

Supporting Documentation

Walton St John – AV and pew removal


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



15 September 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 in the church including: Screen and projector, new speakers, mixing desk and housing.

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

The church is set in Walton village, Warrington, Cheshire and formed part of, what was, the Walton Estate. The church is Grade II* listed entry number 1139352 and was built in 1885, by Paley and Austin at the expense of Sir Gilbert Greenall. The authors of *Buildings of England: Lancashire* describe it as a 'glorious estate church, exquisitely detailed and composed', and consider that the tower is one of Austin's best and the timber framing of the porch 'of course beautifully detailed, is a wonderful touch'¹. Pevsner also notes the 'splendid art deco fittings of 1934 by Troughton and Young, a spray shaped light above the west window and described as 'unexpectedly harmonious' and a flat circular light with star under the tower vault.

St John's was for many years the church where the Greenalls worshipped as well as their estate workers. However, the church also cared for those who worked on the Manchester Ship Canal living in Acton Grange as can be evidenced by the graves of many who worked there in 1880-1890. The church was built to serve the people Higher and Lower Walton. The parish of Walton was formed at the end of 1879 and the land for the church sold to the Ecclesiastical authorities in 1881, the church was consecrated in 1885.

The church is the principal building of the Walton Hall estate village (circa 1850 to 1912), built at the expense of the Greenall family, brewers and distillers, of Warrington

The lychgate is listed separately as Grade II list entry number 1136037. It is the entrance to the churchyard was built around 1885 probably by Paley and Austin, again at the expense of Sir Gilbert Greenall. It is built from red sandstone with a Westmorland green slate roof and half-timbered gables on brackets.

The Walton Hall estate was sold to Warrington Borough Council in 1941 and was developed by the council as a leisure facility. The church is now surrounded on three sides by the grounds of Walton Lea Crematorium.

Historic England website describes the church building as being built in Red snecked sandstone with graded Westmorland green slate roofs in a Cruciform shape with a three-bay aisleless nave. There is an oak-framed south porch on 6-foot sandstone plinth. The church has a massive 4-stage tower (chequer-work at third stage) with recessed octagonal spire of stone and octagonal north-west stair-turret; two transepts and a chancel of two bays with south vestry.

The windows have reticulated and panel tracery; the west window and those to north side of chancel and west side of transepts are square-headed. Inside the church there is a barrel roof to nave and chancel with boarded lining in panels, each carrying a stencilled pattern in the nave and the Ten Commandments in the chancel; arch-braced transept roofs; rib-vaulted crossing; sedilia in south side of chancel; reredos with carved crucifixion; marble font, oak pulpit on stone base; oak pews and altar-rail; tiled floors.

The Font is of Devonshire marble and placed at the traditional West End. The pulpit is elaborately carved and sited against the North East Crossing.

There are a number of stained glass windows the most notable being the one added after the consecration of the church in the South East Transept. This was given by Lady Daresbury in memory of her elder son Gilbert who died in a road traffic accident in 1928. The design was Lady Daresbury's own and the work carried out by William Morris. There is also a fanlight over the west window, and in the centre of the tower an immense circular plaque with a star all in amber glass

The side/Lady Chapel is a recent addition. Originally the site was used for the seating of the Patron and his family. The Chapel was designed by the Warrington architects William and Seager Owen.

1. Pollard, Richard; [Pevsner, Nikolaus](#) (2006), *Lancashire: Liverpool and the South-West, The Buildings of England, New Haven and London: Yale University Press*, p. 629, [ISBN 0-300-10910-5](#)

The church building is the sole place of worship for the parish of Walton, which has a population of approximately 1,329. Sunday services held 10 am every Sunday and also at 8.30 am on the first and third Sunday . The church is open from 9am – 12 noon on a Wednesday and during that time there is a midweek communion service at 10 am with refreshments served afterwards. The average congregation each Sunday is 35 adults and children. In 2021 there were 4 Baptisms, 3 weddings and 13 funerals held in church. The churchyard has a Remembrance Garden for cremated remains as well as a burial area and in 2021 there were 9 interment of ashes and 1 burial. There are also two Commonwealth War Grave Commission graves in the churchyard.

The church is also used by a community choir, St John's Ensemble who rehearse in church once a week and usually perform three concerts a year. They also sing at occasional additional services, Sung Evensong, Taize and Songs of Praise.

STATEMENT OF NEEDS (see examples and guidance on how to complete this on www.churchcare.co.uk)

This document must be accompanied by the Standard Information Form 1A

General Information

The parish of Walton is in the Great Budworth Deanery and has a population of 1329. There are currently 67 people on the electoral roll.

The church is used for worship on Sundays when there are two morning services on the first and third weeks in the month and one morning service on 2nd and 4th (one on the fifth Sunday) The average Sunday attendance has reduced since the lockdowns and at present is around 25. There is also a midweek communion service every Wednesday with an average attendance of 14. In 2021 there were 4 Baptisms, 3 weddings and 13 funerals held in church.

The churchyard has a Remembrance Garden for cremated remains as well as a burial area and in 2021 there were 9 interment of ashes and 1 burial. There are also two Commonwealth War Grave Commission graves in the churchyard.

The church is also used for concerts with one concert held in 2021, though we would usually expect to hold 3 concerts in 'normal' times. It seems that most of the church, including the pews have been there from the beginning.

Section 1: What do you need?

An audio-visual system in church to allow for live streaming, a screen for powerpoint and other projection and livestream users and the playing of backing tracks for sung worship

Section 2: Why do you need it and why do you need it now?

Since Mothering Sunday 2020 we have been able to live stream worship and when permitted this has been from the church itself. Inevitably numbers watching are hard to ascertain and have reduced as we are able

to meet together in church, however we have a small but regular congregation who watch each Sunday. Having a mostly, older congregation, it is reassuring for them still to be able to engage in worship, when illness or mobility issues arise.

During 2021, all 13 Funeral services requested that the service be livestreamed as well as one Memorial/Interment of Ashes. We also live streamed one wedding at the request of the family. People have watched these Life Event services from all over the world and as far away as New Zealand.

The current 'system' relies on a 4G router for Wi-Fi, though we now have permission for broadband to be installed in the building, and this will be done by Openreach when they have agreed the scheme for the area.

The 'system' also relies on a free standing screen at the front of church, which obstructs the view to the chancel and sanctuary and access to the a transept It further obstructs access to the altar during Eucharist services. . We also use a couple of computers with one using Facebook live. At present a nave altar (small table) is being used, which works well for the most part but the new system would offer the freedom to choose altar position. The camera quality of the computer being used to live stream is not great.

The current mixer desk is placed on some wood balanced across 2 pews.

