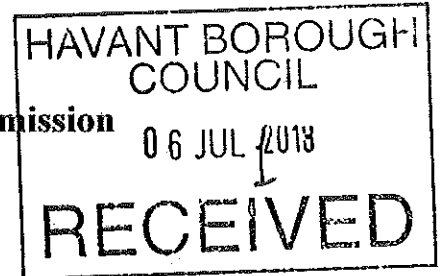


**Access and Design statement for temporary permission
for the Mens' shed building at the rear of
South Hayling United Reformed Church**



Introduction

The South Hayling United Reformed Church stands at the cross roads in the centre of Mengham, Hayling Island. It is very strategically placed to serve the whole community and has had a Church building on this site for well over a hundred years. The first building was demolished during the second world war, and a 'temporary' tin hut was build within a few weeks to allow worship to continue. This tin hut remained as meeting place long after the new Church and main hall was completed in 1954. In fact the tin hut was not demolished until 1998 when a new small hall was completed. This is used for many community activities and meetings.

The Mens Shed

Over the last three years the Hayling Island Mens Shed group have met in this hall for social events and planning their eventual Shed building of their own. The Shed movement has expanded nation wide over recent years. It is an initiative that is supported by both local councils, and all political parties. Its aim is to support mainly retired men, to combat loneliness, and reduce health issues, through fellowship, as well as serving the community. Of the members on Hayling Island, many have skills to share, but have no meeting place, or workspace to carry out these activities. Although some have already been involved in the community mending benches, and clearing communal gardens. There are approximately 30 registered memebers, but with a weekly turnout to meetings, of 10-15 regular members.

Location

They have looked at various possibilities for a Shed location, without success. However, we have a piece of land at the rear of the main Church which has been used in former times for allotments, but is lying fallow at the moment. As a Church, we have discussed sizes and construction, and have also held detailed discussions with the Wessex Trust who are owners of the land, and have agreed that a lease for a minimum of seven years could be set up for a suitable Shed building on this site, with the relevant local authority approvals. Although other buildings in the area are predominantly of brick construction, this is essentially a temporary building. It is located at the rear of the main Church building, and not easily visible from the main road junction, only from the council's car park to the side of the Church.

Construction

The 'Shed' members have looked at a typical shed construction, ie in timber, but because of the relevant boundaries and fire requirements, it would not be feasible to construct a timber building. So they have now looked at a steel clad building, on a demountable steel framework, set on a concrete base: this would serve their purposes. The building framework would be clad in a plastic coated sheet steel of an approved colour, with a height of 3 metres to the eaves, and a 12 deg pitched roof. Therefore it will only be visible from the car park to the north and west of the Church. As a temporary building, the whole project would be constructed, and fixed to a concrete slab, but taken down and removed should the situation change and removal be required.

Application Site

The application site is bounded on the east and south by the Church buildings, and to the north by a 1600mm brick wall, and the west by the continuous vertical timber fencing, which is 1800mm high. Although it is immediately adjacent is the council's car park, many of the local members walk or cycle. Although there are some cycle spaces, it is intended to create a better parking space for cycles, on a gravelled space to the west of the Church for use by all hall users as well as the 'shed'

members. It is proposed to form a separate rear pedestrian access, with double gates, in the north wall, giving access directly on to the path owned by the post office adjoining, for which permission is readily available. However the vehicular access will still be through the Church land to the south, utilising some of the car parking when available.

Services:

Where possible, it is intended to share the services, ie the rainwater can be discharged into an existing rain water gully at the rear of the Church. There is an old door, (at present bolted on the inside) which would allow access to a rear cloakroom. It is intended to install a new lock on this outer door to allow Shed members sole access to the cloakroom. The proposed building will have to have its own electricity supply, which had been checked for availability. It is the intention that the proposed Shed building should in essence operate almost totally independent from the existing buildings, but because of its central location will have easy access for the members.

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