

Planning application H/25/98875. 18 Church Road, Bishopstoke.

Heritage Statement for Proposed Drop Kerb in a Conservation Area

1. Introduction This heritage statement has been prepared in support of an application for the installation of a drop kerb at 18 Church Road, Bishopstoke located within Bishopstoke Conservation area. The purpose of this document is to assess the potential impact of the proposal on the character and appearance of the conservation area and to demonstrate how the development preserves or enhances its significance.

2. Site Description and Context 18 Church Road is situated within the Bishopstoke Conservation area, which is designated for its special architectural and historic character. The area is characterised by a mixture of residential and commercial properties of mixed age and style, alongside the River Itchen. The site currently comprises of a 1930's style house with a narrow driveway accessed via a dropped kerb shared with the adjacent neighbour.

3. Heritage Significance The conservation area is valued for its riverside frontage and a few listed buildings, but neither the river nor buildings are within the immediate area of no.18. Any new development or alteration within this area must be sensitive to its heritage significance and ensure that it does not detract from its character.

4. Proposed Development The proposed works involve the installation of a drop kerb to provide improved vehicular access to the property. The design will not have any visual or physical impact on the conservation area. The following measures have been incorporated to ensure heritage sensitivity:

- Use of materials that match or complement the existing streetscape.
- There will be no impact on any existing historic features ensuring that the new kerb aligns with the existing street pattern.
- Minimal disruption to existing landscaping and no disruption to any street furniture to maintain the established character of the area.

5. Impact Assessment The proposed drop kerb is a minor alteration that will not impact the historic or architectural integrity of the conservation area. The proposal respects the existing streetscape and ensures that traditional materials and design are retained. Given the scale and nature of the development, it is considered to have a negligible impact on the wider conservation area and does not compromise its significance.

6. Justification and Conclusion The introduction of a drop kerb at 18 Church Road is necessary to improve accessibility and will remove one car from roadside parking while respecting the heritage character of the conservation area. The proposal has been designed in accordance with local and national heritage policies to ensure it preserves and enhances the special qualities of the area. Considering the sensitive approach taken in material selection and design, it is considered that the proposal meets the necessary conservation and planning requirements.

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