Since March 2020 our organist, who was in his 80's did not attend, however he just started returning to church in June 2021 when sadly he died suddenly and unexpectedly. To ensure that we can continue with sung worship we use the tracks provided on the AChurchNearYou website produced by St Martin's in the Fields. Using this method, it has become increasingly apparent that a) the present sound system is ageing and needs updating b) that it does not fill the whole church, the area from the cruciform to the east end is a 'dead' area for the sound and the present speakers do not work well with music.

Section 3: The proposal(s)

To install

- a) A screen in the chancel which will 'hide' behind the stone arch when not in use and come down electronically when needed – its

position will mean that even when in use the east end will be both visible and accessible.

- b) A camera for live streaming – this will be placed on the window ledge of the west end and give considerably greater flexibility i.e. showing entrance of coffin/bride and a baptism.
- c) Replace existing 4 speakers with 6 in the positions shown in the attached document.
- d) The required mixer desk and other controls will be placed in the same position as the current mixer desk, however to ensure a more secure and visibly pleasing set up we wish to remove 2 pews and will replace with a suitable old oak desk.
- e) Whilst this work is taking place the church, we would like to take the opportunity of removing 4 more pews. Firstly, to balance the sides but also to better facilitate the present informal area at the back of church which is used for coffee after services – a facility that proved to be very important to church members during lockdown, and the limited returns to church, helping to reduce their feelings of isolation and loneliness. It also gives us a place where those attending in wheelchairs and with buggies and pushchairs, now easier with the new ramp, can sit without blocking the aisle, ensuring that they are properly accommodated, and not feeling as if they are just tolerated.

Section 4: Justification

The Public benefit would include the freedom for worshippers to attend services irrespective of physical ability, distance or work. It would enable the church to continue to offer to bereaved families, wedding and baptism families the opportunity for family and friends who live away to join with them for the service. It will enhance our worship with improved sound and greater visual interaction, as well as having an ongoing environmental impact in the reduction of paper use.

It will allow us to be more hospitable to those with physical disability without causing concern for others who need to move around the aisles.

Fundraising strategy

The PCC have agreed to put up to £15,000 of reserves towards this project. We are holding a Gift Day on 22nd May 2022 and asking parish, congregation and online members to support this project. We also have a good relationship with Viridor, who

provided substantial funding for the ramp, who have advised they will look favourable on an application for funding for this project and we will be approaching other funders as well. We will, hopefully, also recoup some money from the sale of the pews

Proposed position of AV equipment at St Johns

The camera is mounted on the central pillar between the windows at the rear of church, utilising holes drilled in the past and filled

The current 4 speakers will be removed and replaced with two Speaker systems Curv500ES

The amplifier/bass speakers will either fit under pews, or in a space at the base of the pillars





The projector will be mounted just below the lights, as will an effects microphone to pick up the organ etc for the live feed.



The screen will be mounted behind the stone arch



The speakers for the front of church will be mounted 1) under an overhang under the organ pipes, 2) on the pillar by the pulpit (both facing to the back), 3) one on the same pillar facing forward, and 4) one replacing the speaker in the organ loft, facing forward.

These speakers are BiAmp / Apart Mask 4's in black





6 pews to be removed, the present arrangement for the sound desk will be replaced by a suitable desk/cabinet housing the equipment neatly and securely

We would like mount one of our present speakers in the porch so that we can relay the audio of our services outside if needed.



Pews in St John the Evangelist, Walton



Details of proposed AV equipment

Streaming camera etc

Datavideo PTC140 pan/tilt/zoom camera

https://www.datavideo.com/product/ptc-140?gclid=CjwKCAjw6dmSBhBkEiwA_W-EoHw2gZb1YkwCNGotPVom2v8tetdhMZn8HfCS0O7dzJg-c9oXrZpvyBoCC40QAvD_BwE

Atem Mini Pro vision mixer and streaming solution

<https://www.blackmagicdesign.com/uk/products/atemmini>

21 inch monitor

Camera memory controller

Projection system

Epson EB-PU1006W + specialist wall mounting bracket

<https://epson.com/For-Work/Projectors/Large-Venue/EB-PU1006W-WUXGA-3LCD-Laser-Projector-with-4K-Enhancement/p/V11HA35920>

Smart-Move projection screen 2.4m wide

https://www.sapphireav.com/Sapphire-Smart-Move-24m-1610-Viewing-Area-2338mm-x-1461mm-Two-Motor-Electric-Projection-Screen-Approx-Case-Dimensions-L-2635mm-x-H-173mm-x-D-133mm_p_565.html

Sound system

Allen and Heath QU16 digital mixing desk

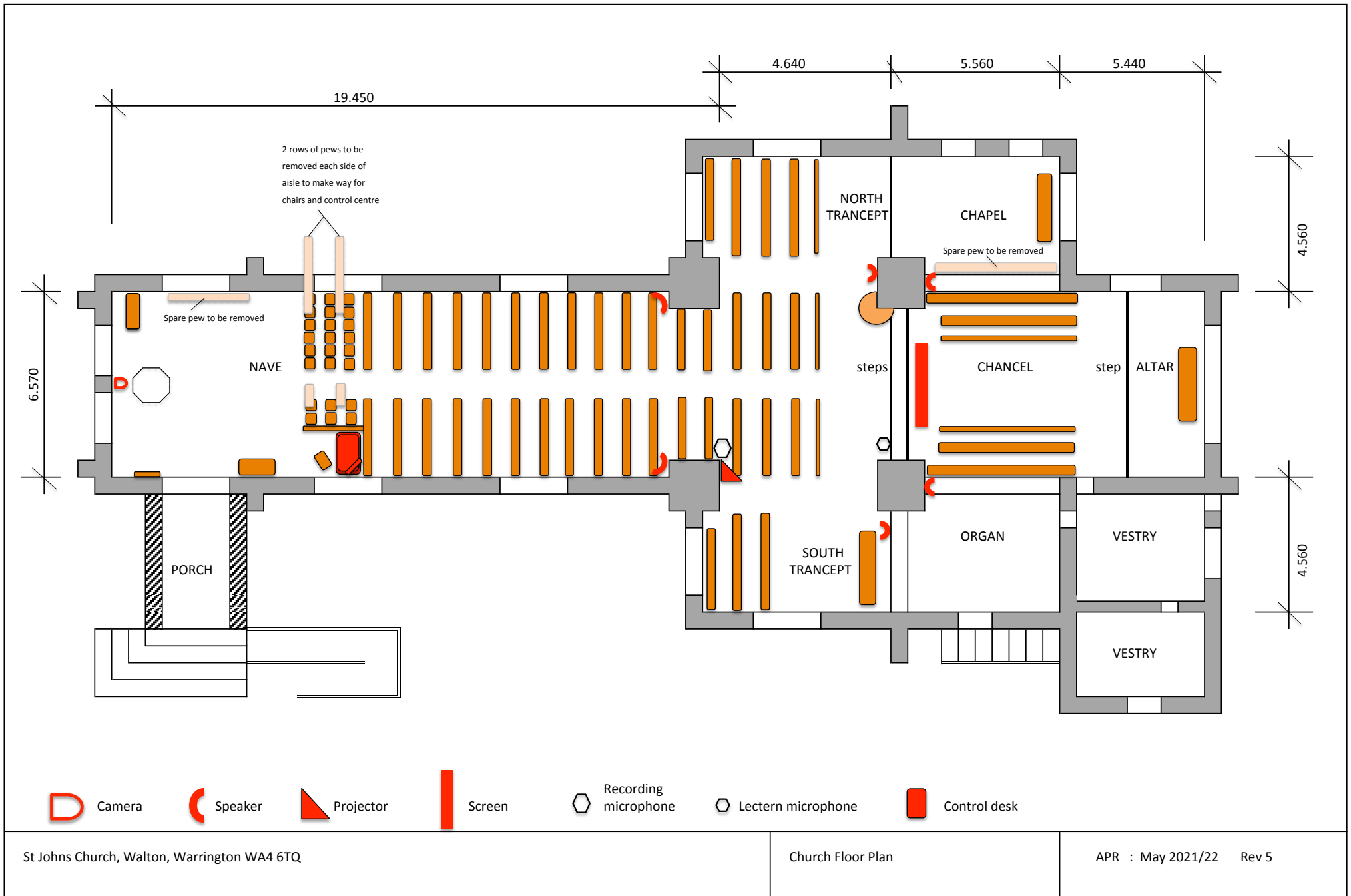
<https://www.allen-heath.com/qu-series/qu-16/>

