



Guy Bentham-Hill
Wiltshire Council
Economic Development and Planning
Monkton Park
SN15 1ER

Our Ref: L10002720
18 August 2026

Dear Guy Bentham-Hill

**Arrangements for Handling Heritage Applications Direction 2021 & Planning
(Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Regulations 1990**

**8, MARKET PLACE, CHIPPENHAM, SN15 3HD, ENGLAND
Application No. PL/2026/04455**

Thank you for your letter of 29 July 2026 regarding the above application for listed building consent. On the basis of the information available to date, we offer the following advice.

Historic England Advice

The proposals are for repairs to the stone balustraded parapet along the north and east elevations of the Angel Hotel. The building was constructed in the 17th century and refronted in the 18th century and is Grade II* listed as a particularly important building of more than special interest.

We support the overall proposals to repair the stone balustrade. As set out in the Heritage Justification, Design and Access Statement the repairs are to be carried out in line with the findings of a structural assessment, with the condition of the north elevation balustrade being particularly poor due to freeze thaw action.

We have concerns, however, regarding the proposed use of the Peelaway 1 system, which is caustic and could result in damage to the historic limestone. In addition, the proposal documents do not clarify the proposed method of paint removal which will need to ensure that the correct tools are used to ensure the stone is not damaged.

We recommend that the applicant should seek advice from a specialist in historic stone repair as to the best system to use to remove the paint layers in this instance without damaging the significant historic balustrade. For example the use of Peelaway 7 alongside the Doff system may be more appropriate, or switching the proposed process



so that Peelaway 1 is applied first, then neutralised and followed by Peelaway 7 or Doff.

We advise that the chosen system is tested on a discrete area of the balustrade first and that a short report outlining the results and proposed methodology is provided following this trial and prior to full implementation of the paint removal works.

Recommendation

Historic England advises that your Council should seek additional information regarding the methodology of the proposals from the applicant team, as outlined above, in order to avoid potential harm to the listed building via damage to or loss of historic stonework.

Should the proposals remain unchanged, it will be for your Council to assess whether any potential harm to the significance of the listed building would be outweighed by public benefits secured by the development. In doing so, it should give substantial weight to the conservation of this designated heritage asset.

If there are any material changes to the proposals beyond those we have suggested, please contact us. If you propose to determine the application in its current form, please advise us of the decision.

Yours sincerely

Joanne Fisher

Job Title: Inspector of Historic Buildings and Areas

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