

Supporting Documentation

Stretton St Matthew – AV

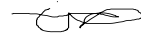
Note to parish

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



12 July 2022

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

The installation of audio visual equipment as set out in the attached document "Audio visual faculty application 2022 06 15"

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

St. Matthew's Church, Stretton

Statement of Significance September 2021



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1. Brief history and description of the church

The first church on the site was built in 1827 by the Church Commissioners, the architect being Philip Hardwick.

The current church was designed by Sir George Gilbert Scott, and was built between 1859 and 1872. It is constructed of red sandstone with a Westmorland slate roof.

In 1859 the Vicar, Richard Greenall (Archdeacon of Chester) commissioned George Gilbert Scott to build the chancel at a cost of 1,700 pounds. Following Greenall's death the church was rebuilt as a memorial to him, with George Gilbert Scott again as the architect. Eliza, the Archdeacon's widow, shared the £5,000 cost with her brother, Thomas Henry Lyon of Appleton Hall.

Sir George Gilbert Scott was part of the Gothic Revival, and internationally renowned. He designed Wakefield Cathedral (1874), and the Albert Memorial in Hyde Park (1876). Abroad he designed Christchurch Cathedral in New Zealand (1858), and the Nikolaikirche (St. Nicholas Church) in Hamburg (1863)

1.1. Churchyard

The church is set in a churchyard, with mature oak, lime, birch, sycamore, horse chestnut and yew trees. A number of these trees are covered by Tree Preservation Orders. The eastern end of the church yard is used as a car park.

1.2. Lych gate

The lych gate was donated in 1889 by Mrs. Edith Grace Lyon, a member of the well known local family in memory of her brother William Stewart Branker. It has half height Cheshire sandstone walls, on which is mounted an open oak structure with a Westmorland slate roof. On the front roof beam is carved "I am the Resurrection and the Life".

The lych gate was repaired in 2018.

2. The significance of the church

The church is listed as Grade II. It is constructed of red sandstone with a graded Westmorland slate roof. There is a four stage West tower which has angle buttresses, an octagonal north-east turret, a shaped oak west door in cusped archway, single and paired lancets, paired bell-openings and corbelled plain parapet. The 5 bay aisled nave has geometrical tracery to aisle windows and paired lancets to clerestory. The north vestry has simple paired lancets in the north gable and a square-headed window on the east side. The 2 bay chancel (different in character) has plate tracery and nook-shafts in corners of buttresses which carry a corbel-table (description detail taken from Historic England - List entry Number: 1329772).



2.1. Stained Glass

The east window was made in 1939 by Trena Mary Cox of Chester, and depicts the ascension of Christ. It was given by parishioners in memory of Canon Charles Francis Cross M.A., who was vicar of Stretton for forty years from 1897-1937, Canon of Chester and Rural Dean of Frodsham.

Other stained glass to the aisle and west windows are by Clayton and Bell of London and are contemporary with the church building. The windows in the south and north aisles have geometrical tracery, and depict the parables and miracles of Jesus.

The windows over the West Door portray the Nativity with one panel showing Joseph holding the Infant Christ. This window was in memory of Archdeacon Greenall.

The window on the north side of the chancel has plate tracery and depicts Christ teaching in the temple.

2.2. Clock faces



A very rare feature of the church is the two clock faces on the south and west elevations of the tower, which have letters instead of numbers, reading “Forget not God” and “Time is not all”. There are only a handful (three known) of other churches in the country with this feature.

2.3. The Pulpit



The pulpit dates from 1859, and was designed by George Gilbert Scott. It is of English oak panels, each containing carved foliage, standing on a stone base, interspersed between red marble pillars.

2.4. The font

The Font was presented by the Clergy Daughters of St Elphin's School (Warrington Parish Church) in 1867 in memory of Archdeacon Greenall. It is made of stone with a lead-lined bowl. There is a carved oak canopy which is raised and lowered by weighted pulleys.



2.5. Organ

The two-manual organ was built by "Father" Henry Willis in 1876, and was a gift from Thomas Henry Lyon.

Henry Willis was a renowned organ-builder of the Victorian era. He was responsible for the organs in Gloucester Cathedral, Alexandra Palace in Hyde Park for the Great Exhibition of 1851, St George's Hall Liverpool, the Royal Albert Hall, and St Paul's Cathedral.