2 Primary front speakers Curv500ES (alternatives are being researched to simplify the system)

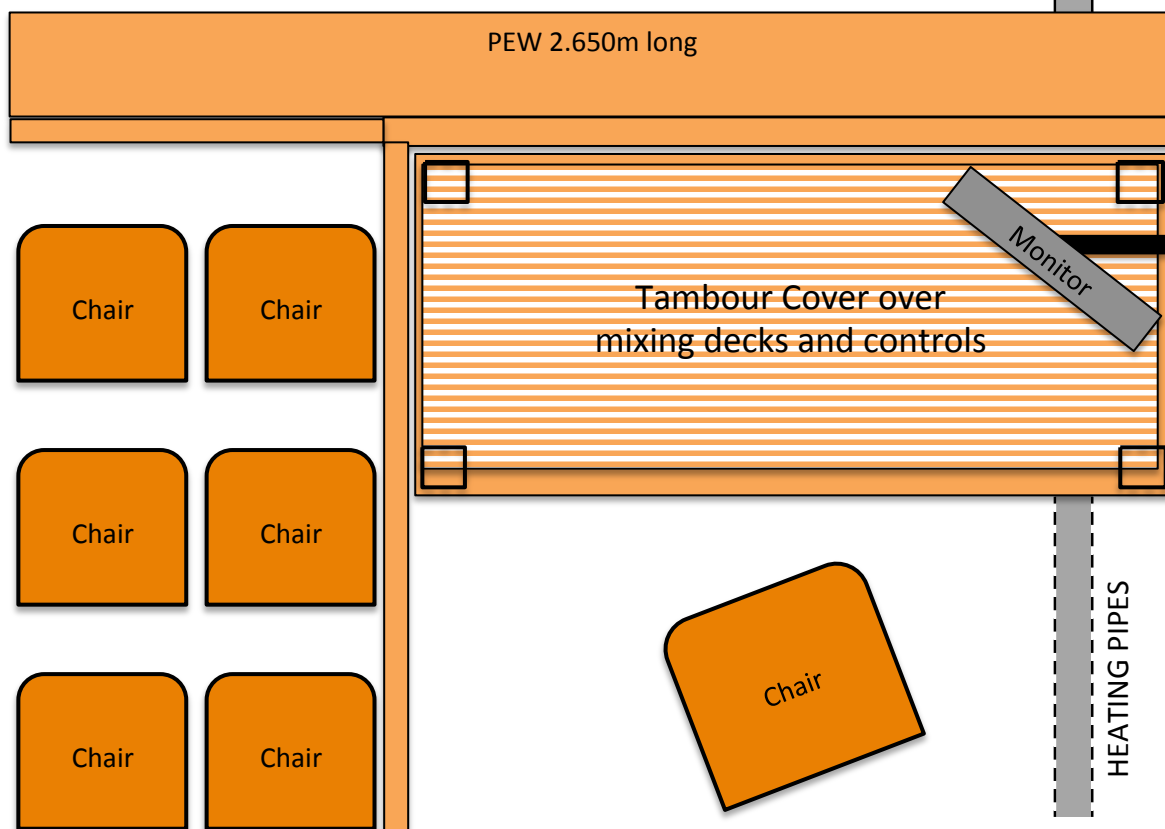
<https://www.ld-systems.com/en/series/curv-500-series/3860/curv-500-es>

