

<b>APPLICATION NO:</b> 21/02019/FUL	<b>OFFICER:</b> Miss Michelle Payne
<b>DATE REGISTERED:</b> 8th September 2021	<b>DATE OF EXPIRY :</b> 3rd November 2021
<b>WARD:</b> Lansdown	<b>PARISH:</b>
<b>APPLICANT:</b>	Cheltenham Borough Council
<b>LOCATION:</b>	St Marys Church, Well Walk, Cheltenham
<b>PROPOSAL:</b>	Various external works within the grounds of Cheltenham Minster (St Mary's) to include improvements to the paving and connection pathways; improvements to the lighting; restoration of historic artefacts; improved vehicular access; provision of formal seating areas; and enhancements to biodiversity

## REPRESENTATIONS

Number of contributors	<b>2</b>
Number of objections	<b>1</b>
Number of representations	<b>1</b>
Number of supporting	<b>0</b>

13 Lambert Close  
Shurdington  
Cheltenham  
GL51 4SR

**Comments:** 5th November 2021

Regarding the possible revitalising of the grounds of St Mary's Church in Cheltenham.

I understand this is being considered due to anti-social behaviour however I and many others believe this would be a crying shame.

Why? Because at present it is a relatively peaceful haven for squirrels. If they start chopping down trees they will lose their home of many years.

Also why alter the peaceful grounds of the oldest Grade 1 listed building in town.

St Mary's is Cheltenham's only medieval church, it was built by the abbey of Cirencester, which owned it from the early 12th century until 1539.

Although parts of the original 12th-century structure have survived, much of the building dates from the 14th century, and was heavily restored during the Victorian period.

Every time I go to town I walk through this beautiful site and am often fortunate enough to have an encounter with one of our Cheltonian squirrels.

Please read the reviews on Google for Cheltenham Minster St Mary's Church ... peaceful oasis, hidden gem etc.

We love it as it is - as do tourists visiting Cheltenham Spa.

Please do not make these unnecessary changes.

If you would like to see some photographs of the squirrels who live there let me know I would be happy to oblige.

55 Farmington Road  
Cheltenham  
Gloucestershire  
GL51 6AG

**Comments:** 26th September 2021

There look to be some significant positives to the scheme.

I wanted to highlight the importance of the area in providing a safe east to west cycling corridor. Following the failure of Phase 4 of the Cheltenham Transport Plan, and the prohibition of cycles using the recently renewed Boots Corner crossing, the most segregated route available for cycles uses the short cycle path from Imperial Circus to access Church Street before turning west to access Chester Walk, or continuing up Church Street onto the high street.

The scheme appears to make provision for this, but I wanted to highlight a particularly couple of opportunities;

- 1) That bollards (eg S9) are spaced to current equalities legislation and guidance to allow a full range of non-motorised users (1.5m - eg see LTN 1/20 8.3.5), particularly those cycling with family trailers or disability adapted cycles. There appears to be a particular challenge at the southern gate, although the western access should also be reviewed.
- 2) That achieving maximum possible width on the Southern path from Church Street would be highly desirable
- 3) The scheme appears not to include any cycle parking, which I believe goes against local supplementary planning advice.

Particularly given the aims of the scheme, a sufficient number of high secure cycle parking on hard standing should be included, both for those using the building and those using the amenity of the environment surrounding it. Given the potential security risks of the area, it should be placed in a well lit area, with high footfall and passive sight lines for observation.