

Supporting Documentation

Waverton St Peter – Cremated remains area

Note to parish

This bundle includes all the supporting documentation to your faculty application as required under Rule 5.5 of the Faculty Jurisdiction (Amendment) Rules 2019.

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Caroline Hilton, DAC Secretary



11 February 2021

We petition the Court for a faculty to authorise the following-

Please describe the works or other proposals for which a faculty is sought in the way recommended by the Diocesan Advisory Committee in its Notification of Advice.

SCHEDULE OF WORKS OR PROPOSALS

To identify and prepare an area for the interment of created remains in the new churchyard.

The St. Peter's churchyard serves the village of Waverton with a population of approximately 2000 and the number of full burials is currently around 5 per year with a similar number of burials of cremated remains. (Clearly, with family interments, not every burial requires a new grave). Whilst the rate of deaths may vary year by year, it is anticipated that the total space required in the churchyard will continue to be determined by the population of the village.

The area currently being prepared for the whole churchyard measures approximately 25 metres East to West and between 22m and 30m North to South. A portion to the North of this land is taken up by an area of trees/shrubs as per original planning application. (Diagram illustrates).

It is proposed to identify an area to the West of this churchyard measuring 3 m X 20.5m for cremated remains. This will allow for a total number of plots of approximately 75.

The estimated number of spaces for full burials is well in excess of 100. It follows that the new churchyard will provide for these needs for at least 25 years and more probably 30 years.

It will be seen from the attached diagrams that a part of the proposed area for cremated remains will be to the East of a listed sandstone wall. This is a very solid structure but to allow grass mowing between the wall and the first row of cremated remains, a path of 1 metre width will be created.

Other paths throughout the churchyard will remain as grass rather than be paved and will be adequate for disabled access.

For reference, the total area of land recently gifted by the Eaton Estate is in the region of 0.2 hectares and measures 25 metres X 75 metres. (Faculty Application 2017-017636 refers). To assist with the long-term management of this land it has been divided into two portions with the southernmost portion presently being grazed by two Jacob Sheep. It is not anticipated that this area will be needed as a graveyard for at least 25 years.

Copies of the Standard Information Form and any drawings, plans, specifications, photographs or other documents showing the proposals must be provided with this petition.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

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

(i) The Church Building.

The first reference to a place of worship at Waverton occurs in the charter of confirmation by Earl Hugh Lupus of gifts to the new abbey of St. Werbergh in 1093. The abbots continued as patrons until the Dissolution when the advowson was granted to the bishop, who, subject to certain modifications, still retains the gift. Up to 1755 the living was a rectory, then a perpetual curacy until 1868, and since that date, a rectory again.

There are still traces of late Norman or Early English style of architecture seen in the rude nail-head ornament on one of the pillars on the south side of the nave.

The church as it now appears is essentially the same basic shape as in the late 16th century. It consists of a central nave with a chancel to the east, having a slightly lower roof line and ceiling. To the north and south of the nave, separated by three octagonal piers, there are side aisles with former chapels at the eastern ends. There is a very substantial tower with an embattled parapet to the west of the nave. This tower, which is in three stages, was erected about the time of the reign of Henry VII, (1485 - 1509). The walls of the church are constructed of ashlar red sandstone which was taken from the nearby quarry on Quarry Lane. The roof is of green Lakeland slate. The foundations appear to be on soil or clay. The roof of the nave, dating from the seventeenth century, is of carved wood and bears the date 1635. This roof is arch braced with collars and hammer beams ornamented with bold pendants. The Tower roof was re-slatted in 2007 and the nave, aisles and chancel repaired and re-slatted in 2011. Insulation was also inserted into the roof during this work.

The chapel on the north side of the east end of the church was built in 1640 by *John Tilston of Huxley* and was known at that time as the Tilston Chapel. It later became known as the Cholmondeley Chapel and more recently as the Lady Chapel.

The Vestry is situated at the east end of the south aisle and was refurbished in 2008. It houses cupboards for robes, book shelves, a table with drawers and appropriate secure facilities for the Parish Records and Church Plate and Brass.

A small Children's Area was created in 2008 by the re-positioning of three pews at the west end of the south aisle to create a square, carpeted space for children and parents to use, if they wish, during church services.