4 front fill speakers - BiAmp / Apart Mask 4's in black

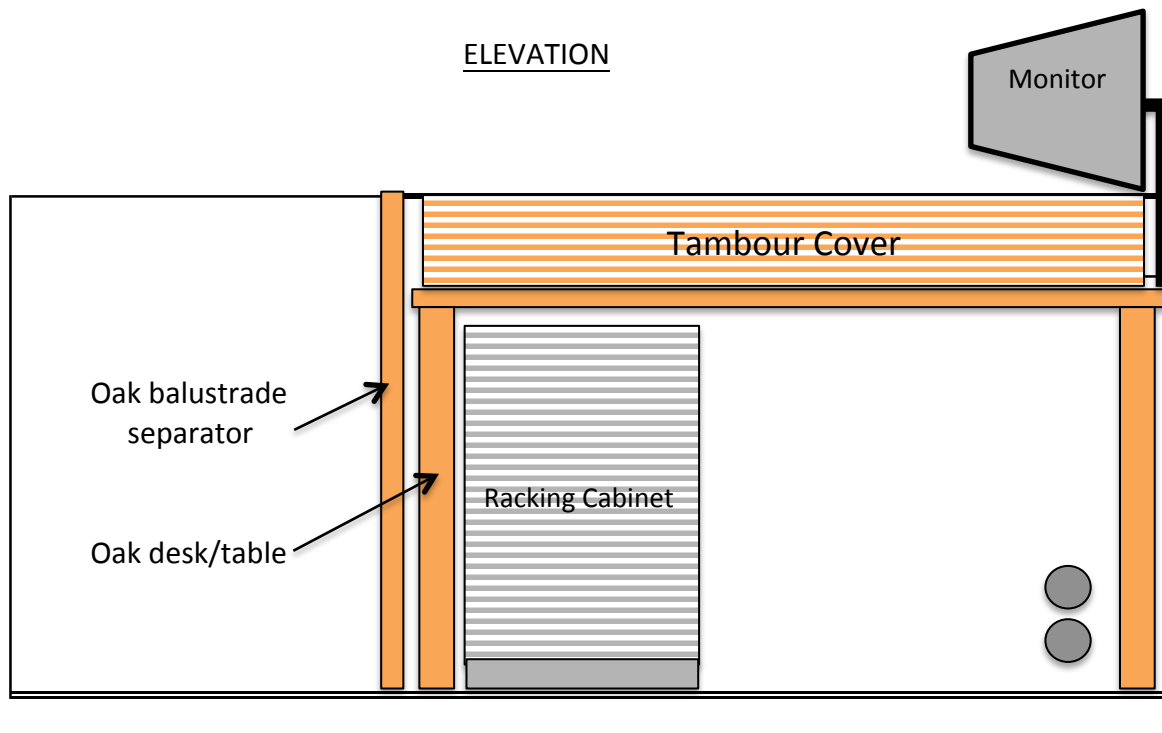
<https://www.ld-systems.com/en/series/curv-500-series/3860/curv-500-es>



PLAN



ELEVATION



St Johns Church, Walton, Warrington WA4 6TQ
AV Control Centre

APR : May 2021/22 Rev 5

Quotation prepared for: Rev. Anita Raggett
 Project Reference: Audio and Visual systems upgrades
 Quotation Number: Q12072
 Quotation Date: Tuesday, 4 January 2022
 Prepared by: Andy Noble

Products Required	Investment £
<p>Streaming camera system <i>comprising:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1x Datavideo PTC140 pan/tilt/zoom camera with camera view memories 1x Atem Mini Pro vision mixer and streaming solution 1x 21 inch monitor to preview camera and streamed video 1x Camera memory controller allowing up to 10 memories to be recalled Cables Installation, commissioning and training 	£4,171.25
<p>Projection System <i>comprising:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1x Epson Professional series Projector (6000 lumens, full High definition and lens) 1x Specialist projector wall mounting bracket 1x Smart-Move projection screen 2.4m wide 1x Front HDMI laptop input (image will be sent to both the projector and the streaming system) 1x Rear HDMI laptop input (image will be sent to both the projector and the streaming system) All system cables Installation, scaffold tower hire, commissioning and training 	£9,935.20
<p>Sound system <i>comprising:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1x Allen and Heath QU16 digital mixing desk 2x Primary front speakers LD Systems Curv500ES 2x Front fill speakers (to fill the area immediately in front of the pulpit) including amplifier 2x Chancel speakers to the organ/choir area including amplifier 1x Lapel radio microphone 1x Hand held or Lapel radio microphone with a microphone stand included for the hand held 1x Preachers microphone and stand 	£7,045.00

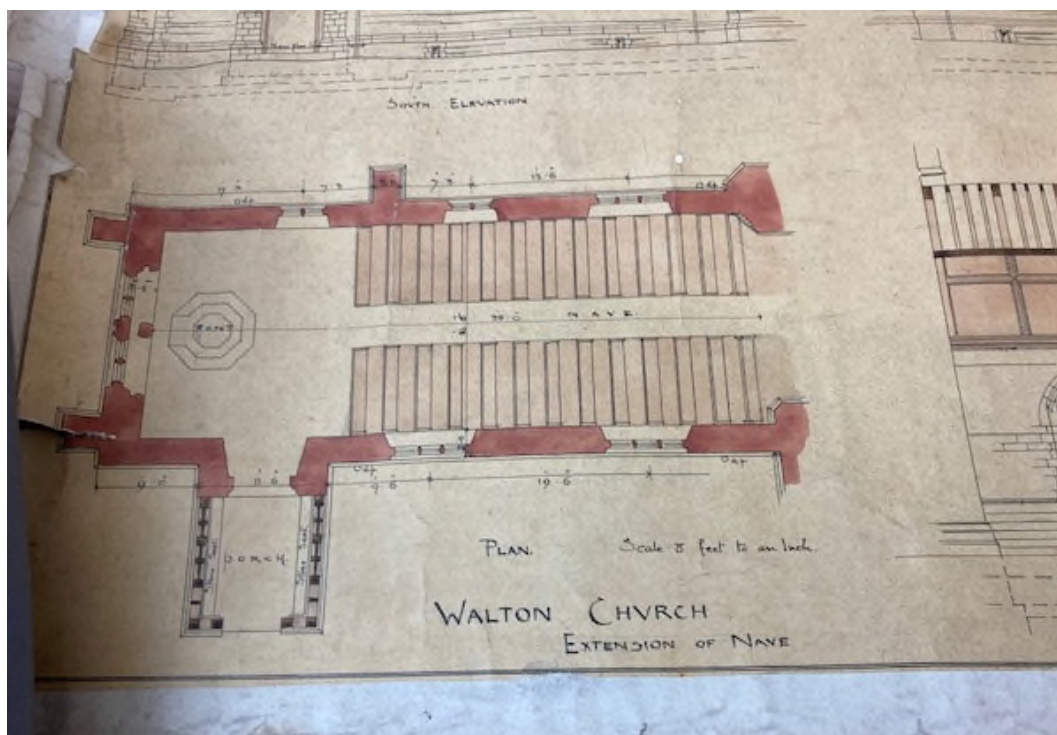
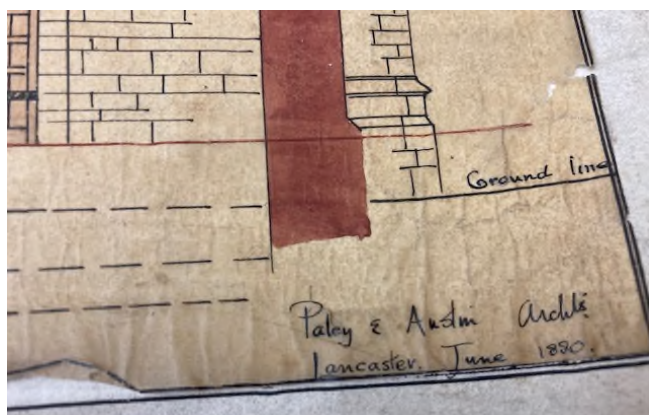
3x Ambience mics for streaming - 1 for the organ and 2 for the congregation		
All audio system cables		
Installation, commissioning and training		
Your quotation is valid for 14 days and subject to our terms and conditions	Sub Total	£21,151.45
	VAT (@20%)	£4,230.29
	Quotation Total	£25,381.74

