

**EXPLANATORY NOTE
MISSION AND PASTORAL MEASURE 2011
DRAFT PASTORAL (CHURCH BUILDINGS DISPOSAL) SCHEME
BOLLINGHAM ST SILAS
DIOCESE OF HEREFORD**

This note accompanies a draft scheme under the Mission and Pastoral Measure 2011 which makes provision for the future of a church building, The Church Commissioners provide this information so that interested parties can understand the background to the proposals, make a reasoned judgement on the merits of the draft scheme and, if they see fit, a reasoned expression of support or objection to it.

The Current Proposals

The Commissioners, having considered the proposals for the future of the building, deem it appropriate to proceed to the next stage which is to consult on the draft Pastoral (Church Buildings Disposal) Scheme providing for the closed church of Bollingham St Silas to be appropriated to holiday accommodation and/or residential use. The current proposal is for the building to be converted for holiday let use.

The draft scheme, which this note accompanies, contains provisions for the Church Commissioners to sell the property for the proposed use and for the contents of the building to be disposed of as the Bishop shall direct.

Background

The church of Saint Silas, being a chapel of ease in the parish of Eardisley with Bollingham and Willersley in the diocese of Hereford was formally closed for worship use on 25th February 2021. The parish had been considering the future of the chapel since 2013 and it was eventually agreed that its limited resources are better focused on the parish church in Eardisley where most of the residents in the parish live.

The Building

St Silas's is a Grade II* listed building. It is a simple chapel in an attractive rural setting and is located adjacent to Bollingham House which overlooks the west side of the churchyard. It retains some medieval fabric but was largely rebuilt in 1865–67 by the leading local church architect of the time, Thomas Nicholson, who added the south porch and west bell-cote. It was restored again in 1890 but remains essentially unchanged since then. The building is in need of substantial repair and is on the HAR Register.

The Views of the Statutory Advisory Committee

The Commissioners statutory advisors, The Statutory Advisory Committee of the Church Buildings Council (SAC) have indicated that St Silas is of moderate significance that makes an attractive contribution to its rural setting and recommend it be preserved by conversion to a suitable new use. They advise that ideally the exterior would be left as it is although there is scope for the introduction of roof lights, given that the roof will need to be replaced, and for an extension to the north.

Planning and Access

The proposed use for holiday accommodation will require planning permission and alterations to facilitate that new use will require listed building consent.

The site is accessed by crossing a wide grass verge and passing through a pair of metal farm gates on the east side of the churchyard.

Burials and the Churchyard

There are no burials within the churchyard but there is evidence of a historic burial in the nave.

Making the Draft Scheme

Before they allow the Scheme to proceed, the Commissioners will need to be satisfied that planning permission and listed building consent has been obtained for the proposed use and alterations to the building.

Correspondence

Further information about the proposals can be obtained from the Closed Churches Case Officer, Jacinta Fisher by e-mail: jacinta.fisher@churchofengland.org or by telephone on 020 7898 1871.

Representations against or in support of the draft Scheme

Anyone may make a representation for or against any provision of the draft Scheme.

Representations must be made in writing or by e-mail and should be sent to:

**Representations
Closed Churches Division, Church Commissioners
Church House
Great Smith Street
London SW1P 3AZ**

or by e-mail to: closedchurches.reps@churchofengland.org

Any communication received after **4 September 2022** cannot be treated as a representation.

If we receive representations against the draft Scheme, we will send all representations, both for and against, to the Bishop, whose view will be sought. Individual representors will then receive copies of our correspondence with the Bishop (including copies of all the representations) and they may comment further in writing to us in light of the diocesan response if they so wish.

If no representations against the Scheme are received and all the other consents to achieve the new place of worship are in place, the Commissioners shall make the Scheme and bring it into effect as provided for in the scheme.

Information on the Mission and pastoral Measure 2011 and its procedures can be found on the Church Commissioners' website at www.ccpastoral.org where there are also links to download copies of these notes and the draft scheme.

July 2022

Draft Pastoral (Church Buildings Disposal) Scheme

This Scheme is made by the Church Commissioners (“the Commissioners”) this day of 20.... under the Mission and Pastoral Measure 2011.

Background

By a Scheme of the Commissioners made under the said Measure on the 25th day of February 2021 and having effect under the said Mission and Pastoral Measure 2011, Bollingham St Silas being a chapel of ease in the parish of Eardisley with Bollingham and Willersley in the diocese of Hereford, was declared closed for regular public worship.

NOW, it is provided as follows:-

Future of the church building and annexed land

1. The building and the land shown hatched on the annexed plan (together referred to as the property) shall be appropriated to holiday accommodation and/or residential use and for purposes ancillary thereto.

Disposal

2. The Commissioners are hereby empowered to sell the building for any or all of the said uses.

Contents

3. The contents of the building shall be disposed of as the Bishop shall direct subject, so far as it is required, to listed building consent being granted.

