

Installation of two replacement and one new CCTV cameras at Marlborough Town Hall

Heritage Statement

Marlborough Town Hall

Marlborough Town Hall was constructed in 1902 in a combination of Flemish and English Arts and Crafts styles. It occupies a prominent position at the east end of the High Street, on the site of an earlier Town Hall. It is an iconic building of great significance in the town, frequently appearing in pictures, websites and postcards.

It was built with a level of quality and detail to embody civic pride as well as to provide space for the Town Council, town events and originally the Magistrates' court. The Town Hall has two very fine rooms, the Assembly and Court Rooms, together with a panelled council chamber.

It is currently used for a wider range of functions, including sales, concerts, civic receptions, exhibitions and civil weddings. It is well maintained by the Town Council as a focus for civic events.

It is described in the English Heritage List entry as follows :

HIGH STREET 1. 5407 (East End) CENTRE ISLAND The Town Hall SU 1869 1/1 II GV 2. . 1902 C E Ponting Architect. Free handling of William and Mary and Renaissance styles. 2 storeys, brick plinth with brick ground floor and roughcast 1st floor with brick quoins and dressings. String courses of brick. Steep pitch tiled roof with projecting bracketed moulded cornice. Domed arcaded lantern on ridge. Pedimented dormers. Main front is side elevation facing down High Street. Elaborate stone centrepiece with paired squat Doric columns on pedestals with vertical entablatures as imposts to entrance arch with keystones. Heavy scrolled brackets above to large renaissance bay windows with mullioned transomed lights, balcony and parapet balustrade. Elaborate stone armorial feature above. Either side of entrance on ground floor are large round headed windows with stone imposts architrave and keystone, inset panelled balustrade below sills. Dominating position closing High Street vista. The Town Hall form a group with Nos 1 to 12 (consec) and Nos 131 to 144 (consec) and Midland Bank.

Listing NGR: SU1888069196

Background to the proposals

CCTV cameras were installed in in 2015 in five locations in Marlborough High Street including two on the Town Hall. Marlborough Town Council is now seeking to replace these existing CCTV cameras in the High Street for the following reasons:

1. To improve visibility and reduce blind spots
2. To better monitor and deter criminal activity.
3. To capture vehicular incidents with increased traffic.
4. To support the economic vitality in Marlborough by helping to keep the public safe.

Proposed works

The new cameras would be fitted in similar positions as the existing cameras ie at the south and north corners at high level. In addition a new camera is proposed on the western corner. To provide optimum coverage and reduce blind spots the new cameras would be mounted on sympathetically designed black brackets projecting approx. 600mm from the building faces. The design of these brackets is shown in the accompanying Design and Access Statement. Brackets would be fixed into mortar joints in the brickwork where possible and would hide all cabling. Photographs are included with this application which show the precise position of each camera.

Effect on the Heritage Asset

The only effect on the Listed Building will be the drilling of holes into the existing brickwork. Where possible holes will be drilled into mortar joints rather than bricks. Other than this no historic fabric is affected. In addition, the location of the cameras at high level will minimise any visual impact. Consequently, there will be no significant effect to the building as a heritage asset. No historic fabric is being removed.

Justification

The works are required to improve CCTV coverage of Marlborough High Street in the interests of public safety. The additional camera is required to improve coverage and reduce blind spots.

Summary

The works will have no damaging effect on the building as a heritage asset.

Andrew Bumphrey Architect
July 2026