Pews in St John the Evangelist, Walton

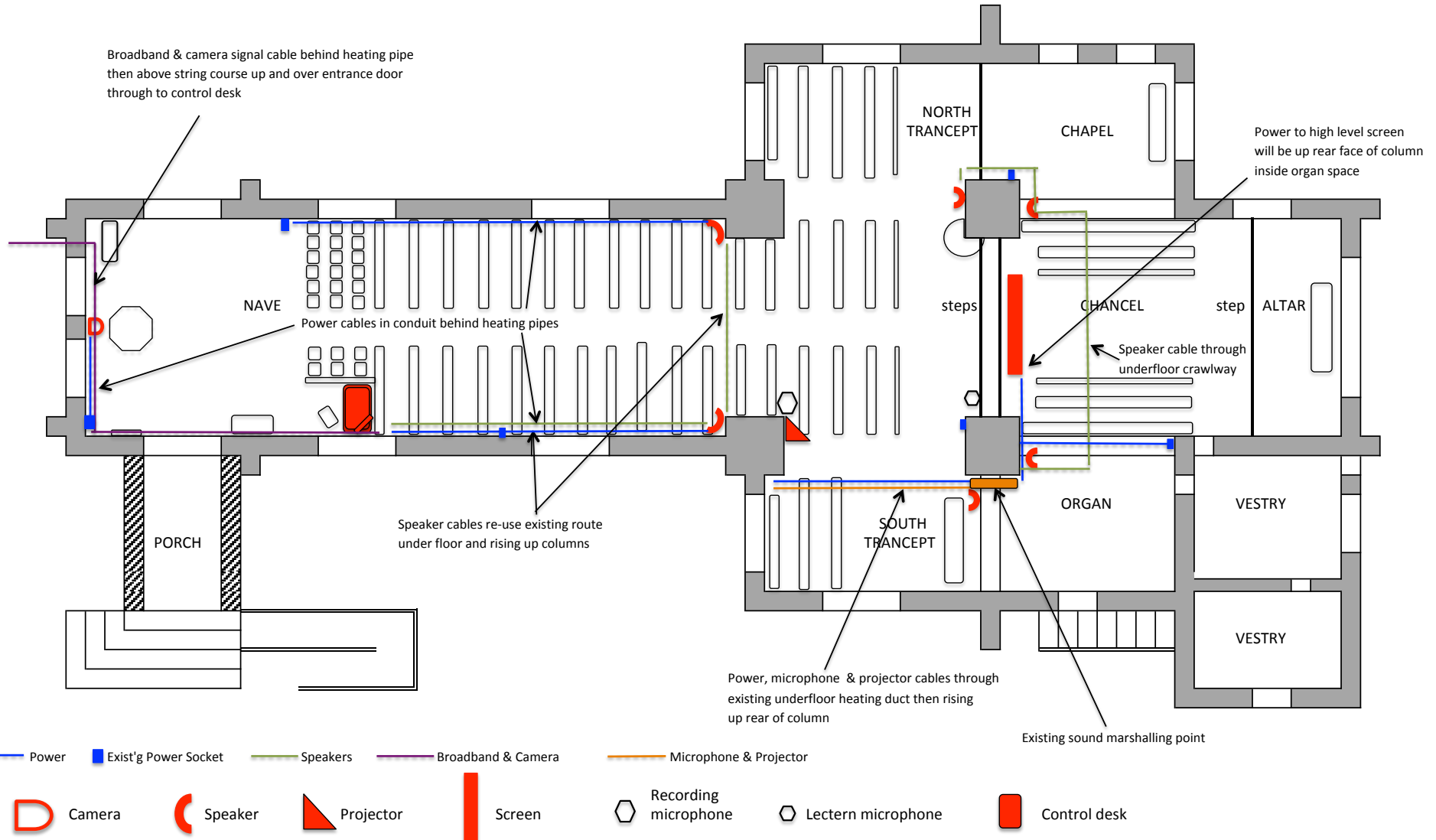
The pews are oak and every indication seems to be that they are original, indeed our Architect confirms that, in his opinion, they are primary. He also says that are architect selected if not designed. In a history document about the church it states 'Nearly all that we see in the Church today has been there from the beginning'. The pews have been designed to fit around the heating pipes which round around the inside walls of the church.

Having had sight of the early plans for the church held at Chester Archives it seems that the pews in the nave were always envisaged. There are no faculty documents held at Chester Archives for any changes in pews. However, I have not been able to find any document that gives any more information about the pews.

Where possible we will reuse the pews in the making of the desk and area at the back of church. Any pews not reused will be sold to help towards funding of the project.



- Notes
- 1 Power cables will be contained in black conduit pipe & fittings.
 - 2 Speaker and signal cables will be secreted along the best possible route and secured with gun applied hot adhesive.
 - 3 Refined detailing of all routes will be resolved on site with the supervising architect.



St John's Church, Walton, Warrington WA4 6TQ

Church Floor Plan - Cable Routing

APR : May 2021/22 Rev 1

Walton St John - 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>13/03/2022</p> <p>To: Katy Purvis From: Anita Raggett</p> <p>With attachment</p>	<p>Please ignore my previous email regarding trees - we will go for our previous consultant who is approved by the Arboricultural Association, it seemed sensible in the end! Sorry to have bothered you with it!</p> <p>However I would like some help on the audio visual equipment we are hoping to install in church. We got three initial quotes and after looking at another church (St John's Alsager) we felt that one firm (Piranha) offered us what we needed/were looking for.</p> <p>We need a screen - which is suggested to be one that moves up and down electronically and can 'hide' behind a stone arch - Graham Holland has seen the position and is happy. A Camera, which will sit on the back windowsill.</p> <p>Also new speakers - our present ones do not cope with music nor fill the whole church. Since the sudden death of our organist last year we are reliant on backing tracks etc for sung music in church, and so need a better system - the positions are being agreed and we will submit a plan with the faculty.</p> <p>There is already a mixing desk in church - placed on a piece of wood across two pews. We would like to remove those 2 pews and have a proper cabinet made for the mixing desk and other bits and pieces that will be required. This would be lockable and make the equipment secure, even when the church is open.</p> <p>There is a suggestion that we also ask to remove 4 more pews on the other aisle - this will a) balance up the sides and b) formalise the situation with regard to a small flexible area at the back of church were we have coffee after church. At the moment this area is made by putting 1 pews along one wall and pushing 3 pews together. We will submit plans showing the pews to be removed.</p> <p>My questions are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Do you think the DAC will look favourably on the removal of pews? 2) We will need chairs to allow for the coffee area and extra seating during busy services/concerts - the chairs we have at present are really old, many with rush seating, and far too small for most people nowadays. Can we decide on the type of chair later and get relevant permissions then please?