The church was thoroughly remodelled in 1845 and again in 1888 by *John Douglas*, thereafter comprising a chancel, south eastern chapel, clerestoried nave of three bays and aisles. The aforementioned tower, held by some to be disproportionally large, contains on the north face, a clock made by *John Davies of Chester*, 1845, to which an automatic winding mechanism was fitted in

2009. The tower houses a ring of eight bells. A four light perpendicular window dated 1888 is on the west face. A pyramidal roof and weather vane was added to the tower in the late 19th century.

There is a Tudor doorway on the west face of the tower, notable for its square frame with carved shields of the Duttons and Hattons in the spandrels, surmounted by others placed on the wall over the cornice. There is also a weathered statue of the Virgin and Child between the shields of the Dutton and Hatton families.

The inner glass doors, designed by *Graham Holland*, are etched with the keys of St. Peter and the Ichthys symbol. They were installed by *Charles Lightfoots Ltd* in 2008.

The interior lighting is significantly augmented by a chandelier in the centre of the nave. The main church lighting was replaced with L E D units in 2013.#

The boiler room is constructed of sandstone with a slate roof and abuts the south side of the tower. The gas heating supply was installed by *Grosvenor Heating Ltd* in 2008.

On 1st March 1967 the church was given the Heritage Designation II*.

(ii) Contents.

The wooden High Altar is 19th century and a 17th century Parish Chest is used as the Lady Chapel Altar. Altar Frontals appropriate to the Liturgical Season are stored in a large Frontal Chest located at the west end of the north aisle. There are two pairs of Sanctuary Chairs and two Credence Tables.

On the east wall, on either side of the East Window, the Ten Commandments are painted on wooden panels.

The font which is in current use is from the 19th century and has an oak Font Cover. There is also an old font pillar from the 17th century. The pulpit, dated 1903, is a memorial to the First Duke of Westminster and is in Mock Gothic style; the Prayer Desk is also dated 1903 and was presented, along with the Choir Seats, two Vestry Screens and the mosaic tiles in front of the Altar, by *M A Spibbey* "To the Glory of God and as a Thank Offering for Many Mercies received". The Lectern is modern (1971) made of light oak and was presented in memory of Doreen Rose Worsley (1931 - 1971). A second light oak Lectern / Music Stand, dated 1983 was presented by *Maurice Sutherland* in memory of his wife *Brenda*. There is an oak Litany desk dated 1950.

The Chancel Screen was inserted at the time of other renovation work in 1888.

The pews and choir stalls conform to the contemporary design of the late 19th century and the floor, which is part carpeted, is flagged with sandstone.

In the tower are the royal arms of Charles II, painted in 1663 and a table of tithes which was set up in 1756.

The tower houses a ring of eight bells. Four of these are dated 1615 by *George Lee*, two are dated 1908 by *John Taylor and Company*, and two were added in 2008 by *Taylors Eayre and Smith Ltd*.

The Parish Registers date from 1582 and the Churchwardens Accounts from 1744.

The present organ, a 'Father Willis' was installed in 1982. It was originally built for a private residence in 1880 and thereafter was moved to two churches in Salford. In 1975, upon the closure of St Bartholemew Church in Salford, it was stored and put up for sale at the organ works of *George Sixsmith*. The rebuilding and installation work at St. Peter's cost £26 000.

A modern piano is located in the Lady Chapel

Windows.

- The East Window was erected in memory of *Helen Temperley*, youngest daughter of *James and Anne Radford*, who died October 30th 1867 aged 6 years. The window has three lights separated by stone mullions with quartrefoil cusps at the top and geometrical tracery above. Each light has a canopied representation of Christ, with an angel below carrying a scroll. The window is a good example of the high Victorian Gothic revival style.
- The West Window was inserted, according to church records, in 1856, although its style would suggest an earlier installation date of 1845, coinciding with a major renovation of the church. The window has four lights each with quatrefoil cusped heads and tracery above. Each of the lights carries a representation of an Old Testament character, haloed and canopied, with an incident from their respective lives depicted beneath. The style of the glass is that of Early Victorian. It was repaired and renovated in 2007 by *Arnold and Blaze Ltd*.
- The Geddes Window is located in the north aisle, second from the west end. It consists of three lights depicting the Good Samaritan. The window was given to the church in 1949 in memory of *John and Elizabeth Geddes* and their daughters *Elizabeth and Mary* by their daughter and sister *Jesse Burgess*.
- The Francis Willoughby-Jones Window is located in the north aisle, third from the west end. It consists of three panes commemorating the Resurrection and is in memory of *Rev Francis Willoughby-Jones*, Rector of the Parish, who died on 27th September 1919.
- The Hill Window is in the south aisle at the west end of the south wall. It was erected in 1899 in memory of *Rev John Wilbraham Hill* and Family by 'Parishioners and Friends' in recognition of the 45 years devoted service given to the parish. It is a two light round headed window, each light having canopies and borders. Both lights carry depictions of Christ and the style is Late Victorian.
- The East Window of the Lady Chapel is of the post Arts and Crafts Movement style. It consists of three headed lights with the central light having a depiction of Christ in a manger with a sheep below and Mary and Joseph attending. There are similar features in this window to those found in the Hill Window suggesting the same artist or firm of glaziers.
- The six clerestory windows are filled with identical patterned glass and are thought to be Victorian copies of Tudor 'quarries' (diamond and lozenge shaped pieces of glass which increased in popularity towards the end of the Middle Ages). The most easterly window bears an inscription FMB (1911 - 2001) donated by *Andrew Bate* in memory his mother and was installed during the renovation of these windows in 2004.

