

**I DOCUMENTS**

- 1.1 This document should be read with the drawing W271 / Heating / 01 Rev A (4 sheets).

**2 INTRODUCTION**

- 2.1 St Hugh's is an exceptionally fine small chapel; the result of a close relationship between Revd Menzies Lambrick and WD Caroe extending over several decades from early in C20.
- 2.2 Heating would originally have been a stove located in the north bay, but this was subsequently replaced with a domestic scale fireplace. It seems doubtful that either of these would have been very effective. Interestingly the original copper survives in the scullery, accounting for the second chimney.
- 2.3 The current heating is by 10no. nom. 1,8kw radiant heaters fixed to the roof slope just above wall plate in the nave with 2no, wall mounted in the chancel. There is one small 750W heater in the scullery but not in the entrance lobby or WC.
- 2.4 In addition, there are tubular heaters fixed to panelling in the nave and chancel, installed perhaps 30 years ago to address the microclimate that was leading to mould in the panelling. These are effective and will remain.
- 2.5 St Hugh's generally hosts a benefice communion on the 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month and services at principal Festivals which are well attended and the church is open most Sunday afternoon in summer months.
- 2.6 It is recognised that the best way to assure a sustainable future for St Hugh is to ensure maximum usage. The chapel with its glorious setting, is ideal for retreats, study groups, and potentially lettings to suitable groups.
- This would require some development including accessible toilets and ramps, probably rewiring and a good level of heating.
- 2.7 The considerable cost of this is not realistic at the present time and in the meantime the church is used occasionally for study groups and retreats but these are not planned for the coldest months.

**3 DESCRIPTION AND HISTORICAL SUMMARY**

- 3.1 The little church at Charterhouse Mendip in Blagdon parish was designed by W D Caroe in several stages and over a long period, the product of a close working relationship with Revd (later Prebendary) Menzies Lambrick, a clergyman of independent means who found rest from onerous parochial duties in the east end of London by frequent visits to the secluded Mendips. He moved to live in Cheddar and was appointed Mission Curate to Charterhouse, where he conducted services in the School.
- 3.2 He was appointed Rector of St Andrew's Blagdon in 1908, retaining the Mission Curacy and in 1912 was instrumental in the detachment of Charterhouse from the distant Parish of Witham, and forming the "Parish of St Andrew Blagdon, with St Hugh, Charterhouse"
- 3.3 It is said that Lambrick took a pastoral interest in the isolated and neglected lead miners, building a purely social meeting room or hall but this first decade of the 20<sup>th</sup> century was the very end of active mining around Charterhouse, for them.
- 3.4 Over time Lambrick, become increasingly dissatisfied with its secular character and decided to convert it, by slow stages, into a church. He appointed WD Caroe whom he knew in London.

- 3.5 The church consists of nave and chancel, with an outshot vestry to the west under a pent roof. The style is entirely Arts and Crafts, redolent of Lutyens, emphasised by buttresses which die into the walls, plain oak framed mullion windows, and simple and elegant details of chimneys, gables and doors.
- 3.6 The church is built in brick, rendered with pebble dash and limewashed under a Burlington slate roof which is dominated by a fine coppered flèche over the chancel arch, which contains the bell.
- 3.7 Gradually the whole character of what Caroe called that brash building was changed until the only traces left of its originally secular purpose were the fireplace and the 'scullery'. When the structure had been finished, the rejoicing Prebendary added fitting after fitting, each more richly carved than the last.
- 3.8 Contracts were signed in 1908 for Dart and Francis of Crediton, a commemorative dedication the following year.
- 3.9 The lectern, priest's stall, altar cross, candlesticks, sanctuary lamp, lamps and brackets, door latches, window catches, were all designed by W D Caroe.
- 3.10 In 1923 Dart and Francis built the fleche. A prayer desk was added in 1926 and in 1931 Ralph Fry of Kingsbury Episcopi built the churchyard cross with carved figures by Nathaniel Hitch, likely one of the last works by that well-known sculptor.
- 3.11 It is in the interior that this small building expresses its best as described in 'WD Caroe: His Architectural Achievement' Jennifer Freeman, Manchester University 1990
- "...in his treatment of the nave, Caroe drew on local 17th Century work which he highlighted with Arts and Crafts touches. A subtle dialectic is maintained between the plainer nave and the richer Gothic elements in the chancel. The original timberwork, partly cased-in, is used to support the nave roof..... The chancel arch is timber and semi-circular, with carved ornamentation. The screen is of Gothic filigree work, surmounted by a Rood".*
- 3.12 Oak panelling in the nave is very restrained, in contrast to that in the chancel and screen. The reredos on the east wall has carvings of King Arthur on the north side and St Hugh on the south side. The stained glass windows at the east and west ends are from the studios of Horace Wilkinson.