The organ was originally hand blown (the lever is still in position). It has two manuals or keyboards with a compass of four and a half octaves, and a pedal compass of two and a half octaves.



Tremulant and clarinet stops were added in the early 1920s by the Willis firm. The electric blower was fitted about 1938/39 and in 1947 a radiating and concave pedal board and a balanced swell were fitted.

The DAC's Organ Adviser, Rev Andrew Mannings and the Secretary to the DAC, Paul Broadhurst, visited the church on 20th October 2010 to view the organ. Following this visit Paul Broadhurst

commented "you have a tremendous asset in this Willis organ which has a full and effective specification, and was designed by a master organ builder to speak effectively into your particular church building (with the very effective support of the sound bouncing back off the south chancel wall into the nave)" (Paul Broadhurst's e-mail 21 December 2010).

2.6. Pews

The pews are of a relatively plain design in oak, but of good quality with detailing, mounted on a pew platform, and are contemporary with the church building.



2.7. Overall significance rating

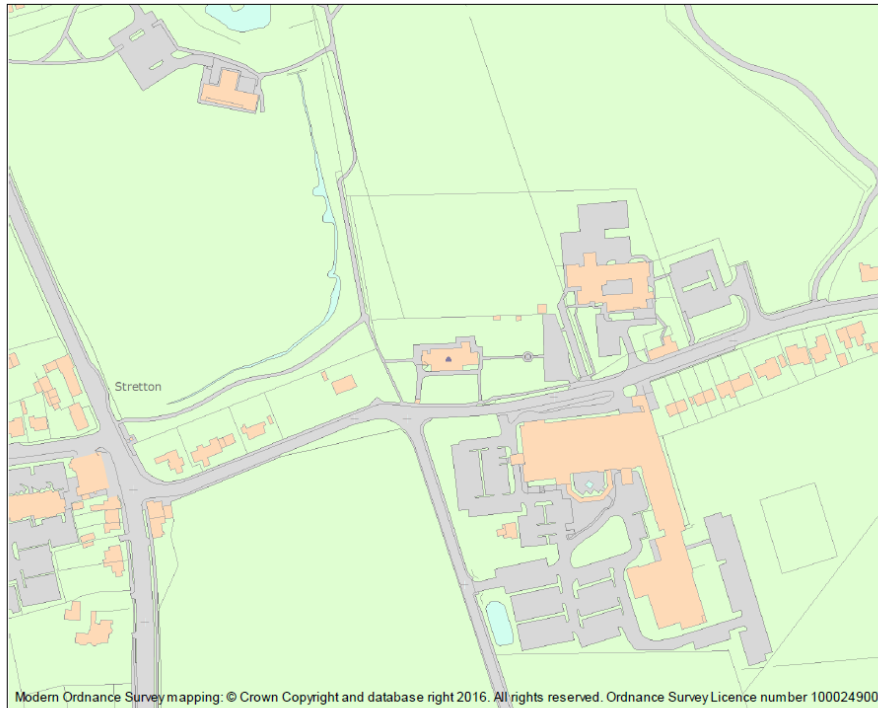
Using the customary terminology in the Church Care Guidance Note on Statements of Significance and Statements of Needs, the significance of the church should be rated as **High**¹ being of national importance as a Grade 2 Listed Building, and one of the churches designed by Sir George Gilbert Scott.

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

The installation of the camera and screens will have minimal impact on the significance of the building, as cables will be discreetly threaded, mainly along the rafters and wall plate. The monitors in the chancel will be mostly hidden out of view from the nave, behind half pillars. The overall appearance of the chancel will be improved by the removal of the wall mounted heaters, and the black plastic trunking up the walls. The camera will be mounted above a screen at the west end of the church, and out of sight of people entering the church.

¹ This is the classification given by James Hughes, Senior Conservation Adviser at the Victorian Society in July 2018.

4. Heritage England Location Plan



Heritage Category:	Listing
List Entry No :	1329772
Grade:	II

County:	
District:	Warrington
Parish:	Stretton

For all list entries pre-dating 4 April 2011 maps and national grid references do not form part of the official record of a listed building. In such cases the map here and the national grid reference are generated from the list entry in the official record and added later to aid identification of the principal listed building or buildings.

