

**Agenda item number: 5**

**Date of meeting: 20<sup>th</sup> May 2019**

**THATCHAM TOWN COUNCIL**

**Recreation and Amenities Committee**

**Report by: Naomi Mildenhall**

**Job Title: Services Manager**

**Subject: Old Bluecoat school**

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**1 Purpose of Report**

To receive and consider a request for permission, as landlords, for work on the Old Bluecoat School.

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**2 Background**

The Old Bluecoat School is over 700 years old and sits at the corner of Harts Hill Road and the main A4, it is a Grade 1 listed building owned by Thatcham Town Council. In 2004 it was leased to The Thatcham (OBS) Charity. The objectives of the charity are:

“To preserve the historical, architectural and constructional heritage that may exist in and around Thatcham and in particular the Old Bluecoat School  
Make the Old Bluecoat School available for education, cultural and community use  
We are so pleased that we have been able to restore the outside of the building and are now considering how to improve the inside and how to create more space for a kitchen and storage.”

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**3 Details of Project**

The Charity have been working hard and would like Landlords permission on the following:

1. Anti-vandal mesh to be fitted to the windows (appendix i)
2. Interior re-plastering
3. Lead flashing to windowsills.

All work planned has been overseen by specialist Architects and planning permissions have been granted where appropriate. All work will be conducted in accordance with the Grade 1 listed status.

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**4 Financial Implications**

The Thatcham Charity are fully funding all projects.

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**5 Legislation**

Local Government Act 1972, s.133

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**6 Reference to Council Plan**

Objective Five: To protect and improve the open spaces, recreation facilities and heritage

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**7 Consultation**

None

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**8 Recommendation**

That permission be granted for the fitting of anti-vandal mesh to the windows, interior re-plastering and new lead flashing to the windowsills.

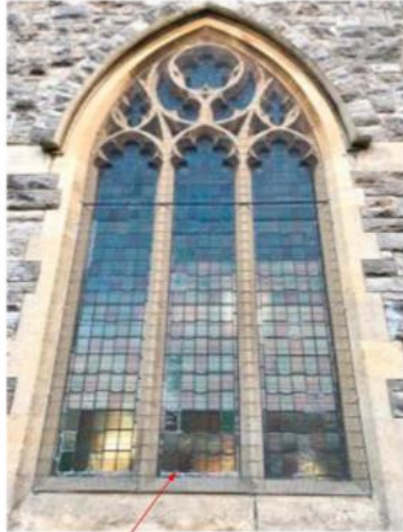
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Window Grills

HW  
30/07/2018

Detail view of one of the windows in the north elevation showing the traditional joinery framing to the glazing

Current view of the north elevation, with the temporary wooden sheet protection.



Two examples of typical mesh grilles on church buildings, and the discrete stainless steel fixings, which enable the mesh to be removed for window cleaning and maintenance.



View of the north elevation without window protection.

The Old Bluecoat School, Thatcham

Window mesh information  
**MATHEWSON WATERS ARCHITECTS**  
 The Old Surgery  
 Crowle Road, Lambourn  
 Berkshire - RG517 8NR  
 www.matthewsonwaters.co.uk  
 01538 73131  
 1585-10