

THE CHURCH OF ST PETER & ST PAUL, RUSTINGTON

PROPOSAL TO INSTALL PV PANELS ON THE SOUTH ROOFS:

PLANNING STATEMENT

1.0 Design & Access Statement

- 1.1 A separate design and access statement is not submitted as the works do not come within the types of application listed in the validation list. This planning statement is submitted, as is a separate heritage statement.

2.0 Description of the Site

- 2.1 The parish church of Rustington lies at the intersection of Sea Lane and the Street, with the churchyard occupying a roughly square corner plot. The churchyard is flat, and occupied as one would expect by graves and memorials. There is a low flint wall with mature trees behind to the west and north sides fronting the roads; to the south and east sides are high flint and brick walls with mature trees at the boundaries. A tarmac public footpath runs from the lych gate in the southwest corner of the churchyard to the exit from the churchyard in the northeast corner; the footpath bifurcates with one branch running around the north side of the church, and the other branch running round the south side.
- 2.2 Across the roads from the church are shops and other retail premises. To the south of the churchyard over the tall boundary wall are retail premises, the garages to the premises and associated residential accommodation, and garages to adjacent residential accommodation. East of the churchyard is the church hall.

3.0 Proposed Development

- 3.1 The development consists solely of the installation of 39 PV panels, each 1762x1134mm and 30mm thick, to the lead flat roof to the vestries and wc, and to the lower part of the gently sloping lead roof to the south aisle adjacent; the panels will be fixed to rails which in turn will be fixed to clamps, resulting in the tops of the panels being approximately 130mm above the roof leadwork. Both roof slopes are behind a substantial flint and stone parapet and will not be seen from ground level.
- 3.2 The lead roofs have been checked by a structural engineer, BMG Surveys, who has confirmed their ability to take the weight of the panels. The installation will have no effect on vegetation or on habitats.

4.0 Biodiversity Net Gain

- 4.1 The development does not impact a priority habitat and impacts no on-site habitats, and is below the threshold for biodiversity gain requirements: planning permission should not therefore be subject to a biodiversity gain condition.

5.0 Community Infrastructure Levy

- 5.1 A separate CIL form has been completed as part of this application. No levy is required.

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