For all list entries made on or after 4 April 2011 the map here and the national grid reference do form part of the official record. In such cases the map and the national grid reference are to aid identification of the principal listed building or buildings only and must be read in conjunction with other information in the record.

Any object or structure fixed to the principal building or buildings and any object or structure within the curtilage of the building, which, although not fixed to the building, forms part of the land and has done so since before 1st July, 1948 is by law to be treated as part of the listed building.

This map was delivered electronically and when printed may not be to scale and may be subject to distortions.

List Entry NGR:	SJ 62028 82765
Map Scale:	1:2500
Print Date:	19 July 2016

Name: CHURCH OF ST MATTHEW

This is an A4 sized map and should be printed full size at A4 with no page scaling set.



5. Sources consulted

Church guide	This was compiled in 2001 by David and Margaret Hart, who have updated it six times subsequently.
Wikipedia	https://en.wikipedia.org/ for background information on Sir George Gilbert Scott and Henry Willis
The National Heritage List for England	For listing of St. Matthew's Church https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1329772

St. Matthew's Church, Stretton Churchyard Statement of Needs June 2022



1. General information

St. Matthew's Church is in the village of Stretton, but the parish also encompasses part of Appleton with a large housing estate, and a population of over 6,000. There are 136 people on the church electoral roll as of March 2021.

The PCC are looking at future strategy coming back from the pandemic, and what services and events might take place. Currently, the main Sunday service is a hybrid of people in church with others watching the service streamed on Facebook, with church members assisting in leading worship via Zoom.

2. What do you need?

We wish to install audio visual equipment (camera, screens and associated equipment) to improve on the temporary set up we have established with laptops and a screen projector. This is more fully explained in the document "Audio visual faculty application 2022 06 15"

3. Why do you need it and why do you need it now?

The current temporary set up involves tripods and cables, and restricts the use of the space in the chancel. The proposal will be more professional and less intrusive, and allow the church to develop its ministry.

4. Justification

The proposal is a fairly simple system which will significantly improve on what is currently in place, and will be able to be adapted for any future needs..

26th October 2021

Dear Alan

Thank you for inviting us to provide a proposal for a service streaming / recording camera system and a TV display solution. All our designs are church specific which is why I spent a lot of time asking questions to ensure I gained a good understanding your requirements.

From our discussions you would like us to provide quotations for:

- A camera system to replace your current streaming set up.
- Screens at the front for the congregation to view.
- Screens for the choir to view.

Underpinning our designs and solutions are three key principles:

- Use of quality equipment that will last for many years
- Ensure ease of use for those operating the system
- Value for money.

A little about us...

We are a family business established in 2012 with our roots going back to 2000. We work across the UK and alongside churches, we operate in various sectors providing specialist training suites for the NHS and for Fire Authorities, AV solutions for schools and businesses and bespoke installations for the tourist attraction sector where we work with zoos and underground attractions. Our clients include household names such as Muller Dairies, Chester Zoo, Cheddar Gorge Caves, Llechwedd Slate Caverns, Mornflake Oats, Cheshire Fire Service, Cheshire Police, Staffordshire Police along with many schools, local businesses and churches.

A number of our staff are Christian church goers. This provides a unique insight into the needs of churches and the challenges they face. Over the years different members of our staff have been involved with leading worship in a larger worship band, providing PA for the same band, drumming, playing bass, singing, training technical teams and being a church warden.

Our collective experience of attending and being involved with different local churches combined with our technical knowledge allows us to provide tailored solutions to churches that really are simple to operate, represent value for money and we know last for years.

Over the coming pages I will explain and detail our solution along with a little background information to aid any reader who wasn't part of our conversation.



We have a YouTube channel with help and support as well as case studies on our previous installations. Click [HERE](#) or search on YouTube for: 'Church technology explained' to find out more.

