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Sent: 15 September 2025 18:48

To: Consultees <consultees@bathwells.anglican.org>

Subject: RE: Porlock: St Dubricius (601475):Faculty System: Consultee invitation

Thanks, Jacqui,

It is good to hear that such a glorious church as St Dubricius has passed so many hurdles to win financial backing from the Lottery.

On the matters of detail we comment as follows :

1. We urge strongly that CBC advice be followed on the conservation works to the (outstanding) reredos. It is excellent that the parish wish to conserve it and we commend them for it.
2. On the pv panels I note HE's objections to such panels extending beyond the end of the south aisle. It looks from drawing 1398/022A that their objections have been taken on board. At the same time the petitioners response argues the point by citing the shielding by the trees. This may be academic if there are to be no visible panels (all those proposed being hidden in the valley gutter between nave and aisle) but, at the risk of stating the obvious, the effectiveness of the panels in exploiting the sun when the sun is tempered throughout the year by an abundance of evergreens is in any case likely to be heavily compromised.
3. Has the proposed effect, visual and practical, of the new glass doors in the porch been fully understood ? The explanation stresses the metaphor of an "airlock" created within the porch with doors at either end. (2.6 in Statement of Need) Apart from the fact that airlocks are neither desirable nor achievable in an historic building keeping the timber door permanently open will undo the airlock – and of course allow hot air to leave the body of the church and heat up the porch. The metaphor in stressing the role of the doors in keeping out drafts is not taking on board their nuisance effect. Doors are barriers which have to be negotiated by mums with toddlers and buggies, by the infirm, by the disabled, by those in wheelchairs and indeed pallbearers carrying coffins. Anybody entering

or leaving St Dubricius will henceforward have to negotiate two sets of doors not just one, when the timber doors are closed (which presumably might have to be the case in the Winter) and still one when the glass door alone will be shut.

We do not wish to appear contrarian – glass doors have been used elsewhere but they are not an unequivocal advance whilst such doors with catalogue fixings speak of the supermarket and the office.

And is it accurate to say that “3 or 4 hours of heating can be blown away in 2 or 3 seconds with open doors” (3.6.1 in the Statement of Significance) ?

I hope that these thoughts can be thrown into the debate.

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