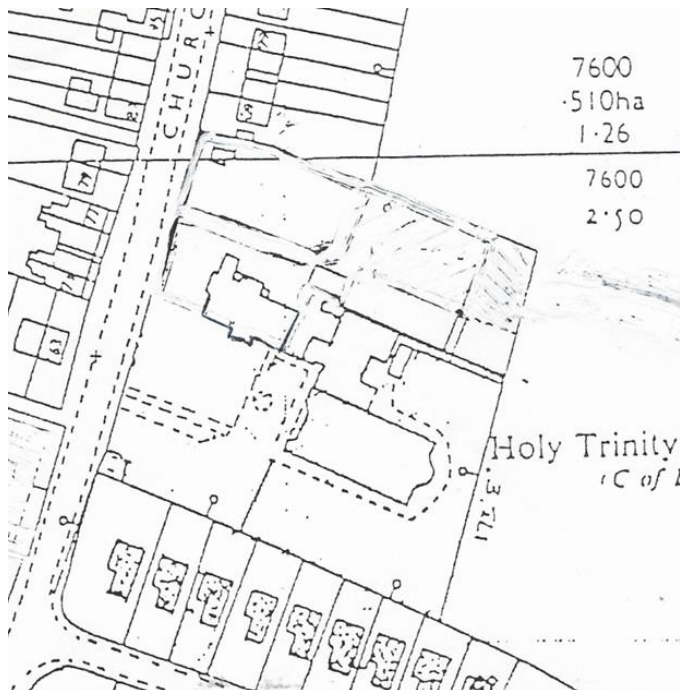


Heritage Statement-Holy Trinity Church, Hartshill



1.The Setting of the Church and grounds

Hartshill as the name suggests is built on a hill and Holy Trinity Church is built at one of the highest points along the broad ridge. It is in the centre of the linear village which has one main road running from the B4111 in the north to the B1114 in the south.



To the north of the Church and nearer the road is the Old Vicarage (now privately owned) which is built in granite stone and complements the appearance of the church building really well. Both the vicarage and the Church front onto a grass lawn.



Joined on to the main church building to the north is a vestry which is in a similar style to the Church and then the entrance to the Community Centre which was built in 2012. It retained the previous hall which was renovated.

The southern boundary of the Church curtilage has an attractive granite stone wall and to the south of the wall is a cul-de-sac of bungalows

To the east are agricultural fields and from an elevated public footpath that runs along the edge of the field there are prominent views of the Church

Down the sides and rear of the Church is a closed churchyard with some significant trees. There was an order closing Hartshill churchyard for burials dated 14th February 1883. A separate cemetery was established elsewhere in the village during the same year and is now managed by Hartshill Parish Council.

Adjacent to the southern stone wall is a patchy strip of ground with some bushes and saplings.

To the rear of the Church is another grass area with trees. On the eastern boundary with open fields is an area perhaps 8 to 10 metres deep with a mixture of tall trees, saplings and overgrown grass, shrubs and brambles with some wildflowers.

In this grass area immediately behind the church are some headstones against a former brick structure (maybe a shed/air raid shelter).

The area between the north side of the Church Building and the Community Centre Hall is grass.

The Church building although set back from the road still has a prominent position in the street scene and with its landscaped grounds enhances the appearance and character of the surrounding area.

As you travel along Castle Road/Church Road southwards the Church tower is very prominent. The same is true as you travel along Church Road northwards but also quite a bit of the west elevation is visible.

2. The Church Building.

The Church is a Grade 2 Listed Building, and a copy of the listing description is attached as Appendix 1. This gives more detail of the construction and materials in the Church Building.

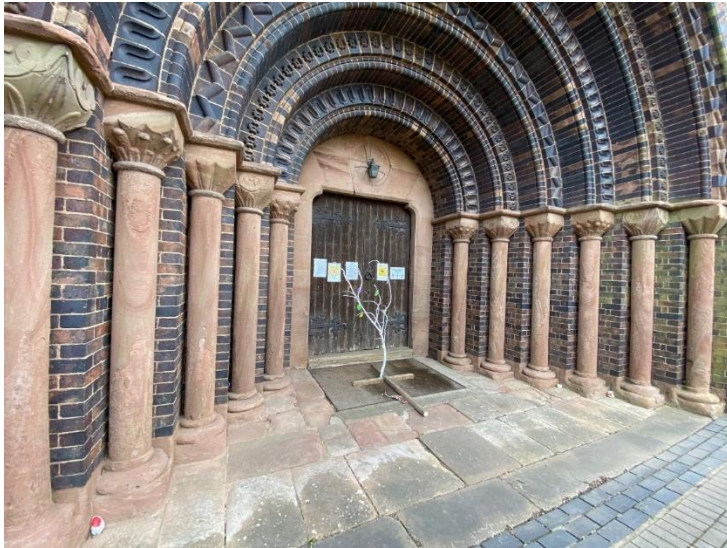
The Church is an early Victorian church of unusual design by Thomas Larkins Walker (c.1811–1860) who was a Scottish architect.