We provide support for churches in a number of technical areas. Here's a list of our wider services:

TV DISPLAYS

- Reception area information displays
- Stage preview monitors
- Song words presentation
- Meeting room solutions
- Site wide integrated systems

STAGE LIGHTING

- Stage lighting
- Moving heads
- Lighting control desks
- DMX controlled solutions

STREAMING SERVICES

- Single or multiple camera solutions
- Song / bible words computer integration
- Fixed view and movable Pan / Tilt / Zoom cameras
- Simple user interface

PROJECTION SYSTEMS

- Song words projection
- Edge blend solutions
- Specialist projection screens for vaulted ceilings.

CCTV & SECURITY

- Site-wide solutions, internal and external.
- Auto vehicle number plate recognition (ANPR)
- Covid 'Fever' screening cameras
- GDPR compliance guidance provided

SOUND SYSTEMS

- Basic PA's for more traditional churches
- Band PA's
- Digital mixing desks
- Band fold back systems - in ear and wedges
- Assistive hearing systems

REPAIRS & MAINTENANCE

- Ad hoc or contracted services
- All audio and visual equipment repairs and servicing
- Service equipment installed by other companies.

Our design ethos...

The design of Audio Visual systems in churches always poses me a dilemma. There is always a balance to strike between ease of use, the required technical functionality and the available budget with each element being subjective and different in every church we support.

I know, having always been part of, and involved with a church, a church's tech is usually ran by volunteers rather than engineers who in my experience, are very willing but not necessarily the most techie so keeping it simpler makes it easier to train and hold onto volunteers.

I am also very aware churches need to make their income go a long way and the purchase of technical equipment can present a financial challenge.

At the same time we want to supply quality equipment so the congregation's investment will provide good service for many years.

So, to our dilemma, how to balance providing a system that works well, is easy to use for your volunteers and is affordable and will last for many years.

My approach is to design a system that:

- I know the volunteers in my church could operate
- give preachers the visual system (projectors / TVs) to help get their message across in modern ways
- supports band members to play to their full potential
- sounds good in the church with quality sound throughout
- where stage lighting systems are installed, look good and 'funky' but are sensitively modest.
- provides those worshipping at home (via YouTube etc) with a meaningful connection to the service.

Sometimes our solutions come in on budget, sometimes they don't. If the budget is available then great, if not then we are happy to have a conversation of what alternative products could work or provide a phased installation with equipment purchased on a future occasion.

My church context.

I am involved in an independent evangelical church in Crewe, Cheshire called West Street Christian Fellowship. It's a lively church with band lead worship. I am involved with the tech team, leading worship on acoustic guitar and occasionally playing drums in the band. Our band comprises up to 4 singers and a combination of the following instruments: acoustic, electric and bass guitars, violin or cello, trumpet, drums (acoustic or electric), percussion and keyboard/synth.

We have a two projector song words system, a digital sound desk, a mix of in-ear and traditional foldback monitors, a camera system and a stage lighting rig. It's all controlled from a tech booth ran by our fabulous volunteers who are aged between about 15 and 80.

Working with us...

We like to work collaboratively with churches. We know the decision making process can take time, especially where architects are involved or faculties are required and we're happy to be part of the process providing information and liaising with church architects and other parties at all stages.

We recommend the following steps in working with us:

- Step 1: Site survey and initial conversation.
- Step 2: Initial introduction proposal and information.
- Step 3: Demonstration of the equipment we feel is appropriate for your church auditorium.
- Step 4: Refine the quotation.
- Step 5: Provide any information required by your church architect
- Step 6: Complete the installation
- Step 7: Provide comprehensive training to your team

On completion of the installation we will provide training. We will spend time with your volunteers and can provide an additional session working with Tech operators to get the best out of the system. This could be a Saturday morning when folks are often more available.

Our proposal is broken down into sections, firstly looking at the TVs system and then the streaming system.

Church projects generally take a while to move from initial conversation to installation. Because of this, the prices quoted within this proposal are correct as of the 26/10/21 but may change a little due to the continuing impact of Covid, Brexit and the wider transportation/logistics difficulties faced at the moment. On the quotations all quantities are for 1x unless indicated otherwise. If there are more than one of a given product the price is for that quantity.

All prices quoted are subject to VAT at 20% and valid until the 12th November 2021.

TV / Laptop solution

We discussed the installation of two large screen TVs at the front of church, one on either side along with a smaller pair of monitors for the choir and those overseeing sat at the front.

