

From: Emily Wade <Emily.Wade@midsussex.gov.uk>
Sent: 29 July 2025 15:39:29 UTC+01:00
To: "Catherine Cardin" <Catherine.Cardin@midsussex.gov.uk>
Subject: DM/25/1636 and 1637 Worth School

Hi Catherine

Comments on the above planning and listed building consent applications.

Worth School is a Grade II listed building, a former country house now private school, dating originally from 1865-97 and located in a rural position. There are a number of other Grade II listed buildings in its close vicinity, including the former stables building to the north, the carriage gateways to the west, and the Abbey Church to the east.

The current proposal relates to works primarily to the school kitchen, which is within the main building, and which recently suffered a fire. The works including stripping out and deep cleaning of the area, with asbestos removal, reinstatement of finishes and equipment, and some alterations including minor changes to the plan form, replacement of windows, and removal of roof lanterns. To consider these works in turn:

- The area affected by the fire appears to have retained little in the way of historic features or finishes of interest, having been much altered to allow for the installation of the previous kitchen. The stripping out of fire damaged finishes, light fittings etc. will therefore not result in harm to the special interest of the listed building. It is noted that one surviving area of original tiling will be retained.
- The deep cleaning appears again to largely affect areas of relatively little interest and as such I would not consider it contentious, in the context of the necessity of remedial action.
- Details of the programme of asbestos removal have been provided and are not considered contentious.
- The reintroduction of catering equipment is not considered problematic, given the previous condition of the spaces.
- The proposed alterations to the plan form are relatively minor, and although there will be some limited impact on historic fabric this is not considered to be harmful to the special interest of the building.
- The replacement of the modern windows noted is not considered contentious.
- The removal of the glazed roof lanterns to the flat roofed structure above the side corridor is not considered contentious, and should enhance the appearance of this part of the building.
- The replacement of uPVC rainwater goods with painted metal is welcomed.

In summary, the works as carried out and proposed are in my opinion not contentious in terms of the impact on the listed building. The proposal meets the requirements of District Plan Policy DP34 and the relevant paragraphs of the NPPF.

I have no suggested conditions.

Thanks,

Emily

Please note that this advice is given at Officer level only and is without prejudice to the formal decision of the District Council.

Submit your planning application online.
<http://www.planningportal.gov.uk>

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