He was a pupil of Augustus Charles Pugin, and an executor of his will. Augustus Charles Pugin was an architectural draughtman with the famous architect John Nash (who designed Buckingham Palace and Royal Pavilion, Brighton). Augustus Charles's son was the famous architect Augustus Welby Pugin who was the leading advocate of Gothic architecture in the 19th century and designed the Houses of Parliament.

Thomas Larkins was also a writer on gothic architecture and contributed to the text for the 3rd series of Pugin's *Examples of gothic architecture* (1836-38).

Thomas Larkins designed a number of significant buildings in the Nuneaton area including in 1839 Camp Hill House (which was later demolished) and significantly the church at Attleborough also in 1839 which is so similar in design to Holy Trinity, Church in Hartshill which he designed in 1842/43. He also designed Nicholas Chamberlaine Almshouses (Grade 2* Listed Building in Bedworth

Lambeth Palace Library contains a record of the original internal plans drawn up by TL Walker and signed by him.



The front of the Church has a very impressive, deeply recessed west doorway with a Norman style arch over a bank of six orders of columns and a large spoke (Rose) window, above which is another smaller window to the bell chamber (there is just one tolling bell) and then there is a small tower and spire. The entrance feature is thought to be one of the largest of its kind seen on a Parish Church in England.

The north, south and east walls are plainer, constructed of brick quoins/piers and stone infill and the areas in between with local quarry stone. The walls have a plinth of blue bricks and blue brick string courses and corbelling. The tall but narrow lead windows have a blue brick arch course over the windows. There are two bricked up doors in the south and north elevations at the eastern end. Above those are smaller windows. In front of the bricked-up door on the southern elevation is a wooden sided porch in front of the boiler house which is below ground level.

The northern elevation faces onto the application site.



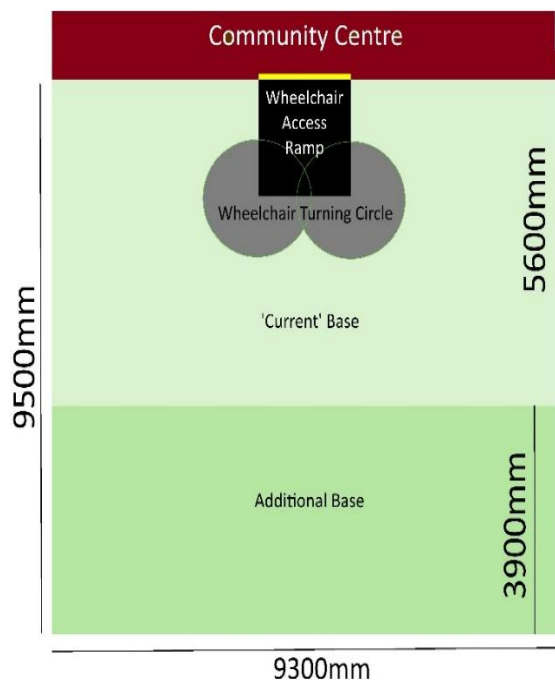
3. The Application Site and Proposed Development.



At the rear (eastern end) of the Community Centre Hall is an existing concrete base which has 4 metal sheds sited on it. 2 of the sheds are used for storage of toys and equipment used in two separate toddler groups. One shed is used for the equipment of the Girl Guides. The other shed is vacant and will be removed.

