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Former St Francis Church, Chalford Road, Newall Green

Proposed Car Park. Design and Access Statement

Introduction

The church building was constructed during the late 1950's to a design by Sir Basil Spence, the architect of Coventry Cathedral. It was opened in 1960. The main feature of the building is the large brick-built sanctuary, some 29m x 12m internally on plan with an 8m high timber boarded ceiling. Being a creature of its time, no parking provision was provided at the time of construction. It was understood that the church would serve a local congregation, who would walk to church

In recent years, it has become surplus to requirements to the Church of England and was rented out to another congregation before being sold recently to a group named Anglican Missionary Congregations (AMC)

AMC are aware that during its recent tenure by a previous congregation, the lack of on-site parking became a bone of contention between that congregation and the local residents because on-street parking by the congregants congested the narrow streets that surround the church .

The proposal

AMC propose that a surfaced car park for 19 cars be constructed at the front of the church, as well as a provision of 4 bicycle spaces. Three of the car parking spaces will be for disabled persons. The size of the spaces will be 2.5m x 5.0m with a main aisle 6m. wide. The car park will be accessed by means of a pavement crossing on Chalford Road. A further pavement crossing further up Chalford Road will be provided to enable vehicular access to the existing hardstanding area at the East end of the church. This will enable that area to be used for off-street parking for service and staff vehicles. The provision of electric charging points is not appropriate in this instance.

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Design and Access Statement 22018-DAS
15th August 2022

