

Listed Building Application-Installation Of A Stairlift.

The Old Parsonage, Butchers Hill, Shorne, Gravesend, DA12 3EB.

Listed Building and Heritage Statement.

Introduction

An enquiry was made prior to submitting this application as to whether a Listed Building Application would be required to install a stairlift and the response advised that it is required.

The Old Parsonage is Grade 11 Listed. The listing details below:

TQ 67 SE SHORNE BUTCHERS HILL 2/135 27.8.52 The Old Parsonage (formerly listed as the Old Vicarage) II

Rebuilt in late C19 as replica of C18 building burnt down. Red brick to all elevations. Clay roofing tiles. Painted timber eaves.

Rectangular with roof hipped at both ends.

Front of 2 storeys with attic storey above. Central doorway with pilaster, pediment, semi-circular fanlight and 6 panelled door with raised and fielded panels. Flight of 5 steps up to doorway. Four sash windows with glazing bars to ground floor, 5 sash windows with glazing bars to first floor. Two dormer windows with hipped tiled roofs. Brick modillions below painted timber eaves.

We note that the listing details do not mention any interior fixtures or features which may be because the house was re-built and is therefore a replica of the original building.









Proposed works

The proposal is to install a stair lift between the ground and first floors. The stairlift supplier and installer will be Stannah who have provided details for the stairlift which are submitted with this application.

The main points to note are that the rails are fixed to the tread of the steps only, so they are not attached to the stringer, baluster, stringer or newel posts.

The tread of the staircase is carpeted as the photographs below show and so, when the stairlift is removed, the fixing holes can be plugged or filled to match the timber of the step and the step therefore returned to its previous condition. Therefore, the work to install the stairlift is temporary and reversible and the building will be returned to its original condition once the stairlift is removed.

There is a relevant planning policy, Policy CS19 (LPCS) requires that all development should be 'fit for purpose' and be 'adaptable to allow changes to meet the needs of users'.

Whilst this house is much older than this planning policy, we comment that the installation of the stairlift enables this house to adapt to the occupiers needs.

Heritage Statement

As mentioned, this house is Grade 11 listed. It is a replica of the original house which burnt down and was re-built about a century ago, so the interior fittings and fixtures are of some age but are not that old in the sense normally thought of when considering listed parsonage buildings.

The interior of the house is not given a mention within the listing details.

The house is currently undergoing alterations to add a ground floor extension to the kitchen to the right side of the house and a modern orangery extension on the left side in order to update the house to meet the owners' future needs.

The installation of the stairlift will have no long-lasting or damaging impact on the heritage or architectural features of the house. Installing the stairlift will involve drilling holes into the tread of the staircase in order to bolt the stairlift into place. These bolts and fixings can be removed in the future so the staircase can be restored easily to the original condition.

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