and salver donated by the daughter of Sir Thomas Tyrrell and wife of the Hon William Forrester and dating from about 1680. These are deposited with the Bristol City Museum.

THE BELLS are a ring of eight and were once regarded as 'the sweetest in Wiltshire'. The earliest bears the date 1652 and was used as a fire warning until 1916. Five further bells are of the 18th Century and two more were added in 1877 when the whole peal was re-hung on an oak frame. The bells were again restored in 1996 when they were removed to the premises of the bellfounders John Taylor of Loughborough for re-tuning.
(The name of the local Inn – Six Bells – presumably derived from the earlier peal.).

THE CLOCK was built in 1685, probably by the village blacksmith. It has only the hour hand like that of Westminster Abbey. There are only a small number of similar one handed clocks in England. During the late 1950s the ancient mechanism had become so worn in parts that the clock ceased to work. In 1959, Mr. Geoffrey Grey, an agricultural engineer who lived in the village, devoted most of that year to getting the mechanism into working order again. In 1968 the clock was again restored by Mr RW Winter of Thickwood who owned a local engineering company and this involved the removal of the workings to his workshop. The arrangement of the wire ropes from which the 275lb stone strike weight was suspended was altered so that both sides only needed winding once a week rather than every two days in the case of the striking weight. On this occasion the restoration took ten months. The most recent restoration of the clock was carried out by specialist clock makers, Smiths of Derby, during the first half of 2008. On this occasion the opportunity was taken to remove the potential danger caused by the large stone weights by replacing them with autowinding gear. The clock face was also replaced and the old weights are stored safely in the clockroom.

THE ORGAN incorporates the pipework, windchests and other components from the instrument that was originally built for Holy Trinity Church, Yeovil by J. W. Walker & Sons of London in 1908. It was rebuilt in 1999 by Roger D Taylor and the work involved considerable re-designing of the various sections to suit the new elevated organ loft. The organ includes a new solid state electronic system, which replaced the previous electric action, and has 1248 pipes. It was re-dedicated on 2nd January 2000.

ACCESSIBLE TOILET AND HOSPITALITY AREA. After a number of years of planning, an accessible toilet was constructed in the south side of the west tower entrance. At the same time an accessible entrance was created at the south door together with a ramp to the tower entrance from the nave, so allowing wheelchair access to all areas except the high altar, and allowing wheel chair use of the Lady Chapel altar area. The project was completed in 2015 with the addition of a hospitality area in the north west area of the nave.

OUTSIDE a notable feature is the many medieval gargoyles, some of which have been preserved in the wall facing the west door. The tall and attractive West tower of the Church has a stair turret crowned by a small spire. The three figures in the canopied niches to North, West and South are Samuel, Elisha and Joseph respectively. They were given to the Church by William Holder, a former verger. There is a figure of St. John the Baptist over the South door. The Church building is listed, Grade I. There are 28 Grade II listed tombs and a Grade II listed Preaching Cross within the churchyard.
On the top of the flag pole mounted on the Church Tower is a weather vane that was placed there in 2008 following the loss of an earlier one in a storm. This was designed by village resident and artist Kate Davies and fabricated by Jetway Associates Ltd.
The churchyard continues to be used for both burials and internment of ashes, and has a dedicated 'Garden of Remembrance and a number of Grade 2 listed tombs

THE FRIENDS OF COLERNE CHURCH was founded in 1968 and became a charity in 1976 to raise money to help maintain the fabric of the church and churchyard so that they can be enjoyed by all who live in the village or come to visit.
Parish churches receive no financial support for repairs from either the Church of England or the Government. Since the formation of this Charity the Friends have raised very large sums of money by appealing to the whole Parish which have greatly helped to sustain a building which generations of Colerne people have created and cared for over more than 800 years.
Repairs, replacements and improvements are essential to ensure that the Church will always be worthy of its place at the centre of village life, and to enable its availability for weddings, funerals, baptisms and other events for current and future parishioners.

Section 2: The significance of the church (including its contents and churchyard) in terms of:

i) Its special architectural and historic interest
ii) Any significant features of artistic or archaeological interest

Extract from Historic England

CHURCH OF ST JOHN THE BAPTIST, Colerne Parish Church

Overview

Heritage Category: Listed Building Grade: I List Entry Number: 1022922

Date first listed: 20-Dec-1960 Statutory Address: CHURCH OF ST JOHN THE BAPTIST, MARKET PLACE

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The PDF will be generated from our live systems and may take a few minutes to download depending on how busy our servers are. We apologise for this delay.

This copy shows the entry on 14-Nov-2018 at 23:12:27.