(iii) Churchyard.

The management of the churchyard is in accordance with the Diocesan Churchyard Regulations 2007 and specifically the Regulations for the Erection of Memorials. The churchyard has been extended several times in the last 150 years, on each occasion as a consequence of the generosity of the Duke of Westminster and the Grosvenor Estate. The Boundary Walls are a significant feature of the churchyard, with a tablet on the west-facing side of the wall containing an inscription with the names of the Churchwardens and the date 1822 confirming the date of construction. The wall was extended in 1863 with the addition of ashlar red sandstone piers and gates which were, in 1985, listed Grade II.

The War Memorial on the south side of the church is a cross mounted on a tall pillar standing on a three step plinth. The inscription on the west side reads " Erected by the Parishioners of Waverton and Hatton in Grateful Memory of these men who died for their country. 1914 + 1919". An inscription on the east side reads "Also in Grateful Memory of these men who died for their country, 1939 +1945". The names of 15 men are recorded on the Memorial. The churchyard also contains the graves of two soldiers of World War I and an airman of World War II.

There was a Grade II* eighteenth century sundial dated 1731 on a red sandstone column until, sadly, it was stolen in 1993. It was replaced with a similar one in 1996.

Handrails from the church gate to the West Door were installed in 2014.

The churchyard contains several 18th century Table Top Tombs and many fine yew trees. It is attractively laid out and well maintained by a group of volunteers.

(iv) Setting.

The church is located at Grid Reference SJ 462 633. The Post Code is CH3 7QN.

The church is located on a minor road in the old village of Waverton which is now 3/4 mile from the main residential area. The few adjacent buildings are mainly Grosvenor Estate property with a consistent style determined by the Estate. Red sandstone dominates the buildings in the vicinity of the church.

The view from the West Door of the church, which is now possible through the recently installed glass doors, is of fields stretching towards the Eaton Estate and Dee valley then beyond to the Clwydian Hills of North Wales. The views to the south and east are again of farmland stretching to the Peckforton Hills.

The rural tranquillity of the church setting is augmented by the extensive, well maintained churchyard containing over 20 yew trees, a small Garden of Remembrance and several wooden seats.

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.

(i) Special Architectural and Historic Interest.

There has been a church on this site for 900 years. There is still evidence of its Norman heritage in the aforementioned pier with nail head ornament. It saw the Reformation, and much of what stands today is from the Tudor period. The Church witnessed the Civil War at the nearby Battle of Rowton Moor. The explosion of church renovation in the nineteenth century is reflected in the major work done in this church during that time.

The arrival of the nearby Shropshire Union Canal in the 18th century and the railway in the 19th century, (there was a station at Waverton until the 1950s), had an impact upon the accessibility of St. Peter's Church to travellers and merchants alike.

The large Tower is the most noticeable and significant structure this village and it is visible for many miles in all directions. The additional pyramidal roof, which was added to the Tower in 1888, was ordered, it is said, by the Duke of Westminster in order to enable him to clearly identify the church and hence his bearings when out riding or hunting.

There is documentary evidence in a pen and ink drawing of 1810 by John *Musgrove*, that the only door in use in the early 19th century was on the north side of the church to which access was gained via a lych gate in the boundary wall. All physical evidence of this was destroyed during the aisle construction of 1888. There are, however, traces of a blocked basket-arched doorway on the south side of the church. It has been suggested that this could have been used in the Middle Ages as a Leper Door.

The significance of this history is estimated as Moderate.

