**Faculty Application for Electrical Repairs, St Nicholas’ Church, Mavesyn Ridware**

*Note: File names in red refer to the documents uploaded and included with this application.*

**Statement of Significance**

*Brief history and description of the church building(s), contents, churchyard and setting Parish church*

Mainly 1782, with C13 north aisle and C15 tower. C13 and C14 sandstone ashlar and C18 red brick; slate roofs. Three-bay nave and polygonal apse containing the chancel, and north aisle terminated to the west by the tower.

*The significance of the church (including its contents and churchyard) in terms of:*

1. *Its special architectural and historical interest*
2. *Any significant features of artistic or archaeological interest*

Listed Grade I as a complete example of a late C18 church rebuilding including a very rare late C18 and early C19 conversion of a medieval aisle to the former church into a family chapel with neo-medieval fittings and monuments.

Historic England’s official list entry provides further details – File name Historic England Official List Entry Mavesyn.pdf.

**Statement of Need**

The church needs to obtain a satisfactory electrical inspection certificate.

A full electrical inspection was carried out by Andrews Electricals on 21 March 2023, which identified repairs needed. These were classified as C2 Potentially Dangerous, Urgent Remedial Action Required and C3 Improvement Recommended. File name E1CR18.2C-127371.pdf.

Without these repairs, the church cannot be issued with a satisfactory electrical certificate, which is essential for the church’s continued use. The work will safeguard the future of the church building and enable it to comply with current electrical safety regulations. The building needs to be safe to enable it to remain open and able to fulfil its mission therefore our needs cannot be met without making these changes.

The church also needs to have a more conveniently located and updated distribution board for ease of use and access.

**The Proposals**

The PCC proposes to carry out the electrical repairs detailed in the electrical inspection report file name E1CR18.2C-127371.pdf and quotation from Andrews Electricals file name Quote\_No\_494.pdf, and to update and relocate the distribution board for ease of use and access. The distribution board will be replaced with a modern ‘switch’ consumer unit and located on the same wall but between 1.5m to 1.8m from the finished floor level.

It is proposed that the replacement lights in the Trinity Aisle are Calinor EVO Floodlights with 30w LED bulbs – details in file name Calinor EVO Floodlight photo and details.jpg. It is proposed that the new distribution board is a Schneider KQ – details in file name Details of proposed new distribution board.jpg.

**Consultation and Discussions**

Following the full electrical inspection Andrews Electricals provided an initial quotation of costs for the repairs needed dated 7 June 2023. File name Andrews Initial Quotation 7 June 2023.docx.

The PCC discussed the electrical inspection report and quotation at its meeting of 12 July 2023 and agreed that the repairs should be carried out. Extract of minutes in file name Extracts of PCC Minutes for Faculty Application.docx.

On 17 July 2023 Brough Skingley, then DAC Electrics Advisor, visited the church to look at Andrews Electricals’ report and to look at the church building. He provided a report on his visit *–* file name Mavesyn Ridware.St Nicholas (electrical) 17 August 2023 (Brough Skingley).pdf*.* A need highlighted by Brough was the replacement and relocation of the fuseboard for ease of use.

The PCC discussed Brough’s report at its meeting on 27 September 2023 and agreed that the work highlighted by Brough in his report should be carried out and that any remaining work listed by Andrews Electricals would still need to be carried out, not urgently, but before the next electrical inspection is due. Extract of minutes in file name Extracts of PCC Minutes for Faculty Application.docx.

On 30 January 2024 Andrew Ferneyhough, from Andrews Electricals, visited the church to discuss the electrical repairs needed. A summary of the points discussed at the visit is as follows:

1.  Replacement of MICC cable in the Trinity Aisle.  This is urgent as it is corroding.  Scaffolding will be needed, so we might as well replace the light fittings at the same time to LED fittings.  The bulbs for the current lights are no longer available, so this will need doing soon anyway.  The fittings wouldn't be expensive.

2.  Replacement of fuse board to a modern board at a more convenient height.  Andrews can't move the smart meter, they will leave it where it is, together with the board it's fixed to.  Western Power would have to move it if we wanted it relocated, but that would be expensive.

3.  There is cabling from the current fuse board to the ceiling lights which is corroding (C2 issue) and needs replacing.  Andrews can't do the fuse board and issue a satisfactory certificate unless that cabling is replaced.  So the ceiling lights will need re-wiring.

Andrew will price up the work for us, including scaffolding.  He is used to church work and knows we'll need a detailed specification, photos, etc for permission via the Online Faculty System.