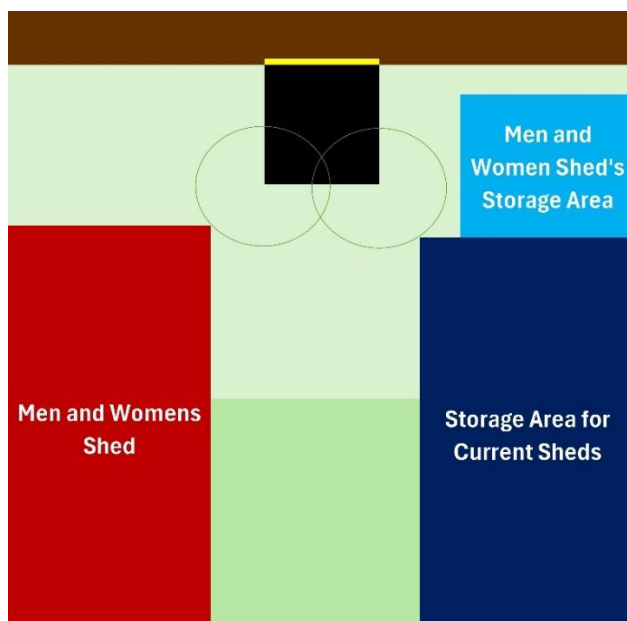


As shown in the diagram below the existing base is 5.6 metres long by 9.3 wide. The proposal is to extend the concrete base by a further length of 3.9 metres (70% increase)



It is proposed that the Men and Women's shed will be sited on the south side of the application site facing onto the open space between the community centre hall and the northern side of the Church as shown in photo on page 10. This will in effect hide the 3 relocated metal sheds.

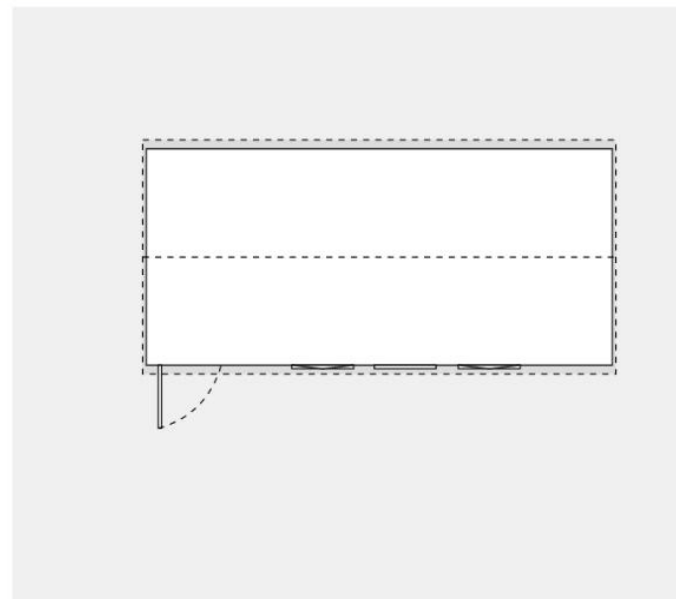
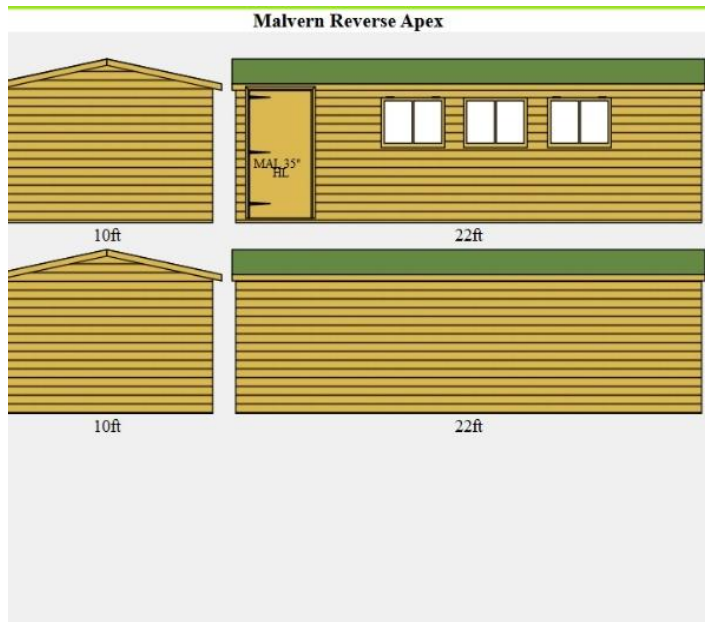
The intended layout is shown below-



There will be a joint access way between the new wooden shed and the metal sheds. A ramp will be installed in front of the fire doors to the Hall in line with disability standards.

The wooden shed will be made of treated timber studs; sheathing; breather membrane; overlap cladding; pitched roof with felt or recycled polymer shingles. There will be a lockable door with anti-jemmy hinges; polycarbonate or double-glazed windows.

The elevations and dimensions of the shed are shown on this drawing-



4. The impact of the proposals on the appearance and character of the Listed Building and its setting

The listed building description attached as Appendix 1 relates solely to the main Church Building. It does not include the attached vestry to the north of the main building which is then attached to the Community Centre or any part of the community centre.

