

Form 5
(Rule 9.3)

**Particulars of Objection
to Petition for Faculty**

In the Consistory Court of the Diocese of Lichfield

To the Registrar

N A C Blackie

FBC Manby Bowdler LLP

Routh House, Hall Court, Hall Park Way, Telford, TF3 4NJ

Parish of TUTBURY

Church of ST MARY THE VIRGIN

In the matter of a petition requesting a Faculty for: *(State generally the works or proposals)*

The proposal by the Tutbury War Memorials Preservation Committee to erect two wreath holders in close proximity to the War Memorial within the grounds of the Grade I St Mary's Church Tutbury.

I have previously written emails of objection dated 17 March 2016, 24 March 2016 and 2 August 2016.

My objection relates to the whole of the proposals.

The grounds of my objection are:

(Here set out concisely and in numbered paragraphs the grounds on which the objection is made. If necessary continue on a separate sheet.)

St Mary's Church is located in an elevated position above the town of Tutbury, and formed part of a priory founded by Henry de Ferrers probably in the 1080s. Although this Grade I parish church has been added to and altered, some 13th century fabric still survives, and it is referred to in the list description as being the most important in the county.

Intrinsic to the significance of St Mary's is its churchyard setting. It is therefore essential that any structures or features are carefully designed to take account of this sensitive location.

As highlighted in our previous correspondence, and at our attendance of the meeting of the Lichfield DAC, if the parish and the DAC are convinced that the wreath holders are essential then Historic England has no objection in principle to their erection. We also accept that they need to be as close as possible to the existing war memorial.

However, after careful consideration we are unable to support the currently proposed structures. Whilst we accept that the structures need to accommodate a specific purpose, in our view the current proposals do not have the elegance necessary for such a significant location. In particular we have previously drawn attention to the bulky and rather domestic character of the framework.

As a possible compromise we had initially suggested a demountable structure which could be removed and stored when not in use. However, from subsequent information supplied by the Tutbury War Memorials Preservation Committee we are aware that whilst this could be achieved, they anticipate remembrance wreaths will in fact be attached to the structures for nearly 11 months of the year.

We are also aware from Mr Nuth's letter dated 29th July 2016, that the Memorials Preservation Committee is of the view that an artistic design would not be a viable structure for attaching the wreaths. This was in response to our suggestion that a bespoke piece of commemorative art, that could also accommodate the wreaths, could be a potential way forward. We are unclear as to whether the Committee has contacted any sculptors on which to basis their opinion. Whilst we note the committee's view that form should follow function, we do not consider that this would negate the possibility of a structure being both attractive and serving a practical purpose.

Clearly each case should be considered on its own merits. However, Historic England is conscious that there is the potential that the approval of this design, in this highly sensitive location, could act as a template for similar such structures elsewhere.

Date: 11th August 2016

Signature of objector (or counsel or solicitor):



Full name: Julie Taylor, Inspector of Historic Buildings and Areas, on behalf of Historic England

Address:

Planning Group
Historic England | West Midlands
The Axis
10 Holliday Street
Birmingham
B1 1TG

(See over)

Notes

1. If you wish to become a party opponent in the faculty proceedings you must complete and return this form to the registrar, and send or deliver a copy to the petitioners, within 21 days from the date when you received the written notice from the registrar enclosing this form.
2. If you do not return this form to the registrar and send a copy to the petitioners within 21 days from the date when you received the written notice from the registrar your letter of objection will be taken into account by the chancellor in reaching a decision but you will not become a party to the proceedings and you will not be entitled to take part in the proceedings or to seek permission to appeal against any judgment or order of the Court.

I certify that I have sent a copy of these Particulars of Objection to the Petitioners today.

Date: 11th August 2016

Signed:



(Signature of objector or solicitor)