We recommend Samsung 75inch TVs for the front and 24inch relay screens. They will all show the same picture at the same time from one central splitter. A laptop or computer will plug into the splitter and the image will be sent to the screens along with the streaming camera system so those at home receive a good quality picture.

We haven't included wall mounting brackets at this stage for the larger screens with the intention they will sit on their own stands on the cabinets in each location.

The smaller monitors will be mounted on wall brackets and the type that will allow the monitor to be turned slightly left to right to face different directions to aid viewing.

Digital sound desk

We discussed swapping the sound desk over to a digital alternative with memories to recall the sound settings for the different service types. We recommend an Allen and Heath QU16 with the specification available here:

<https://www.allen-heath.com/qu-series/qu-16/>

These are used in many churches because they work very well and sound good and are easy to use but also have the processing power to allow for greater creativity in the hands of an engineer.

These cost around £1300 plus VAT and installation and set up, calibration/tuning to your space and new cables would be £350 plus VAT.

This desk can also be used with an iPad to make operation even simpler for those occasions when there isn't someone available to operate the sound.

If you are considering replacing the sound desk, we have demo stock of this mixer and can come and show you its capabilities and how the iPad works with it.

Camera / Streaming solution

The process of streaming church services is quite involved and complicated. This is because most online meeting and streaming platforms such as Zoom, Facebook Live etc and to a large part YouTube assume a small scale setup using a local laptop/webcam/microphone combination with the presenter normally sat in a suitable office type room. A church sanctuary provides a unique set of challenging circumstances that require a completely different approach. The good news is streaming from a church can work really well and we've spend time designing easy to use solutions to overcome the challenges experienced in larger church buildings as I explained.

We want to make your streamed church services look as 'normal' as possible for those viewing online. We also want to make the solution as easy as we possibly can for your volunteers to operate. Our designs use an amount of tech behind the scenes to ensure your volunteers really can comfortably use the system week to week without requiring training from NASA!

Our proposed solutions uses the 4 channel Atem Mini Pro vision mixer and a single camera. The camera is made by Datavideo and has a movable lens to allow multiple different views of the platform. These Pan / Tilt / Zoom (PTZ) cameras have different views/positions stored in their memory so at the press of a button the view can change from being a wide view of the whole stage, to a zoomed in view of the preacher, the front table/lectern, alter or a wide view of the room with each position being stored to a different numbered memory. The Datavideo cameras are excellent full high definition quality (1080p) and include a 20x zoom lens.

The system allows for up to 4 connections into the vision mixer. One will be used by the camera. The other connections will be used for a song words laptop (using a HDMI connection) with spare connections available for an aux camera or laptop input.

The Atem Mini Pro will broadcast directly to YouTube via a wired network connection and will also connect to a laptop and work with Zoom becoming the Webcam source

To provide good quality sound to those at home, we'll link in your sound system so all your microphones (both wired and wireless) and the musician can be heard clearly by those at home. Basically, any sound that's amplified out the speakers will be broadcast to those at home.

A technical side note...

Churches are often dimly lit and commonly have large south or east facing windows that allow lots of daylight in on a bright sunny day. The combination and imbalance of artificial and natural day light on a bright sunny day can cause a blue-ish colour cast to areas within the image. The camera is set to provide a correct colour rendition of those in the room when lit by the artificial lighting. The cameras 'white balance' determines the correct setting but when the sun shines brightly, this additional light disrupts the white balance a little because it is a different colour temperature. The human eye is amazing and automatically compensates but unfortunately cameras do not and this is something that affects all video equipment and stills cameras alike. It's not a major concern but it's something that will occasionally effect the image - it's the reason why TV studios block out all natural light.