The concrete base and the sheds are seen as an extension of the Community Centre Hall as they are sited to the rear of the fire doors in the end (eastern) wall of the Hall.



The southern edge of the concrete base and therefore the side of the proposed wooden shed will be some 21 metres from the northern elevation of the Church Building. The area in between is entirely mowed lawn



To see the wooden shed and existing sheds in relation to the church building it has to be viewed from the northern boundary which is marked with a wooden fence as can be seen on the photos on page 5.

However, this will be behind the relocated sheds. There will only be a narrow one metre gap between the back of the sheds and the northern boundary. Anyone standing in that gap will not have a good view of the Church Building.

As shown on the layout plan on page 6 the remaining 3 sheds will be relocated on the northern part of the extended concrete base. These will be largely shielded from view looking north from the side of the Church by the new wooden shed. So, it is unlikely that the relocation of the existing sheds will have any significant on the appearance and character the Listed Building.

As the wooden shed will not generally be seen in relation to the Listed Building it too should not have a significant impact on the appearance and character of the Listed Building.



With the large, landscaped lawn areas surrounding the Church there is clearly an open and attractive setting for the listed building. However, the area to the north of the church and the Community Centre is tucked away from any street view and is less important in the setting of the listed building.

The wooden shed will be visible and fairly prominent in the open area to the north of the Listed Building but given its distance from that Church elevation and its relation to the Community Centre it will not be so detrimental to the openness and character of the open space to significantly impact on the setting of the Listed Building.

A wooden shed could be considered a more incongruous feature than if it was in similar materials to the Community Centre walls but wooden sheds are a common feature in gardens and community sites. They also relate well to the vegetation and trees which are around the site.

There is an initiative to establish a community garden using more landscaping, greater habitat diversity, a memorial garden, additional seating and a toddler's outdoor play area. There should therefore be some additional screening of the application site so the setting of the Listed Building should be improved and enhanced.

Overall, it is felt that the new timber clad shed can be classified as having a less than substantial harm on the setting of the listed building and that is almost certainly at the lower end of that schedule.

In conclusion it is felt the proposal will not have a significant impact on the character and appearance of the Listed Building and a minimal impact on its setting.

Whatever the assessment of impact it is felt this is outweighed by the public benefits and amenities that this proposal will provide.

The Men and Women in Shed group is a national organization which has been very successful. Recognising that isolation can affect people of all ages, the group offers a welcoming space where individuals can share and develop woodworking, construction, and repair skills while connecting with others who share similar interests.

Nuneaton has a Men and Women Shed group but with their existing sheds now oversubscribed, there is strong enthusiasm for establishing a new facility in Hartshill - one that places greater emphasis on practical skills. These capabilities could also support the delivery of works identified in the Church's Quinquennial report.

Appendix 1- English Heritage Listing.

HARTSHILL CHURCH ROAD SPS9SW (East side) 5/97 Church of The Holy Trinity - II Church. 1841-1848 by T.L. Walker.

Hartshill granite rubble with red brick, blue brick and sandstone dressings. Plain-tile roof has stone-coped gable parapets.

Nave and shallow apsidal chancel.

Neo-Norman style. 8 bays.

Moulded brick plinth, pilaster buttresses, and moulded blue brick corbel table throughout.

West front has very large and deep portal of 6 orders; arches have zig-zag, ball flower, serpentine and other mouldings in blue brick.

Sandstone shafts have scalloped, interlaced, waterleaf and other capitals.

Chamfered shouldered doorway has double-leaf doors and roundel with cross in the tympanum.

Narrow left and right bays have 2 tiers of windows between buttresses.

Windows have blue brick roll-moulded round arches throughout.

Gable has brick tumbling, and row of 4 blind quatrefoil roundels of sandstone.

Large wheel window of sandstone with columns as spokes.

Small square turret at apex of gable on 2 coved corbels with grotesque masks and pointed elliptical louvred opening between them.

Moulded brick string course, and stone pyramid roof.

Bell chamber openings have simple outer arch, inner arch with sandstone nook shafts, and 2 louvred openings to each side.

Return sides have doorways to first and eighth bay, with windows above.

East doorways are bricked up; west doorway has plank door.

Windows have continuous moulded sill course forming hood mould above doorways.

East gable of nave has small turret with louvred openings and remains of stone cross.

Semi-circular apse has 3 windows.

Interior is plastered with moulded cornice and false ceiling.

Arch to apse is unmoulded.

West gallery on 4 shafts with scalloped capitals.

The interior was redecorated in 1939 and 1948 by N.F. Cachemaille-Day.

Stone octagonal Gothic style font. (Buildings of England: Warwickshire; p307).