(ii) Significant features of artistic or archaeological interest.

There is an interesting unsigned painting "The Crucifixion" in the Lady Chapel which is highly regarded by some parishioners.

The stained glass windows, as detailed above, are of local significance, commemorating as they do several previous Rectors and others in this Parish.

The significance in this respect is estimated as Low- Moderate

References.

- Waverton. A History of its People and Places. Edited by John Whittle, Published by Waverton , St. Peter's Parochial Church Council#
- Old Cheshire Churches. Raymond Richards.
- The Buildings of England, Cheshire, Architectural Guide, Nikolaus Pevsner.
- Grade II listed buildings in Cheshire West and Chester
- Church Restoration, Amendment and Furniture by John Douglas.

Peter R Williams. Churchwarden.

December 2020

St. Peter's Church, Waverton, Diocese of Chester

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

SECTION 3. ASSESSMENT OF THE IMPACT OF THE PROPOSALS.

(i) The impact of the proposal on the specific parts of the church and on the whole.

The proposal is an adjunct to the details contained in the Faculty Application 2017-017636 dated December 2017 (subsequently granted) and as such, has a limited impact upon the significance of the church. The particulars of this proposal, referring to a dedicated area of the new churchyard for the interment of cremated remains, can only enhance the provision which St Peter's Church offers to the wider community.

(ii) Proposals to mitigate the impact upon the church.

The location of the area for cremated remains will be, in part, to the East of a listed sandstone boundary wall. This wall is of very sound construction and is extremely stable. Nevertheless it is intended to allow an area of grass to remain between this wall and the headstones of the cremated remains plots. This space will also allow for access by mowers.

St. Peter's Church. Waverton. Diocese of Chester

A STATEMENT OF NEED

Area for cremated remains in new churchyard

Present situation.

The new churchyard was the subject of a Faculty Application, Ref. 2017-017636 and the subsequent granting of a Faculty.

The application referred to the proposed use of the new churchyard for full burials and the burial of cremated remains.

The whole area is at present being prepared in readiness for Consecration on 16th May 2021.

The need.

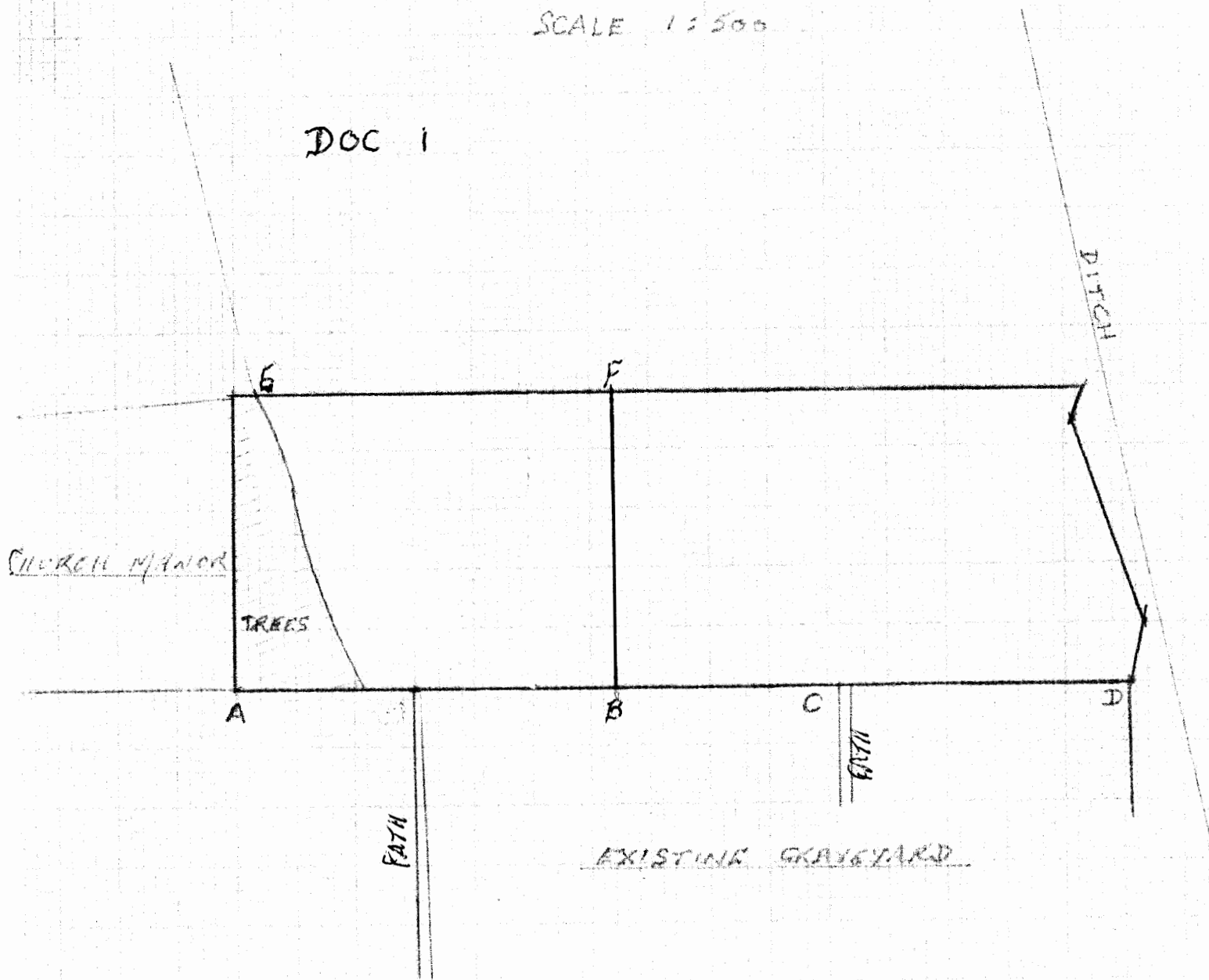
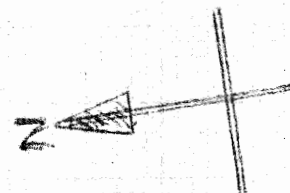
An area of the churchyard will be set aside for the burial of cremated remains. In recent years the ratio of cremated remains to full burials has been of the order 50:50. Whilst the space required for cremated remains is considerably less than for full burials, there is a clear need to provide for sufficient space for both types of burial in the future.

