

## St Peter's Ash, Surrey

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## Proposal to install a WC within the church – a request for preliminary comment

1	<p>The proposal: The Parish would like to install a WC in the church because the WCs in the church hall, located across the main road, are too distant. The most discrete location for a WC is the base of the tower, located to the left of the main door, as you enter the church. The room will have a WC cubical and have space for a coffee making facility with a sink.</p> <p>The ground floor of the tower is a good site for a WC cubical as it can be made soundproofed.</p>	
2	<p>The site: The space is currently used for storage and making coffee, although there is no sink for washing up. To provide space for a WC it is proposed that the quantity of storage is reduced by relocating items and by reducing what is kept.</p> <p>The room is double height and is lit by a two-light south facing window above head height.</p>  <p>View of the existing vestry cupboards</p>	
3	<p>Matters to consider: There is a trap door in the vestry ceiling to provide access to the ringing chamber when bells need removing from the belfry. This access trap will need to continue to be accessible but it will be used very infrequently. The new partitions that are proposed will therefore be partially demountable.</p>	
4	<p>The parish has obtained the cost of the following drainage options all of which include the cost of fitting a drain through the external wall of the tower and making good stonework. Refer to separate sheet.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Installation of sewage treatment plant.</li> <li>Mains drainage connection in Britten close</li> <li>Installation of cess pit</li> <li>Installation of Trench Arch System</li> </ul>	
5	<p>An investigation of the foul drainage system informed us that the nearest main sewer was located in Britten Close. Taking a foul drain from the base of the tower to Britten Close would be feasible but would either involve crossing the graveyard or obtaining consent to take a drain through neighbouring properties. Investigations have revealed difficult legal issues with installing a drain run through adjoining property.</p>	
6	<p>Although the installation of a Trench Arch system is the cheapest solution it requires a consent to discharge from the Environment Agency. Tony Howe has expressed concerns about chemicals in the discharge effecting potential archaeology.</p>	
7	<p>The design within the tower. Our first concern was not to build an enclosure on the window wall of the vestry as this is the focus of attention within the room.</p>	



We did try to plan the WC arrangement with a lobby but the base of the tower is too small to accommodate one. We have therefore incorporated a wing wall at the entrance to the cubical to ensure that users have to close the main door to the tower before moving round the wing wall to the door of the cubical. In this way, we are encouraging the closure of the tower door and we trust this will maintain good acoustic separation between the church and the WC. The wing wall will also provide some visual privacy to the baby changing area.

The demountable partition will be screwed to the fixed partitions and to the floor. Part of the WC ceiling will come away with the moveable partition to leave a clear opening for bell access. These screw fixings will be accessible after removing the facing panel.

It is proposed that the partitions and cupboards are boarded in vertical oak boards.

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View within the vestry of the east facing door

It is proposed that the door in rehung to open the other way.