#### 4 THE NEED

- 4.1 The existing radiant heaters are at end-of-life and several have failed completely.
- The need for replacement heating is therefore self-evident and the PCC take the opportunity to consider whether alternative solutions would be desirable in the context of carbon net zero and sustainability of the building in use.

##### CURRENT AND POTENTIAL USE OF THE CHURCH

- 4.2 As noted, the church is used for one service a month and for festivals.
- There are occasional events other uses such as study days, including by the Diocese, and whilst this low key use would ideally be increased the potential is limited by the lack of disabled facilities.
- 4.3 At present the need for good comfort heating for events and meetings is not justified and such events can be limited to warmer months without impact on church income and associated sustainability.

#### 5 OPTIONS

- 5.1 The following options were considered for replacement heating:

##### 5.2 LPG/OIL FIRED RADIATORS

###### FOR

Effective and flexible

###### AGAINST

High capital cost.  
High running costs.  
High carbon options.

### 5.3 HEAT PUMPS, UFH or RADIATORS

#### FOR

Lowest carbon options.  
Visually discreet (UFH).

#### AGAINST

Very high capital cost.  
Visually intrusive (radiators)  
Inflexible for intermittent and occasional use.

### 5.4 REPLACEMENT RADIANT HEATERS

#### FOR

Relatively low capital cost.  
Reasonable carbon option (with green tariff).  
Reuses existing wiring

#### AGAINST

Visually intrusive (but no more than existing fittings).

## 6 THE PROPOSAL

6.1 The existing radiant heaters were known to be effective when working fully.

6.2 Alternative types and brands were considered after technical advice but there was doubt about efficacy and coverage to the centre of the room.

6.3 The trial has successfully demonstrated that the proposed heaters will be adequate for occasional worship, recognising that in extreme conditions the temperatures would be compromised as has ever been the case.

#### ADDITIONAL ITEMS

6.4 There has never been heating or hot water at the west end kitchen, lobby and WC and the PCC wish to take the opportunity of this work to address this.

6.5 It is proposed to introduce a replacement wall mounted radiant heater in the kitchen and radiant panels in the lobby and WC, respectively ceiling and wall mounted, as shown on the drawing, sheet 3.

6.6 Hot water will be provided by an under-sink heater in the base unit with a branch pipe on the surface running to the WC basin adjacent to the existing cold pipe.

#### WIRING

6.7 Wiring in the nave and chancel will reuse existing circuits and switch outlets.

6.8 Because of the difficulty of altering lath and plaster ceilings, the flex to the new heaters will in some cases be longer than ideal and the unused outlets will have blanking plates rather than be removed.

This is considered reasonable in the circumstances.

6.9 Wiring for the kitchen, lobby and WC heaters will be in a small conduit at the ceiling edge from the electrical boards on the north wall then above the lobby ceiling void to run vertically down to the WC heater.

#### ZONING & CONTROLS

6.10 It is clearly important to consider zoning in any heating system to optimise usage to areas of use. Here, existing wiring is to be re-used. Meaning options for zoning are limited.

Circuits are arranged with most heaters in the nave on two circuits and the chancel on another. There is some doubt as to whether the nave south east bay is on a nave or chancel circuit and this will be established during installation.

In practice however the need for zoning is negligible. For worship, all areas of the small space need to be heated and the activities in the nave, where zoning might be an advantage, will not normally be planned in the heating season in any case as noted above.

6.11 Generally, the heating in the Nave and Chancel will be controlled, as at present, by a time switch. The heating in the Scullery, W.C. and Lobby will be controlled by a time delay switch to automatically switch off after a set period, but with facility to over-ride by operation of a frost thermostat, to avoid danger from freezing of water pipework.

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