St. Matthew's Stretton

Audio Visual Faculty Application

April 2022



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Background

This faculty application is based on advice from Piranha Audio Visual (www.piranhaav.co.uk) and their quote of 26 October 2021

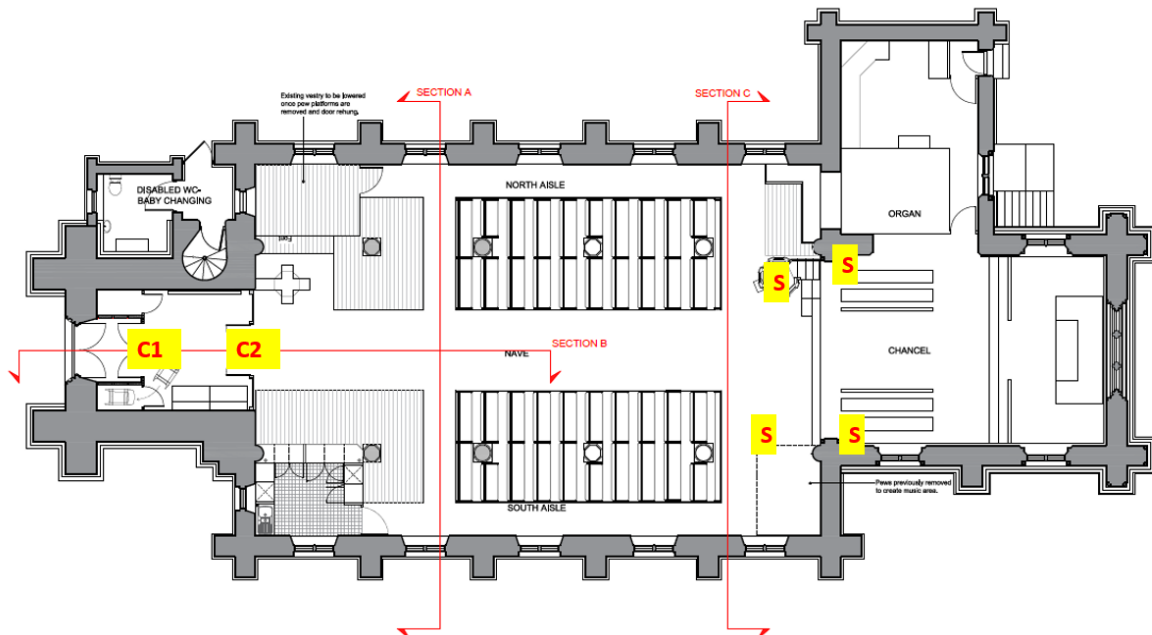
The church has contacted other providers through Parish Buying but has decided to use Piranha as it gives a simple solution to which the church can add should the need arise.

The church currently uses Zoom to allow people at home to contribute to leading the service. A microphone and web cam, both on tripods, are used to record the worship leader at the chancel step, with an iPad to record the celebrant. The PowerPoint presentation is shared on Zoom with the output projected onto a screen in the pulpit, so the congregation sees the text and those contributing from home. The sound from the Zoom feed is provided by separate speakers rather than through the church's audio and loop system. The service is live steamed to Facebook.



As a temporary set up this has worked, but the church wishes to make its system simpler and to integrate it with the existing audio system.

Plan



Proposal

To site a camera above the existing screen door at the west end of the church (see position C1 on the plan). When the new screen is build under the eastern tower arch the camera would be relocated to C2.

Provide two 75 inch TVs for the congregation and two 24 inch monitors in the chancel (labelled S on the plan).

The intention is to minimise the impact on the aesthetics of the building with a relatively simple set up which can be adapted or augmented should the need arise.

Camera

A Datavideo PTC-140 camera will be mounted centrally above the screen in front of the west door (see photographs to the right).

Piranha advise that the camera “has a movable lens to allow multiple different views of the platform. These Pan / Tilt / Zoom (PTZ) cameras have different views/positions stored in their memory so at the press of a button the view can change from being a wide view of the whole stage, to a zoomed in view of the preacher, the front table/ lectern, alter or a wide view of the room with each position being stored to a different numbered memory.”

The proposal is to use a 4 channel Atem Mini Pro vision mixer which allows for 4 connections, one of which would be used by the camera. Another connection would be used for the PowerPoint input with spare connections available possible for another freestanding camera or other laptop input.

Congregational TVs

Samsung 75inch TVs will be mounted on free standing stands, so that they can be moved to suit the type of service, or one could be moved to the flexible seating area at the back of church for small study groups or other meetings.

On the north side (left hand in picture) the screen will either be in the pulpit as the existing projector screen or in front of the pulpit.



On the south side the screen would probably be positioned beside the worship band area.