The proposal

To identify, mark and separate from the rest of the churchyard, an appropriate area for the burial of cremated remains.

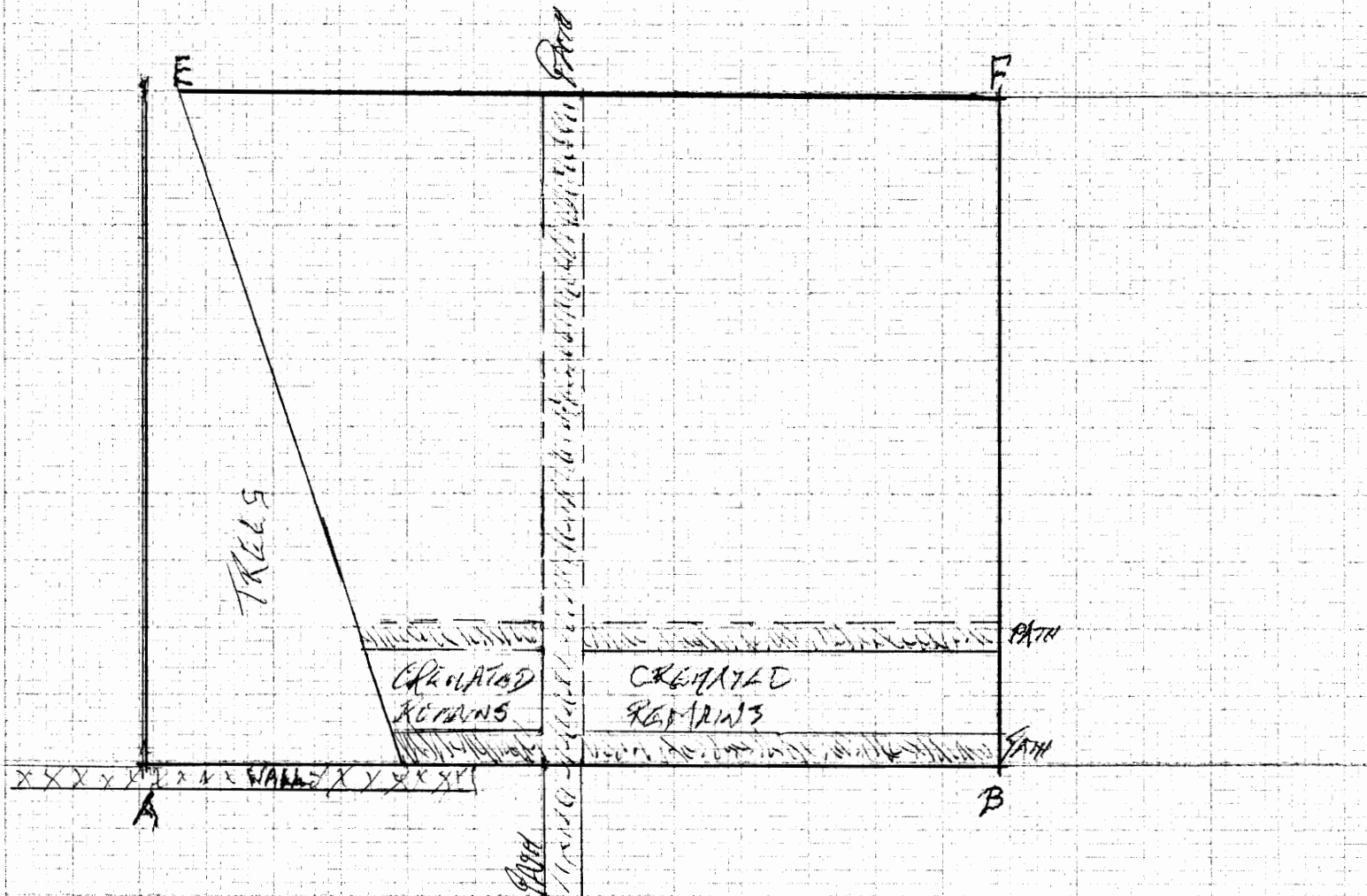
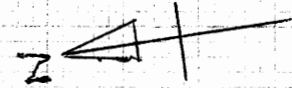
SCALE 1:500