Location

Statutory Address: CHURCH OF ST JOHN THE BAPTIST, MARKET PLACE

District: Wiltshire (Unitary Authority) Parish: Colerne National Grid Reference: ST 82093 71136

Details

COLERNE MARKET PLACE ST 8271 (east side) 8/259 Church of St. John the Baptist 20.12.50 GV I

Anglican parish church, c1200, c13, much rebuilt c1450 and heavily restored c1854 and in 1877 by Wilson, Willcox and Wilson of Bath. Ashlar and rubble stone with stone tile and slate roofs with coped gables. C15 West tower, c1200 nave with later C13 clerestorey, C13 chancel much altered, later C13 north east chapel and C15 aisles and porch, probably incorporating earlier work. Fine ashlar tall west tower, 3 stages with set-back buttresses and north east stair turret. Heavy moulded plinth and string courses. Lower stage with large 4-light window over small arched door to west front and similar 4-light blank panels to sides. Second stage with 5 long cusped head panels with statue niche to each face and top stage with paired cusped bell-openings continued as blank panels below transom, pierced stonework to bell-openings. Moulded coved cornice and trefoil pierced parapet with corner pinnacles and stone spirelet to stair tower. One-handed clock on west face. South aisle has low roof with parapet, 2 flat-headed 2-light windows flanking much restored porch with sloping buttresses and statue niche, to right a restored Perpendicular 4-light arched window with hood. Clerestorey rebuilt in C19 with moulded eaves and 3 windows. Chancel with slate roof and rebuilt south wall with moulded eaves and 2 C19 flat-head Perpendicular style 3-light windows (outlines of lancets were visible' 1855). East C19 decorated style 3-light window. North chapel has slate roof and east end in line with chancel east end. 3-light restored Decorated east window with sexfoil head. corbelled eaves to north side, Cl9 blocked door and restored 2-light window. Attached is 1877 vestry, High Victorian Gothic with large truncated east end stack over octofoil light. North aisle has parapet, carved gargoyles, buttresses and moulded plinth. 3 renewed Perpendicular style north windows, 3-light with pointed heads and large 4-light Perpendicular style west window. Interior: tierceron star vault with octagon bell-rope opening to tower. Screen part of C15 chancel screen. 4 bay nave with heavily restored circular piers and trumpet capitals with square abaci to south side, north side has 2 stiff leaf capitals and octagonal abaci. Pointed arcade with one step soffits to earlier south side and double chamfer to later north side. West arches are C15. Cl9 collar-rafter roof with pierced spandrels to straight braces. South aisle has C19 south door and C19 roof. At east end effigy of R. Walmsley (d.1893) signed H.H. Armstead. North aisle has fine carved corbel heads and C19 roof. Inset fragment of C9 cross and c1200 figure of saint. 2nd window has glass of 1881, 3rd fragments of medieval glass. Chancel heavily restored, east window c1854 with faded glass by Bell of Bristol, stone reredos 1905. On south wall C13 style sedilia and piscina, C19, but piscina part original, and C14 style ogee arched tomb-recess. On north wall elaborate C15 style triple sedilia, originally on south wall next to piscina, but moved and almost entirely remade 1877. C19 roof. 2 heavily restored arches to north east chapel, similar to nave north arcade. North east chapel has Cl9 roof and original carved heads to east window. Tomb recess of c1300 in north wall. Numerous C17 to C19 wall plaques colledted in north east chapel. In north aisle plaque to E. Teyly dated 1627 with Ionic,pilasters. [E.W. Godwin: Wiltshire Archaeological Magazine 3 1857 358-366.

Listing NGR: ST8209471148

Legacy

The contents of this record have been generated from a legacy data system.

Legacy System number: 317351 Legacy System: LBS

Sources

Books and journals
'Wiltshire Archaeological and Natural History Magazine' in Wiltshire Archaeological and Natural History Magazine, , Vol. 3, (1857), 358-366

Legal

This building is listed under the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 as amended for its special architectural or historic interest

Section 3; Assessment of the impact of the proposals on the significance defined in Section 2

The proposal is to replace the existing gravel path from the west porch door to the south porch door with reclaimed pennant stone slabs (1 metre wide) and cobbles to each side (15cms each side). This will match the path from the west door to the tap which. was re-laid at May 2017, also the path from the tap to the churchyard gate entrance from the Market Place/Vicarage Lane entrance which was re-laid at July 2018. Hence there will be no impact on the statement of significance.

RLB at 22/03/2022

APPENDIX 3

The PCC's Statement of Need

Preparatory thoughts for
STATEMENT OF NEEDS
Replacement of gravel path, west door to south door

Section 1. (General Info – overview of the parish and the current use of the building)

Colerne Parish Church is dedicated to St John the Baptist, and serves a community of around 3,000 souls. The "Village on the Hill" which snakes along a ridge some 540ft above sea level, includes a large military community (21 Signals Regiment), a C of E primary school of around 260 pupils, a Special Needs (Dyslexia) school of 48 pupils, two medical centres, a number of pubs, clubs and shops and is situated in a rural location of Outstanding Natural Beauty. The church, which dates from 1190AD, has an iconic position at one end of the village and is a prominent landmark within the surrounding area.
We have a community of around 50 worshippers of all ages for normal services. As well as the regular range of Sunday Services, we have a monthly mother and toddler group (Sparkles), and a school age children's group (Shine). We also have a Thursday morning service of BCP Holy Communion, which is followed by a social gathering (Open House). On average we have 8 services of Marriage and 10 Funerals per year.
Additionally the church building is used by the CoE School for Easter, Harvest and Christmas services with full school attendance and parents (which means that these events at Christmas have to be performed on 2 consecutive days to hold all who wish to attend. Similarly the special needs school use the building for their annual prize giving and Christmas celebration with parental attendance.
At Remembrance Sunday we have a 9.30am service for the 21 Signals Regiment only, followed by a service at 11.00am for the uniformed (scouts, guides, brownies etc) and community in general
Some midweek evening meetings for PCC and Friends of Colerne Church are held in church.
So we have many sessions for the youngsters (Shine and Sparkles) and the elderly at the Thursday mid-week services throughout the year, and many services with higher than normal attendances during the winter months.

