

From: Rachel Broomfield <rachel.broomfield@spab.org.uk>
Sent: 30 October 2025 10:57
To: Thomas Thurlow <tthurlow@exmoor-nationalpark.gov.uk>; Andrew Parsons <aparsons@exmoor-nationalpark.gov.uk>
Cc: Jacqui Carreira-White <Jacqui.Carreira-White@bathwells.anglican.org>
Subject: Re: Church of St Dubricius, Parsons Street, Porlock, Minehead, Somerset, TA24 8QJ (app: 6/27/25/005), our ref: 209607
Importance: High

Re: Proposed new PV system and glass door.

Dear Andrew

Thank you for re-consulting the SPAB on the proposed works to the Grade I listed church of St Dubricius, Porlock. We previously commented in July 2025 when we advised the parish that there was a considerable amount of information missing from the application which needed to be provided.

Proposals

- Installing PV panels to the south pitch of the nave roof within the concealed central valley.
- Installing a new glazed door in the porch.
- We note there are also discussions ongoing regarding improvements to the heating system, but these works will fall under Ecclesiastical Exemption and so do not form part of this application.

Discussion

Thank you for additional information and we are pleased to see that the proposals have been amended to reduce the number of panels to be installed on the south slope of the nave roof from 18 to 16, and that the proposed glazed door to the porch has now been omitted from the scheme.

The report from PCA confirms that the nave roof can support the additional weight without any further reinforcement.

Regarding the location of invertors and batteries, and the routes of the associated cables, there still appears to be a lack of clarity. Drawing 1398/021A Proposed Ground and First Floor Plan (June 2025 but amended and dated 26th September 2025) still states that the '*new battery and inverter in store [S1] or alternative locations: could be within existing shed outside S2 or in boiler plant room.*' As we mentioned previously, we would expect the location of the batteries, inverters and the routes of the cabling to be confirmed by now. Ideally this information should be provided prior to the application being determined, although we accept it being conditioned if you and Historic England are happy with the various options proposed.

We note that Drawing 1398/025A Proposed South Elevation (June 2025 amended and dated 26th September 2025) gives a rough indication of the cabling route, which appears to run to Store S1. Is this now the agreed location for the batteries and the inverter? If so (and this should be confirmed in writing) then we are happy with this.

Summary

We are supportive of the scheme and pleased that the proposals have been scaled back and that the solar panels will no longer be visible. We do not need to be consulted on this scheme again, although we advise that you obtain confirmation in writing of the routes of the cables and the locations of the batteries and inverter.

We would like to be consulted by the DAC / parish when the revised heating proposals come forward.

Best wishes,
Rachel

Rachel Broomfield

Senior Casework Manager (Acting)

Phone number: 01752 270409

Temporary hours: Monday to Friday, 9.30am – 5.30pm

Please send all notifications of listed building consent applications, faculty applications or requests for pre-application advice to casework@jcnas.org.uk
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From: Thomas Thurlow <tthurlow@exmoor-nationalpark.gov.uk>

Sent: Wednesday, October 29, 2025 12:40

To: Rachel Broomfield <rachel.broomfield@spab.org.uk>

Cc: Andrew Parsons <aparsons@exmoor-nationalpark.gov.uk>

Subject: FW: St Dubricius 6/27/25/005

Hi Rachel,

I have just tried calling. Please could you have a look at the email below regarding St Dubricius church in Porlock. (application 6/27/25/005). The application has now been completely changed and all the areas that were of concern to you have been resolved or removed from the application. Would you be able to get revised comment to us by the end of the day!?

Many thanks,

Tom

Thomas Thurlow
Senior Heritage Officer
Exmoor National Park Authority
Exmoor House, Dulverton, Somerset. TA22 9HL.

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Please note my normal working days are Tuesday-Friday

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