

ENCLOSURE 3

Description of the range of development envisaged in terms of scale and uses

Background

The Glebe Field has an historic association with the church at Meole Brace. Its ownership has recently returned to the local church, whose vision is:

- To care for and use the field in sustainable ways
- To share it with the whole community
- To integrate it with the local area and the church buildings
- To leave it as a legacy for future generations

Existing situation

The field does not presently have a strong visual or functional relationship with the church buildings (the church and the adjacent Trinity Centre). It is difficult to access and is under-used.

Opportunities

There is an opportunity to provide a safer and more convenient pedestrian access to the church and churchyard as part of the Glebe Field improvement. This will also provide benefits for members of the community who walk through the churchyard.

Development proposed

Change of use of the Glebe Field to permissive public recreation and enjoyment with associated informal paths

The field will remain an essentially natural space, with large areas left as wildflower meadow. An informal grassed path will be created through and around the field, simply by regular mowing. A limited number of more formal “hoggin” paths and areas will be provided to give all-weather access, suitable for wheelchair users and people with pushchairs and prams. Some informal benches will be provided. Existing mature trees will be retained and supplemented by new planting of native trees. An orchard will be established on the north side of the field. An area will be defined as a “field of play” for children. An area in the north-east part of the field, overlooked by the Trinity Centre (Bradbury Hall) will be gently landscaped and mown to create a multi-purpose space for recreational activity.

Formation of a new pedestrian access from Church Road to the Glebe Field, churchyard, church and Trinity Centre

A new footpath will be provided connecting the existing footway on the south side of Church Road to a new footpath across the SE corner of the field via a new uncontrolled pedestrian crossing. The footpath will provide a direct access into the field and the existing

buildings, and will be hard-surfaced and lit. The new crossing will provide a clearly defined safe place to cross, with good visibility in all directions.

Works to protected trees/trees in Conservation Area and new planting as appropriate

A tree survey has been undertaken (see under 6.Enclosures - Other information) to assess the trees presently in the field and identify those which are of special value. The proposed works have been designed to enhance the setting of these trees whilst avoiding any impacts on their root protection zones. A number of new native trees will be planted, complementing the existing trees and representing a commitment to the future. An orchard is also proposed.

Construction of a balcony to the north side of the Trinity Centre with access via the Bradbury Hall

At present there is no direct pedestrian access from the Trinity Centre to the Glebe Field. To better integrate the buildings and the field, a new balcony, is proposed on the north side of the Bradbury Hall (part of the Trinity Centre), accessed from the hall and overlooking the Glebe Field. Pedestrian accesses will be provided from the balcony to the field via steps and a ramp.

Laying out of ground source heat pump infrastructure

This proposal creates a unique opportunity to reduce the church's dependence on fossil fuels, by providing a sustainable source of energy to heat the Trinity Centre. The system would need to be installed at the same time as the landscaping work on the field.