DOC 1



SCALE 1:250

DOC 2



Key to DOCS 1 and 2

DOC 1 shows the entire parcel of land transferred by gift from the Eaton Estate to the incumbency in 2016.

The portion described by the boundary A,B, E,F is being prepared for consecration on 16th May 2021.

The available space, not including the trees to the north, is 22 metres increasing to 30 metres North to South and 25 metres West to East.

DOC 2 shows this area to larger scale.

The area proposed for cremated remains is 3 metres wide, allowing for three rows of 22 metres , including the East West path.

This will allow for up to 75 spaces at a separation of approximately 77 - 80 cm.

A path of 1 metre width will separate the first row of cremated remains from the sandstone boundary wall.

The other paths will (a) separate the cremated remains from the rest of the graveyard and (b) provide access across the area in a West - East direction, (c) be adequate for disabled access.

The area remaining for burials, i.e. approx 24 metres increasing to 30 metres North to South and 20 metres West to East, will provide space for approximately 100 graves at Diocesan Churchyard Regulations recommended separation, (2.7 m X 1.5m).





Waverton St Peter – Cremated remains area - Correspondence with parish

- [Attachments in blue are included within the proposals section](#)

Date	Message
17/12/2020 To: Katy Purvis From: Peter Williams	<p>You will have seen that I have started an application for faculty in respect of the cremated remains area of our new churchyard. I understand that there will be a DAC meeting in mid January. I will therefore try to submit the full application in the next few days. (Christmas intervening, of course).</p> <p>I will include a plan of how we intend to subdivide the churchyard allowing an area for cremated remains. I will also send some photos. We have a consecration arranged for 16th May.</p>
17/12/2020 To: Peter Williams From: Katy Purvis	<p>Hope you're Ok, I did notice your application, I am looking forward to it because you do such a good job of them! The submission date for January is 8th Jan for meeting on the 22nd.</p> <p>Have a happy Christmas, let me know if I can help at all</p>
28/01/2021 To: Peter Williams From: Caroline Hilton	<p>I am writing to let you know that at the DAC considered the above proposals at its meeting of 22 January 2021 and it resolved to recommend the scheme.</p> <p>This means I can proceed to raise the Notification of Advice so the public notices become available on the Online Faculty System. I will let you know when this has been carried out.</p> <p>If you have any queries please do let me know.</p>

St. Peter's Church. Waverton

PCC Resolution.

RESOLVED

The Parochial Church Council of St. Peter's Church, Waverton authorises the Rector and Churchwardens to proceed with an Application for Faculty in respect of the identification and creation of an area for the interment of cremated remains in the new churchyard.

Dated 18th December 2020

Resolution passed unanimously.

Number on the PCC 10.