Section 2. (What do we need?)
To improve accessibility and safety to the south porch door. At May 2017 the path from the west porch door to the tap was re-laid using the existing pennant slabs and cobbles/small slabs each side. Some weather and use damaged pennants and cobbles were replaced like for like. At July 2018 the path from the tap to the gate entrance from the Market Place/Vicarage Lane areas was re-laid and widened using matching pennants and cobbles/small slabs.

Section 3. (The Proposal)
To dig out the existing gravel path from the west porch door to the south porch door, and lay a 1 metre wide path of reclaimed pennant stones edged on each side by cobble/small slabs at 15cms width, each side, to match the paths re-laid as above. To point with lime mortar. To be contracted to the same team who undertook the work on the paths above referenced for visual impact and continuity.

Section 4. (Why do we need it and why do we need it now)
1) Improved accessibility. The south porch door entrance does not have a step and is the only entrance to the building for those with accessibility difficulties, ie walking sticks, wheelchairs and similar, also motorised accessibility vehicles. The current gravel path is uneven and very bumpy for wheeled access, and

somewhat unsafe for those with walking sticks or who required assistance for walking.

2) Reduced safety/trip hazards/risks associated with the uneven surface and loose gravel/pebbles. This entrance is used for the entrance of a coffin and mourners at a funeral. Also for those attending a wedding for both entrance and exit.
3) To complete a major investment for our current and future regular and occasional worshipers, providing a safe, accessible and visually attractive entrance way to the church building.

Section 5. (Justification)

To ensure we have provided a safer and more accessible entrance to our church building.

APPENDIX 4

Existing Images



Image 1 – View of the existing gravel path from the south porch leading to the Tower – As Existing



Image 2 – View of the existing gravel path from the south porch leading to the Tower – As Existing

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Colerne

Images 1 & 2

019



Image 3 – View of the existing gravel path and paving, leading to the northwest churchyard entrance - As Existing



Image 4 – View of the existing gravel path and existing paving at the base of the tower door entrance - As Existing

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Historic Building Consultants

St John the Baptist,
Colerne

Images 3 & 4

019



Image 5 – View of the existing paved path, leading to the northwest churchyard entrance - As Existing



Image 6 – View of the existing paving to the tower door and existing gravel path leading to the south porch - As Existing

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Historic Building Consultants

St John the Baptist,
Colerne

Images 5 & 6

019

APPENDIX 5

Pre-Application Enquiry Response

Tom

Wiltshire Council

Raymond Leonard Barker
6 Fosseway Close
Colerne
Wiltshire
SN14 8EE

Development Services
Wiltshire Council
Tel: 0300 456 0114
Email:developmentmanagement@wiltshire.gov.uk
www.wiltshire.gov.uk

06 June 2023

Dear Sir/Madam,

Application No:	ENQ/2023/00478
Application Type:	Pre-Application enquiry
Proposal	Replace a Section of Gravel Pathway from West Door to South Door to Provide Safer and Easier Access to Church and Match the Existing (Pennant Stone) Pathway from West Door to the Churchyard Gate Entrance to the Churchyard.
Site Address	ST JOHN THE BAPTIST CHURCH, VICARAGE LANE, COLERNE, SN14 8EL
On Behalf of:	Raymond Leonard Barker

I refer to your pre-application enquiry which was lodged/registered on 20 March 2023.

Further to our onsite discussion I confirm that the proposed works are fully supported from a historic built environment perspective.

Whilst the works will require Planning Permission the works are considered to enhance the historic environment and assist with going function of the Church as community hub.

The proposed choice of material is considered complementary to this historic context and thus will compliment the setting of the Listed Building and its significance.

The works are fully supported from a public access perspective and will delivery public benefits in providing a fully accessible route to the South Porch from the entrance gates. This will allow the Church to fully accessible to ambulant disabled users and thus is applauded.

Please note that this advice represents an officers' informal opinion based upon the information you have provided. It is given without prejudice to any decision the Council may make on any subsequent formal planning application. In particular, a planning application will be the subject of publicity and consultation in accordance with the Council's procedures which may bring to light additional issues, and as you will be aware, advice offered is based on the planning policies that apply at the time of writing.

Yours faithfully
Head of Development Management

Officer's Name: Guy Bentham-Hill
Senior Conservation and Planning Officer
01225 713469