

# ST QUIRICUS AND ST JULIETTA, TICKENHAM

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE & NEED

### THE CHURCH IN ITS ENVIRONMENT

#### THE CHURCH SETTING

St Quiricus and St Julietta Church sits on a rocky outcrop overlooking ancient marshland. Due to its elevated position it is visible for many miles on the southern side. Although set on the edge of Tickenham and away from the majority of residential dwellings, the church plays a significant part in the life of the village

#### THE CHURCHYARD

The churchyard is lovingly maintained. In the summer wild flowers are allowed to flourish to encourage wildlife. There are two yew trees – each believed to be about 600 years old. The churchyard is a place of peace and quiet where people often sit and enjoy the views over the moor.

#### SOCIAL HISTORY

The church has been used for traditional worship for many years. But it is not a relic of the past; it is a living place where local people come together for social and fund-raising events which are open to all and very popular. They include concerts, lunches and seasonal activities.

#### CHURCH BUILDING GENERAL

St Quiricus and St Julietta Church is a Grade 1 Listed Building with Norman origins.

#### CHURCH BUILDING DETAIL

The earliest surviving part of the church is the low archway between the nave and the chancel, thought to date from around 1100AD

- South Porch: 13<sup>th</sup> century. With a much-worn stoup.
- Church door: 13<sup>th</sup> century. Constructed of heavy planks.
- Nave: Late Saxon/early Norman. Low and plain 11<sup>th</sup> century chancel arch with Royal Arms above.
- Pulpit: Timber. Probably 17<sup>th</sup> century
- South Aisle: 13<sup>th</sup> century. Roof supported on carved stone corbels.
- Font: 13<sup>th</sup> century.
- Chancel: Extended in 13<sup>th</sup>/14<sup>th</sup> century.
- Lady Chapel: 13<sup>th</sup> century: small panel of 14<sup>th</sup> century glass, similar to the one in Wells Cathedral dated 1320.
- North Aisle: 13<sup>th</sup> century. Stone effigies along north wall. Representing the 13<sup>th</sup> century Fitznicholas family. Stained glass windows of medieval date.

- Served: Built in 2001, mostly converted from the 1827 vestry.
- Tower: The 13<sup>th</sup> century short tower was heightened in the 15<sup>th</sup> century and the parapet and spirelet added at the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. The west window is of the 15<sup>th</sup> century. The belfry itself houses six bells: No. 1 was cast in 1632, No. 2 in 1752, No. 3 recast in 1753, No. 4 originally cast in 1627 and recast in 1882, No. 5 originally cast in 1631 and recast in 1882, and No. 6 was cast in 1882.

All the above are highly significant aspects of our church which merit its Grade 1 listed status.

## CONTENTS and FURNISHINGS

The oak pews were added in Victorian times and historically are of moderate significance. There is a collection of over 150 kneelers: they were all stitched since the 1960's.

## MISSION

The strength of the building for worship is its tranquility and sense of history. However, with no change we cannot move forward in our mission to share our purpose, our reason for being, with the whole community.

## **SIGNIFICANCE OF THE AREAS AFFECTED & STATEMENT OF NEED**

### PARTS OF THE CHURCH AFFECTED

Our proposal will affect:

- South Aisle – The existing base/ step to the font is in a poor condition and currently a tripping hazard being in close proximity to the south porch entrance. The removal of the existing base/ step will remove the tripping hazard and create a spacious and welcoming area at the south porch entrance.

## SOURCES CONSULTED

We have met with our architect who was delighted with our suggestions and encouraged us to proceed with our application for a Faculty.

We have consulted the PCC who are in full agreement with the proposals.

14<sup>th</sup> November 2023