	<p>3) the cabinet for the sound desk etc, has not been agreed by PCC yet, can we still apply for a faculty for the rest of the work and then get the necessary approvals for the cabinet later please?</p> <p>I hope that all makes sense - the task seems to be growing and growing at present and I'm not used to such a project so finding it hard to sort out, sorry.</p> <p>Any thoughts, ideas etc would be most appreciated.</p>
<p>16/03/2022</p> <p>To: Anita Raggett From: Katy Purvis</p>	<p>As discussed just now, I think this should be fine, we have seen Piranha AV schemes before, they seem to know what they are doing, and Graham will be fine to sort out fixings and cable runs. I don't imagine there will be a problem with replacing two pews with a new cabinet/Av desk, the other pews may need a bit more justification, but improving accessibility and circulation space are definitely good. Try to find out as much as you can about the provenance of the pews and send some photos so that the DAC can clearly see whether they are particularly significant or not.</p> <p>I think it would be best to do a second application for new chairs, and I'm attaching the guidance, as we discussed stackable is the best option, and unupholstered will not need consultation. Upholstered chairs would mean we would have to ask the Victorian Society for their comments, and they may well object. We might have to ask them about the pew removals too, so it will be important to have robust justification for the removals too.</p> <p>You only need the PCC minute at the point of the Notification of Advice, so don't worry about that yet, we need to get the proposals to DAC first, and then if we deal with any queries, the PCC can approve the finalised proposals</p>
<p>10/04/2022</p> <p>To: Katy Purvis From: Anita Raggett</p>	<p>Thanks for all this information. I have PCC approval to a) install the AV stuff and b) remove the pews. I've attached the Statement of Needs and some other information I wondered if you'd be able to let me know if you think anything else will be needed. (in second email as too big for first!)</p> <p>Do you think it is worth getting an informal opinion from DAC or shall I just complete the faculty straight away?</p> <p>4) Proposed position of AV Equipment: location photos and description</p>
<p>13/04/2022</p> <p>To: Anita Raggett From: Katy Purvis</p>	<p>This statement of needs is good, well done. You will need to include information about the pews in the statement of significance, they are quite nice, I'd forgotten that they were pretty. The church was designed by Paley and Austin, the pews may be original, so if you can dig through the church records that would be helpful. You will need to mark up a plan showing which pews are being removed, and the locations of the AV equipment. The photos help, but a plan will definitely be asked for.</p>

	<p>Have you got any technical information from Piranha? You will need all the equipment specs, and some input from Graham about cable runs and fixings. I think you could just get on with the faculty application if you have all that already, otherwise I will put in on the agenda for informal advice in the meantime.</p> <p>I've shrunk your AV positions and pews document so it's a bit easier to share, and I've attached a copy so you can upload it to the faculty application</p>
<p>13/04/2022</p> <p>To: Katy Purvis From: Anita Raggett</p> <p>With attachment</p>	<p>Thank you so much for getting back to me so promptly, and with some very helpful comments.</p> <p>I've attached the technical information from Piranha, as you will see they are still researching one issue with speaker(s) at the front of church. There are links to the Specifications (we are just double checking that we've got the right projector but will let you know if it needs amending)</p> <p>So far the only information I've found in regard to pews is a sentence in the 'history' leaflet which says 'Nearly all that we see in the Church today has been there from the beginning.' and that 'A further clerical stall was presented by Mrs. Dorothy Sowerby' circa 1977. I will go to the archives to see if I can find out any further information, however most information on the church seems to focus on the windows and the oak reredos. The congregation tell me that the pews are uncomfortable ?!</p> <p>Although Graham is well aware of the project he hasn't met with us or Piranha to discuss fine detail but I can arrange that, and the plans are in hand and I hope to have them soon.</p> <p>When is the next DAC please? Depending on time it may be best to ask for informal advice please if that is ok?</p> <p>Thank you for shrinking the AV document - you must let me know how you did that?</p> <p>5) Details of proposed AV equipment</p>
<p>13/04/2022</p> <p>To: Anita Raggett From: Katy Purvis</p>	<p>I will wait for the location plan, and then I should be able to send all this for review by an architect and the AV advisor.</p> <p>The next DAC is a standing committee on 29th April, standing committee can't recommend proposals for Grade 1 or 2* churches, but they can comment, so this is fine to go for informal advice then, and hopefully you will be in a position to put in a formal application in May. The next full meeting is 27th May, with a submission deadline of 13 May 2022</p>

	<p>I would usually reduce the filesize of a pdf using the optimise or reduce filesize options in the pdf software I use, which is Kodak power pdf (the diocese won't pay for adobe). However the images sometimes degrade, so in this case, I just reprinted the original document as a second pdf again, which worked better.</p>
<p>21/04/2022</p> <p>To: Katy Purvis From: Anita Raggett</p> <p>With attachments</p>	<p>I've attached a location plan, which shows the pews to be removed in light pink. As you can see a couple of the pews are those which have been moved for some considerable time - one to the side chapel (out of the way and never used) and one on the north wall at the back of church. These pews were in that position when arrived as far as I can recall.</p> <p>I've also attached an amended plan of the AV desk (Piranha felt the previous one was not large enough for the equipment required).</p> <p>Hope that is helpful to the architect and AV advisor.</p> <p>6) Church floor plan Rev 5 7) AV desk plan Rev 5</p>
<p>04/05/2022</p> <p>To: Katy Purvis From: Anita Raggett</p>	<p>I'm doing the faculty application now - and wondered if you are able to see it before I submit it? If you can, it would be really helpful if you could let me know if there is anything else required please? I'm confined to home with Covid at the moment - don't feel too bad but brain isn't quite functioning on all cylinders!!</p>
<p>04/05/2022</p> <p>To: Anita Raggett From: Katy Purvis</p>	<p>This looks good, you will need to submit it so that I can open up the next set of forms for you, the petition and statement of significance. Once you're happy after those extra forms are complete, then you can submit it as a formal application.</p> <p>You will probably need a bit more detail about the provenance of the pews, but we can still ask the DAC for advice in the meantime</p> <p>I've attached an old statement of significance that might be useful</p>
<p>04/05/2022</p> <p>To: Katy Purvis From: Anita Raggett</p>	<p>Do you think the attached will be ok for the pews - I really have looked in the archives and can't find a thing about them. An online search hasn't helped either and obviously Pensver has nothing to say about them. I am at a bit of a loss as to know what else I can do?</p>
<p>06/05/2022</p> <p>To: Anita Raggett From: Katy Purvis</p>	<p>Hope you're feeling a bit better, was there supposed to be something attached to this email, or did you mean the documents that you've already uploaded? I am not sure what else you can do either, but it might be worth talking to Graham and asking if he knows anything about the pews, and also to find out if he is supportive about their removal?</p>
<p>06/05/2022</p> <p>To: Katy Purvis From: Anita Raggett</p> <p>With attachments</p>	<p>I've attached what I meant to send in the first place. I will check with my churchwarden who has talked to Graham to ascertain exactly what was mentioned regarding the pews.</p> <p>9) Information about the pews in St Johns document</p>

