
SUPPORTING STATEMENT

APPLICATION FOR INSTALLATION OF EXTERNALLY MOUNTED
AIR CONDITIONING & HEAT PUMP EQUIPMENT

TO NORTHWEST ELEVATION OF CHURCH

at

STOKE GOLDING METHODIST CHURCH

492-290825A

1 INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

- 1.01 This document provides supporting information in respect of the planning application for the installation of air conditioning and heat pump equipment, located upon the northwest face of the external wall.
- 1.02 It also includes a short section of new fencing, for security of the equipment, for which planning permission is not required as it falls under the General Permitted Development Order.
- 1.03 As is not uncommon in Church and community buildings, infrequent and short term heating of larger buildings is problematical. Combined with poor levels of thermal efficiency, typical of older buildings, the cost of traditional methods of heating using gas boilers are prohibitive.
- 1.04 The Church has commissioned a consultant to provide alternative methods of heating the property and has decided that the most efficient option is to install an heat pump air conditioning.
- 1.05 The installation will require two externally mounted air conditioning units.
- 1.06 Whilst the GPDO allows the installation of equipment on domestic properties, it does not allow the installation on non-domestic properties.
- 1.07 Consequently, this application is for the installation of two externally mounted units, upon the northwest elevation.
- 1.08 The Church fronts Main Street, Stoke Golding and was constructed at the turn of the Century, opening in 1905.
- 1.09 It is a predominantly brick building, with stone detailing and an ornate front elevation and main Church entrance facing the road. The stone window detailing continues to the side elevations.
- 1.10 The northwest elevation is approximately 1.5m from the boundary and, whilst currently the space is not enclosed, it does not provide meaningful access to any other parts of the property.
- 1.11 Access to the community facilities are along the footpath to the southeast elevation. This elevation contains additional stone detailing not found upon the northwest elevation.
- 1.12 Consequently, it is the proposed location of the equipment upon the northwest elevation.

2 GENERAL PERMITTED DEVELOPMENT ORDER

- 2.01 The proposed section of timber fencing to the boundary facing the road is Permitted Development, in accordance with Schedule 2, Part 2, Class A;

A. The erection, construction, maintenance, improvement or alteration of a gate, fence, wall or other means of enclosure.

- 2.02 Development is not permitted by the order where;

(a) the height of any gate, fence, wall or means of enclosure erected or constructed adjacent to a highway used by vehicular traffic would, after the carrying out of the development, exceed—

- (i) for a school, 2 metres above ground level, provided that any part of the gate, fence, wall or means of enclosure which is more than 1 metre above ground level does not create an obstruction to the view of persons using the highway as to be likely to cause danger to such persons;*
- (ii) in any other case, 1 metre above ground level;*

The fence is located upon land owned by the Church. The position is set back from the boundary of the Church and the highway/footway by a distance of 3.5m. The position of the fence is therefore not adjacent to the highway.

(b) the height of any other gate, fence, wall or means of enclosure erected or constructed would exceed 2 metres above ground level;

The fence is a maximum of 2m in height

(c) the height of any gate, fence, wall or other means of enclosure maintained, improved or altered would, as a result of the development, exceed its former height or the height referred to in paragraph (a) or (b) as the height appropriate to it if erected or constructed, whichever is the greater; or

Not applicable - it is not an existing maintained, improved or altered fence

(d) it would involve development within the curtilage of, or to a gate, fence, wall or other means of enclosure surrounding, a listed building.

The fence is not within the curtilage of a listed building.

3 PROPOSED INSTALLATION

- 3.01 The external mounted air conditioning units will provide heating to the main body of the Church via internally wall mounted units.
- 3.02 The installation requires two SRC71R-S outdoor units, as shown upon the accompanying Mitsubishi data sheet.
- 3.03 They will be wall mounted and require space above and below the units for them to function efficiently.
- 3.04 When functioning they will produce a level of noise as shown upon the technical data sheet.
- 3.05 With the inclusion of the fencing, there will be no opportunity for the units to be seen from the public highway.
- 3.06 The adjacent boundary is shared with a dwelling, comprising of a brick wall, fencing (approx. 2m high) and mature hedging.
- 3.07 Whilst noise will occur whilst the units are operating, levels below 70dB are the same level as a conversation between two people.
(hearinghealthfoundation.org)
- 3.08 Given that the units will only be operating at times when the Church is in use, their use will be infrequent and will not operate overnight.
- 3.09 Through a combination of intermittent use, boundary fencing/hedging and their low noise level (no greater than conversation levels) the effect upon the neighbouring dwelling is negligible.
- 3.10 Visually, they will be unseen. Screened from the public highway by a new fence and located in a position where access is not readily available.
- 3.11 The Church require a suitable form of cost effective heating, rising gas prices and low thermal efficiency of the building rule out traditional heating options.
- 3.12 A boiler system will require heating up periods, using higher levels of fuel. The air conditioning units are instantaneous and are the most efficient option to provide heating on demand over short periods.