An updated quotation for the repairs needed was provided by Andrews Electricals, dated 6 March 2024 (quotation no. 494) *–* file name Quote\_No\_494.pdf.

The PCC discussed Andrews’ revised quotation at its meeting on 12 March 2024. The PCC agreed that the work set out in the quotation should be carried out. Extract of minutes in file name Extracts of PCC Minutes for Faculty Application.docx.

The church Architect, Mark Parsons, reviewed the quotation and sent his comments dated 30 April 2024 – file name Architect Comments.docx*.* For background information, Mark Parsons’ QI Report carried out in February 2021 is attached in file name H11 Quin 2021(5).pdf. Section 5.1.1 (pp12/13) refers to the church electrical system.

The PCC discussed funds available for electrical repairs at its meeting on 26 June 2024. Extract of minutes in file name Extracts of PCC Minutes for Faculty Application.docx.

**Other documents attached with this application**

Photographs attached as part of this application are as follows:

* Existing distribution board – file name Distribution Board.jpg
* Existing distribution board location – file name Consumer unit pic.docx
* Existing distribution board and site of proposed new distribution board – file name Existing consumer unit and site of proposed new consumer unit.docx
* Nave picture showing existing lights – file name navepic.docx
* Existing altar steps cable runs – file name Altar steps.docx
* Ceiling lights to be retained in the nave – file name Ceiling lights.docx
* Existing Trinity Aisle cable run – file name Trinity Aisle cable run.docx
* Existing Trinity Aisle light and cable run – file name Trinity Aisle light and cable run.docx
* Existing Trinity Aisle light fitting – file name Trinity Aisle light fitting (opposite wall).docx
* Existing Trinity Aisle light switch and junction box plus cable run – file name Trinity Aisle light switch and junction box plus cable run.docx
* Existing Trinity Aisle lights – file name Trinity Aisle lights.docx
* Existing kitchen area wiring and switches – file name Kitchen.docx

Details of proposed new light fittings for Trinity Aisle – file name Calinor EVO Floodlight photo and details.jpg

Proposed new distribution board – file name Details of proposed new distribution board.jpg

A plan of the church annotated with the works needed is in file name Church plan for electrical work.docx.

**Parts of the church which will be directly or indirectly affected by the proposal.**

Work would be carried out in the following locations:

* The Trinity Aisle - rewiring existing cable runs along walls and replacing light fittings.
* The nave ceiling – rewiring existing lights.
* The back wall of the church, just inside the main entrance, where the distribution board is located. Fitting of a new distribution board located below the existing board.
* Remedial work on the following: light at main porch entrance; water heater in toilet; 4 convector heaters; organ light; light switch in kitchen; fan in toilet; lightning protection conductor; kitchen water heater socket; extension lead for pulpit light.

**Describe and assess the impact of the proposal on these parts, and on the whole.**

We anticipate that the proposals would cause minimal visual impact and minimal aesthetic change to these parts and on the whole, as repairs are to existing electrical fittings and will be like for like. Existing cable runs will be used and replacement light fittings will be in existing locations. The new distribution board will be fixed to a new part of the wall, at a lower height, but it is in an unobtrusive location behind the congregation and tucked behind the door.

**Why do we need it and why do we need it now?**

The recent electrical inspections have highlighted corrosion and poor resistance in the existing wiring along with warnings that it will shortly cause short circuits. This has already started to happen in the Trinity Aisle resulting in an emergency call out by the electrical contractors to isolate one of the light switches to enable us to continue to use the lighting. The repairs listed in the electrical report are classified as C2 Potentially Dangerous, Urgent Remedial Action Required and C3 Improvement Recommended which indicates that the work needs to be carried out as soon as possible.

**How we intend, where possible, to mitigate the impact of the proposed works on the significance of the parts affected and the whole.**

In order to mitigate the impact of the proposed works, existing cable runs will be used, existing locations for light fittings will be used and rewiring in the Trinity Aisle and nave will be in MICC with PVC coating, clipped neatly, painted after installation to blend into the stonework. The cabling for the ceiling lights in the nave will be installed via the ceiling void.

Andrews Electricals, who will be carrying out the work, are experienced in work on churches.

**How is the proposal contributing to the need for environmental sustainability?**

Using LED light fittings will reduce the church’s carbon footprint and save electricity usage.

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6 January 2025

Lesley Marriott, St Nicholas’ Church, Mavesyn Ridware, PCC Secretary

Lesley/docs/MavesynPCC/Application for Electrical Repairs St Nicholas Church Mavesyn