Coming into operation of this Scheme

4. This Scheme shall not come into operation until such date or dates as the Commissioners shall determine following the making of this Scheme and the Commissioners shall not be obliged to bring the Scheme or any part thereof into operation until such time as they are satisfied that the conditions specified in Schedule 1 have been complied with but may do so if they so determine.

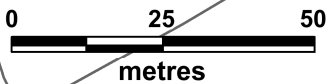
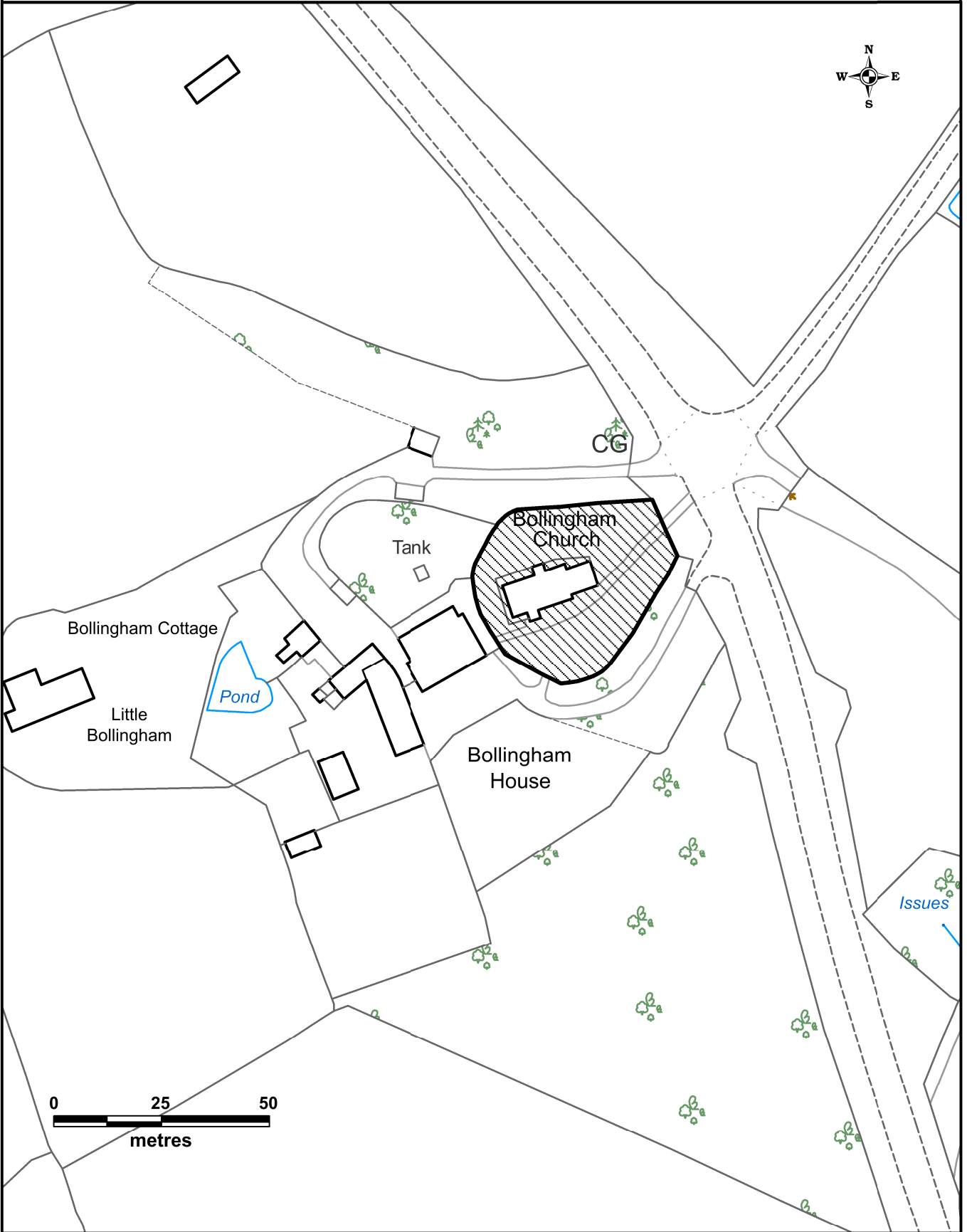
In witness of which this Scheme has been duly executed as a deed by the Church Commissioners.

Executed as a Deed by the Church Commissioners for England acting by two authorised signatories:

Signature of Authorised Signatory

Signature of Authorised Signatory

BOLLINGHAM ST SILAS



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Schedule 1: Conditions

- (i) That Planning Permission has been obtained for any of the proposed uses.
- (ii) That Listed Building Consent has been obtained for such alterations as are necessary to enable the implementation any of the proposed uses.