

Installation of replacement CCTV cameras at Marlborough Library

91 High Street Marlborough SN8 1HD

Heritage Statement

The library building

Marlborough Library was built in 1854 originally as St Peter's School. It was adapted and opened as a library in 1965. It is located at the corner of Hyde Lane and Marlborough High Street. It is a distinctive example of Victorian institutional architecture.

The twin gabled building is constructed in buff coloured brick with stone quoins and gothic revival pointed arched windows. It is currently used as Marlborough Public Library.

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

Mid C19. Stock brick. Pitched concrete tile roofs. 1 storey and attics. 2-gabled front, with smaller gable between, and set slightly back. 2 principal gables coped, with ornamental finials, and taken on kneelers. 1 mullioned window each, with square heads and hood moulds. Attics have 1 oculus each, whose outlines are formed by the intersection of a trilobe with a triangle, themselves set within "spherical triangles" under hoodmoulds with label stops carved as medieval heads. Central bay has doorway with 4-centred arch and modern door, 2 stringcourses, single light with hoodmould, blind oculus consisting of quadrilobe set within square, and shaped gable above.

Listing NGR: SU1859368866

Background to the proposals

CCTV cameras were installed in 2015 in five locations in Marlborough High Street including one on the east end of the library façade to the High Street. Marlborough Town Council is now seeking to replace these existing CCTV cameras in the High Street and add an additional camera on the Town Hall 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 camera would be fitted in the same positions as the existing cameras i.e. at the east end of the High Street façade at high level. To provide optimum coverage and reduce blind spots this new camera would be mounted on a sympathetically designed black bracket projecting approx. 800mm from the building faces. The design of these brackets is shown in the accompanying Design and Access Statement. The bracket would be fixed into mortar joints in the brickwork where possible and the brackets will hide all cabling.

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 camera 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.

Summary

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

Andrew Bumphrey Architect
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