<p>06/05/2022</p> <p>To: Anita Raggett From: Katy Purvis</p>	<p>Do you know what you're going to do with the pews once they've been removed?</p>
<p>06/05/2022</p> <p>To: Katy Purvis From: Anita Raggett</p>	<p>To be honest we hadn't really got that far - my churchwarden did comment this morning that he'd seen a couple of pews on eBay! Would we be able to sell them do you think?</p>
<p>06/05/2022</p> <p>To: Anita Raggett From: Katy Purvis</p>	<p>I expect so, I don't think there is much opposition to selling pews (assuming the removal is recommended), it is more that they will want to know that there is a plan of some sort, ie storing, giving them away or reusing the fabric (to make the AV desk for instance) rather than just destroying them</p>
<p>19/05/2022</p> <p>To: Anita Raggett From: Katy Purvis</p>	<p>I'm just sorting out the meeting pack for DAC next week, and have realised that we don't have the cable run info for the AV proposals. Please could you contact Piranha and Graham and ask for details?</p>
<p>20/05/2022</p> <p>To: Katy Purvis From: Anita Raggett</p>	<p>Hope that is ok?</p> <p>10) Cable routing plan Rev 1 received 20 May 2022</p>
<p>06/06/2022</p> <p>To: Anita Raggett 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 removal of the pews and resolved to recommend the scheme, subject to 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 <p>It also offered the following informal advice:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> c. The parish to ensure that the projector screen and housing are completely hidden behind the chancel arch when it is retracted <p>The DAC did not discuss whether or not the pew removal should be referred to the amenity societies. I will look into this and let you know if we need to do this before proceeding to the notification of advice and public notice period</p>
<p>06/06/2022</p> <p>To: Katy Purvis From: Anita Raggett</p>	<p>That's great, many thanks for letting me know. I shall look forward to hearing from you about the pew removal, as obviously the plans for the sound desk are dependant on the removal of some pews.</p> <p>With regard to the Holly tree, I've talked to my churchwarden who met with the tree firm before the quote was sent. He will go back to them to ask their opinion of the state of the Holly tree, and I'll let you know</p>

	<p>more when I've heard from them. He did remind me that we had been informed that the Holly tree is preventing the Oak tree from growing straight, and that the firm considered the Oak tree to be the better specimen.</p> <p>I will be in touch as soon as possible</p>
<p>24/06/2022 DAC meeting - minute number 16</p>	<p>Further to Minute 13, 27/05/2022, the Committee noted the referral of the pew removal to the consultees, and the response of Historic England</p> <p>The Committee <u>RESOLVED</u>, subject to the satisfactory responses from the remaining consultees, to re-recommend the scheme [for the purpose of the Measure, the works are unlikely to result in a material effect], with the following provisos:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. The fixings and cable run arrangement to be agreed with the Church Architect as is the usual requirement <p>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</p>
<p>05/09/2022</p> <p>To: Anita Raggett From: Katy Purvis</p>	<p>I am writing to let you that at its meeting of 26 August 2022 the DAC standing committee re-considered the proposals for AV and removal of some pews, and resolved to advise that the DAC office could go ahead with processing the Notification of Advice for this scheme which had previously been recommended subject to consultation responses being received</p> <p>This means that Caroline can now raise the notification of advice, so you will be able to post the public notice.</p> <p>If you have any queries please do let me know</p>

Walton St John – AV and pew removal - Consultation

Date	Message
<p>07/06/2022</p> <p>To: Historic England, The Victorian Society From: Katy Purvis</p>	<p>The following consultees have been invited to view the following Application on the Online Faculty System by Katy Purvis:</p> <p>Reference 2022-072527 concerning Walton: St John the Evangelist (Church Code 609081).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • e-nwest@HistoricEngland.org.uk • casework@jcnas.org.uk <p>Walton St John (Grade 2* / 1885) - AV with some removal of pews</p> <p>You are invited to view the following Application on the Online Faculty System in line with part 4.5 of the Faculty Jurisdiction (Amendment) Rules 2019. Please would you confirm that this invitation has been received and whether or not you would like to comment? A response to this consultation will be taken into account if it is received by 19 July 2022 (42 days from this invitation).</p> <p>The parish submitted a formal application for the introduction of projector and chancel arch retractable screen, replacement speakers, new AV desk, video and audio mixer and camera. They would also like to remove two pews from the rear of each aisle, one spare pew from the north wall, and one spare pew from the chapel. The pews are thought to be original and either architect (Paley and Austin) selected or designed. The parish explain that the pew removal as follows, to improve the AV control area, social space and for better inclusivity and accessibility</p> <p>“d) The required mixer desk and other controls will be placed in the same position as the current mixer desk, however to ensure a more secure and visibly pleasing set up we wish to remove 2 pews and will replace with a suitable old oak desk.</p> <p>e) Whilst this work is taking place the church, we would like to take the opportunity of removing 4 more pews. Firstly, to balance the sides but also to better facilitate the present informal area at the back of church which is used for coffee after services – a facility that proved to be very important to church members during lockdown, and the limited returns to church, helping to reduce their feelings of isolation and loneliness. It also gives us a place where those attending in wheelchairs and with buggies and pushchairs, now easier with the new ramp, can sit without blocking the aisle, ensuring that they are properly accommodated, and not feeling as if they are just tolerated.”</p> <p>The DAC considered this scheme at their meeting of 27th May 2022, and resolved to recommend the proposals. We apologise for that decision being arrived at prior to consultation, but the Committee were content</p>

