

Faculty Rules updates including Lists A and B from 1 April 2020

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**DIOCESE OF
ST ALBANS**
Living God's Love

New Faculty Rules from 1 April 2020

The faculty jurisdiction is the Church of England's system for permitting repairs and alterations to church buildings.

Why do we have the faculty process?

The faculty jurisdiction is the Church of England's system for permitting repairs and alterations to church buildings.

The faculty system provides a framework for local churches to obtain advice and good practice from the DAC and for the Diocese and national Church to ensure that changes are made thoughtfully and appropriately

Faculties take the place of Listed Building Consent for listed churches and the process and consultations ensure we are in line with secular practice for listed buildings, but reflecting the Church's perspective

Who's who in the process?



The DAC – volunteers including mainly experts in a range of fields from architecture and art history to bells and accessibility – plus synod representatives and the Archdeacons
The DAC Team in the Diocesan Office – see
The Diocesan Registry team – see <https://www.stalbans.anglican.org/diocese/diocesan-registry/> - and the Chancellor, Lyndsey de Mestre.

What is the process for applying for a faculty?

Stage 1:

1. Consult the Diocesan Advisory Committee on the works or proposals,
2. Where rule 4.5 or 4.6 applies, consult the relevant bodies under that rule on the works or proposals, and
3. Once these provisions have been complied with, obtain from the Diocesan Advisory Committee a notification of advice in **Form 2**.

Stage 2:

4. Complete the faculty petition form [**form 3A**] and supporting documentation
5. Display public notices [**form 4A**]
6. Submit the completed application to the Registry for consideration by the Chancellor

The Church of England website has a straightforward explanation and process guide: <https://www.churchofengland.org/more/church-resources/churchcare/church-buildings-council/how-we-manage-our-buildings>

New process (but as we've often used for larger projects): informal DAC advice; Statements of Significance & Needs; Consultation with external bodies; formal DAC advice taking into account any views from external bodies; public notice and faculty application to Registry.

We will talk more about the on-line process in the next session.

(2) Consultation under this Part is not required if—

(a) proceedings relate exclusively to—

(i) exhumation, or

(ii) the reservation of a grave space;

(b) proceedings are sufficiently urgent to justify the grant of a faculty, the issue of an injunction or the making of a restoration order without carrying out consultation under this Part; or

(3) This part does not apply where works or other proposals relate only to matters which may be undertaken without a faculty in accordance with Part 3 and Schedule

1 (Lists A and B).

**Proposals involving changes to listed buildings:
Statements of significance and needs**

“Where proposals involve making changes to a listed church or other listed building intending applicants must provide the Diocesan Advisory Committee with

(a) **Statement of Significance:** a document which describes

(i) the significance of the church or other building in terms of its special architectural and historic interest (including any contribution made by its setting) and

(ii) any significant features of artistic or archaeological interest that the church or other building has

so as to enable the potential impact of the proposals on its significance, and on any such features, to be understood; and

(b) **Statement of Needs:** a document setting out the justification for the proposals

If proposals are likely to result in harm to the significance of the church or other building as a building of special architectural or historic interest, the document setting out the justification for the proposals must set out the basis on which it is said that the proposals would result in public benefit that outweighs that harm.”

We encourage parishes to start putting together a Statement of Significance, which can be re-used or adapted for any faculty application where it is needed.

The Statement of Needs sets out what the parish is seeking to achieve in making a change. It's therefore a good tool for the PCC to use, as the PCC thinks about its vision for the development of the church building to meet its priorities for worship and mission; what change is needed; what outcomes the change will achieve and what options have been considered. This is all useful in telling the story and making the case for grant applications and for getting the wider congregation and church users behind the project, as well as permissions.

Minor Matters Lists A and B

On-line on Church Buildings pages of the diocesan website:
<https://www.stalbans.anglican.org/dac/dac-advice-leaflets/>

What's new in List A [no consultation or permission needed]?

Minor routine maintenance	Boiler replacement (straightforward)*
Roof alarms	Bird netting*
Adaptation of a sound system	Organs – electrical work
Clocks – details of works	Portable AV equipment
Wi-fi routers	Card payment system equipment
Free-standing chairs*	
Unwired churchyard path lighting	Outside noticeboards – if like-for-like
Defibrillator (unlisted church)	Removal of old oil tanks

Minor Matters Lists A & B available today from the new Rules. They will be published on the Church of England website and on the diocesan website in due course.

Minor routine maintenance - (1)(a) Works of maintenance, not involving repair or substantial replacement of material, carried out as part of the regular course of care and upkeep of the building

[Like for like repairs to window glass] - *the works do not include repairs to stained glass or to clear glass manufactured before 1960*

Conditions for works to heating installations (follows St Albans recommendation) Any work to an oil-fired heating system or to an electrical installation or electrical equipment is carried out by a person whose work is subject to an accredited certification scheme (as defined in rule 3.1(6))

Straightforward boiler replacement - The replacement of a boiler in the same location and utilising an existing fuel supply and existing pipe runs

The like for like replacement of roof lead or other material covering the roof of a building which is not a listed building

The installation of a roof alarm (including an alarm with an image capture facility)

The installation of bird netting to tower windows – St Albans DAC has obtained advice from a bat ecologist about providing access at top or bottom for bats

The adaptation of an existing sound reinforcement system

Electrical work to organs

Details of permitted works to clocks

portable audio-visual equipment

wi-fi routers

equipment for card payment systems

Introduction of free-standing chairs in an unlisted church or more of an approved design in a listed church

Unwired churchyard path lighting

Replacement of a noticeboard in the churchyard like-for-like

Defibrillator in/on unlisted church

Disposal of oil tanks

Minor Matters Lists A and B

What's new in List B [Archdeacon's Letter after consultation with DAC]?

Boiler replacement*	Lighting system extension
Security CCTV and alarms	Locks, including automatic locking devices
Defibrillator (listed church)	Fixed AV equipment (unlisted church)
Bird boxes	Refreshment facilities – refurbishment
Bell louvres and peal boards	Organ repairs
Replacement of electronic organs	Separate heating appliances
Altar frontals/falls – repairs and disposal	
Churchyard walls – repair & rebuilding – and lych gates*	
Handrails to steps or paths	

Boiler replacement – in the same location but with new pipe runs or fuel supply

Extension of an existing lighting system

Installation of security CCTV or alarms

Installation of automatic locking devices and other locks

Defibrillator in listed church

Fixed AV equipment in unlisted building

Bird boxes

Refurbishment of refreshment facilities

Bell louvres and peal boards in tower

Organ repairs & replacement of electronic organ

Introduction of separate heating appliance

Repair to and disposal of redundant altar frontals & falls

Repair & rebuilding of churchyard walls (minimum underground disturbance); and lych gates if not separately listed

Handrails to steps or paths

QUESTIONS?

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