

St Edward the Confessor, Barnsley

Policy for Memorials in the Church & Churchyard

Introduction

The DAC (Diocesan Advisory Committee for the Care of Churches) as advised by the Chancellor of the Diocese has guidelines for the erection of memorials in a Church or Church Yard. The reason for this is that the Church of England has been granted an exemption from the normal planning regulations that would usually fall under local authority responsibilities.

Faculty Jurisdiction

Any memorial fixed to the wall or an item of furniture in either St Edward or the Church Yard falls within the Care of Churches and Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction Measure 1991 and the Faculty Jurisdiction Rules 2000 (or any new Measures and Rules that may follow). The PCC cannot approve the erection of any memorial without first making an application to the DAC and obtaining Faculty approval.

The DAC will only consider a Faculty Application for a memorial if:

- The memorial is a dedication to someone who has made a significant contribution to the Church. This could either be through a substantial donation for a specific project (e.g. for the restoration of a tower or the provision of a new organ) or has made a significant contribution over a substantial period of time to the life and ministry of the Church which has been recognised by members of the Church (e.g. a very long-standing churchwarden).

A faculty application must contain:

- Details of the Memorial (size, materials etc)
- Any wording for the Memorial
- Photographs of the area in which it is proposed to erect the memorial
- A Statement of Needs from the PCC giving clear reasons why the PCC considers this an appropriate memorial.
- A Copy of the PCC Minutes approving the Faculty application

Conclusion

The PCC is not at liberty to approve a memorial application but may consider requests.

The PCC will only make an application to the DAC after consultation with members on the Electoral Roll and if there is majority agreement on the PCC to proceed. An application does not guarantee success, but it does ensure a statutory period of notification for objections to be raised or comments to be made from within the wider parish and from other interested parties.

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