	<p>with the need for the limited removal of pews as part of the AV scheme. We have let the parish know that we are seeking your views and the DAC will need to revisit their decision and take your comments into account when known.</p> <p>We would be grateful for your comments on pew removal aspect of the scheme as described in the uploaded documents.</p>
<p>10/06/2022</p> <p>To: Katy Purvis From: Historic England</p>	<p>Notification under the Ecclesiastical Exemption (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) (England) Orders 2010</p> <p>LOCATION: ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST WALTON, CHESTER, WA4 6SW</p> <p>PROPOSED WORK: Proposed work: Installation of Audio Visual Equipment</p> <p>We were notified on 7 June 2022 of the proposed works at the above site.</p> <p>Our specialist staff have considered the information received and we do not wish to offer any comments on the proposals. Any unamended application for faculty for this work can be determined without further reference to Historic England, but please consult us again if there are any material changes to the proposals. We would be grateful for a copy of the Diocesan Advisory Committee's advice in due course.</p>
<p>11/07/2022</p> <p>To: Katy Purvis From: The Victorian Society</p>	<p>RE: Walton, St John the Evangelist (Grade II*, Paley & Austin, 1885); removal of benches and installation of AV works</p> <p>Our ref: 176966</p> <p>Thank you for consulting the Victorian Society on this proposal. We are grateful for the opportunity to comment. Having considered the scheme and its supporting documents we wish to offer some brief observations and advice.</p> <p>In principle what the parish aims to achieve here is perfectly reasonable and justifiable. We do wonder, however, whether there are ways of minimising the level of harm that would be caused by the envisaged ejection of the historic benches. These are especially important furnishings, both intrinsically and as an ensemble in the context of this fine building and its significance as a whole. We note the present arrangement, which, while not perfect, does at least permit the preservation of the benches that support the mixing desk. Technology is developing all the time and, in the context of the life of this building, the system proposed will likely become redundant in a relatively short space of time. It would be regrettable, in our view, to undertake works that are essentially temporary in nature, but that would cause permanent harm to significance, which is effectively what is proposed.</p> <p>We wonder whether a mixing desk could be installed in a way that does not require the removal of highly significant historic fabric and</p>

	<p>furnishings. Or, at least, is there a way of integrating such a system whilst reducing the number of benches that would be removed?</p> <p>We note that a single bench is proposed to be removed from the north chapel. We would welcome photos of the bench (and its ends). Is it in its original position, as far as we know?</p> <p>Finally, we would welcome details of any proposed new furnishings that might be used in the clearer area at the west end. Are new chairs proposed, for instance?</p> <p>We trust that this advice is of assistance.</p>
<p>14/07/2022</p> <p>To: Katy Purvis From: Anita Raggett</p>	<p>Many thanks for your email. As requested I attach a .pdf file with photos of the pew that is in the chapel.</p> <p>That pew is not in its original position and was probably moved about 20 years ago when the previous incumbent created a children's area in the 'other' transept. It is effectively 'hidden' from most people's sight as it is between an arch and therefore hidden by a pillar</p> <p>I note Mr Hughes comments on the positioning of the mixing desk and other controls. The present arrangement is both unsightly and insecure. The new equipment is going to cost a considerable amount, and if the we want to keep the church open more, for others to enjoy the space we need to ensure that the equipment is safely locked away. Also, there simply isn't the space to put the required desk in church without creating some more space.</p> <p>It isn't just about this though, along with this comes space for wheelchairs - now we have a ramp, it's a logical and necessary next step to ensure we can host guests who require a wheelchair without squeezing them into a corner, or having them in the aisle which can create a hazard. This space will also be useful for baby/toddler buggies. I do wonder whether now such technology need to be seen as essential aspects of a church equipped for modern day worship and show how things have moved on since the days when a church was filled with unmoveable pews. We have tried to move with the times - hence the 2 pews that have been put to one side to create a small space for coffee. This is particularly important given that we have an ageing congregation, often with mobility problems. Moving to the church hall (some distance from the church) after a service for coffee is simply not an option for many of our congregation, yet a social time after the service is an essential part of our community life together. The space we have at present is severely limited, so the removal of 2 further pews will give us a much more comfortable and usable space. Because of all this we are proposing to move 6 pews:</p> <p>1 that have already been moved to create the limited space we have at the back of church (again probably about 20 years ago)</p> <p>1 that had been moved to create the children's area in the other transept</p>

	<p>2 to make space for the sound desk and a space for more seating/wheelchairs/buggies</p> <p>2 to make the social/coffee area less cramped and more comfortable and possibly therefore, usable for other activities</p> <p>Obviously the vast majority of the pews will remain in place. The pew frontal (if that's what it is called) presently in the side chapel will be adapted and reused as a partition between the sound desk and the wheelchair area. This will give this item a significantly more prominent position.</p> <p>13) Photographs of pew in side chapel</p>
<p>20/07/2022</p> <p>To: The Victorian Society From: Katy Purvis</p>	<p>The parish have responded to your request for photos of the chapel pew and provided some further details in the email below.</p> <p><i>Email and photos in email of 14/07/2022 above</i></p>
<p>10/08/2022</p> <p>To: The Victorian Society From: Katy Purvis</p>	<p>I am just writing to ask if you had any further comments on this case</p>
<p>17/08/2022</p> <p>To: Katy Purvis From: The Victorian Society</p>	<p>My apologies for taking so long to get back to you</p> <p>I am very grateful for the additional photos of the bench in the chapel. It is stated that it is not in its original location. It would be really helpful to know where it was originally located. Do you know? Presumably the parish might have an idea. It is a very fine piece, and I don't think it should be dispensed with without having fully considered what its interest is.</p> <p>Thanks very much indeed</p>
<p>18/08/2022</p> <p>To: Katy Purvis From: Anita Raggett</p>	<p>Thanks for your email with the Vic Soc response. As I mentioned in my email 14 July it was moved to make a children's area in the transept which looks onto the organ pipes - so it's position was in that transept about 20 years ago.</p> <p>As the Vic Soc know we want to use the rail which is now in the chapel area in our re-ordering. If they are content with that and the other 5 pews being disposed or possibly reused in the cabinet then personally I'd be happy to leave that pew in its current position.</p> <p>I've copied my churchwardens into this email for their information.</p> <p>I hope that sounds ok?</p>

18/08/2022 To: The Victorian Society From: Katy Purvis	I have had a response from the parish regarding the chapel bench as below
25/08/2022 To: The Victorian Society From: Katy Purvis	Please could I ask if you have considered the parishes response?

Photographs of pew in side chapel



Pews – there are currently 13 pews which will be reduced by a total of 6. Chairs will be placed behind the pews on both sides at the back of the church. Consider the option of creating a family area at the back of church if we use less rows of chairs. The front of church will remain the same as it is now. PCC have already agreed that we apply for a faculty in respect of the sound system. PCC agreed to the application to apply for a faculty to remove 6 pews.

8 in attendance – 7 apologies March 2022

As this proposal needs PCC approval
“DR proposed that the church engages with Piranha to take forward this project, apply for a Faculty and seeks funding for the work”
Seconded by Linda Adams
Approved unanimously

11 in attendance and 3 apologies January 2022