Most people sit towards the centre of the nave, as the pillars obscure the view of the chancel.

Chancel screens

In the chancel there will be two 24 inch relay screens.

The screens will be wall mounted, behind the chancel arch pillars so as to be mainly hidden from the view of the congregation.



The screens will all show the same image via one central splitter.

The screens will be mounted on a swivel and tilt bracket, with the fixings being wall plug and screw into the mortar joints.

The brackets will be a professional version of this one on Amazon:

[Amazon Brand - Eono TV Bracket Wall Mount Swivel and Tilt for Most 26-55 inch TVs, Fits VESA 75mmx75mm-400x400mm, Weight up to 27KG, Full Motion TV Wall Mount PL2432: Amazon.co.uk: Electronics & Photo](https://www.amazon.co.uk/Eono-TV-Bracket-Wall-Mount-Swivel-Tilt-Most-26-55-inch-TVs-Fits-VESA-75mmx75mm-400x400mm-Weight-up-to-27KG-Full-Motion-TV-Wall-Mount-PL2432-Amazon.co.uk-Electronics-Photo/dp/B07K1K1K1K)



Power

Additional power sockets may be required, and these will be discreetly located, with wiring concealed as much as possible.

Cabling runs

As far as possible the cables will be obscured from view running in the eaves as the existing cabling for the sound system or follow the line of existing cabling. New cabling runs will be discreet, for example in the corner of walls and pillars.

Sockets for the two freestanding large screens at the front will be discreetly positioned, possible alongside existing microphone boxes at low level on the pew frontals.



Operation

The system will be operated from a table at the west end of the north aisle between the font and the existing metal cabinet housing the existing audio equipment. This location gives a good view of the church and the chancel whilst for the congregation entering church it is obscured from view by the font.

The existing sound desk would be replaced with a digital sound desk: an Allen and Heath QU16.



Stretton St Matthew - Correspondence with parish and others

Attachments are listed according to the numbering on the supporting documents list

- Attachments in blue are included within the proposals section

Date	Message
<p>25/04/2022</p> <p>To: Caroline Hilton From: Stephen Edwards</p> <p>With attachments</p>	<p>Further to our conversation on Friday, I attach a document in draft form outlining our proposed audio-visual improvements at St. Matthew's, together with the advice and quote received from Piranha (Q12051 Cameras and TVs).</p> <p>I understand that the DAC does not formally meet until 27th May, but I should be grateful for any comments / questions you or the Standing Committee might have before I submit the formal application.</p> <p>4) Quotation of Piranha Audio Visual dated 26 October 2021 5) Proposal document: St Matthew's Stretton Audio Visual Faculty Application April 2022</p>
<p>19/05/2022</p> <p>To: Stephen Edwards From: Katy Purvis</p>	<p>Hope you're Ok, we saved you a slot on the May DAC agenda for the AV proposals, but we haven't received any details, please can you send me some info about your proposals or let me know if you would like to defer to a later meeting?</p>
<p>19/05/2022</p> <p>To: Katy Purvis From: Stephen Edwards</p>	<p>I submitted something to you and Caroline at the end of April, hoping that it might get an informal review at the DAC Standing Committee. Were there any comments?</p> <p>Separately I have had a couple of comments from Mark Pearce about fixings, which I can incorporate.</p> <p>I am proposing to get a PCC resolution this evening. I could create a formal Faculty application on line this afternoon.</p>
<p>06/06/2022</p> <p>To: Stephen Edwards From: Katy Purvis</p>	<p>I'm writing to let you know that at its meeting of 27 May 2022 the DAC considered the formal application to for the AV and resolved to recommend the scheme, subject to formal application and the following provisos</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. The fixings and cable run arrangement to be agreed with the Church Architect as is the usual requirement b. Any electrical works should be carried out by an electrical contractor accredited with the NICEIC or ECA, to the standards recommended in the Churchcare "Guidance Note: Electrical Wiring Installations in Churches" available via https://www.churchofengland.org/sites/default/files/2018-11/CCB_Electrical-wiring-installations-in-churches_Apr-2013.pdf

	This means that when you have submitted a formal application, Caroline will be able to produce the notification of advice, which will allow you to proceed with the public notice period