

Partial demolition and construction of a double
storey front extension, single storey rear
extension and internal alterations:

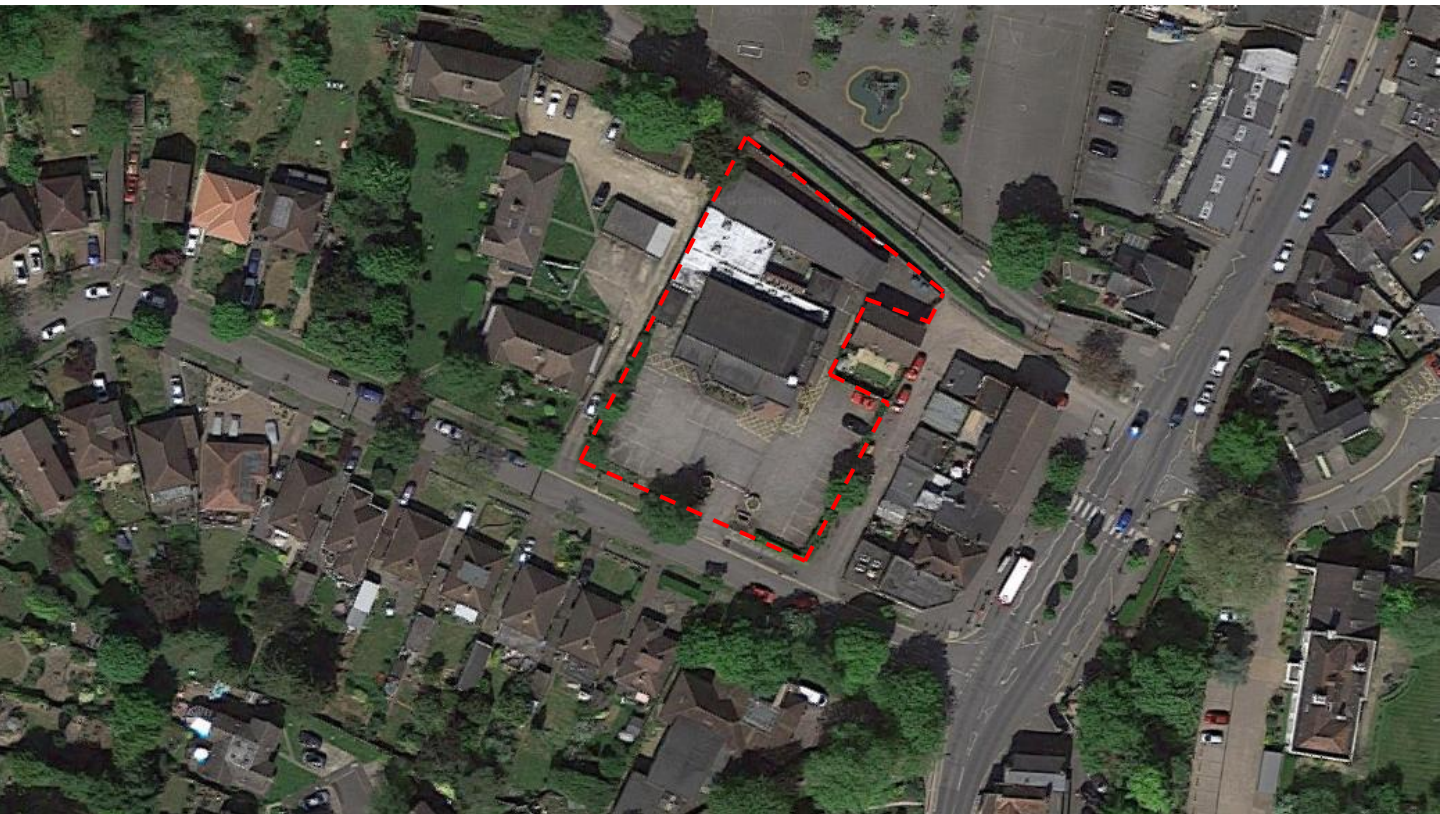
Roman Catholic Church of St. Paul,
Merle Avenue, Harefield, Uxbridge, UB9 6DG

For Westminster RC Diocese Trustee

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Design and Access Statement

Planning Application Submission
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Existing main entrance (right side)

1.0 History and Context

The present church was built in 1964 as a dual-purpose church and parish hall, providing space for Sunday Mass and weekday activities, together with a small oratory. However, the need was later felt for a parish social area and a club room separated from the church, so a hall was built on to the rear of the church in 1973-1974.

The Church is located within the Harefield Village conservation area.



Existing main entrance (front side)

2.0 Demolition

The proposal seeks to demolish part of the existing Narthex to the front, allowing for a double storey structure, housing the new Narthex and additional rooms on the first floor.

The rear entrance will be removed, creating an extension that provides additional seating areas.



Existing rear entrance



Proposed main entrance (right side)

3.0 Principles of Design

The proposal seeks to construct a two-storey front extension with a double height glazed link to the side. The extension has been designed to be in a suitable brick stock to match the existing church, with the inner chamfered section finished in limestone effect render.

The upper level of the front extension contains a bespoke stained glass window.

External wall tiles to be replaced with vertical fibre cement cladding around the upper levels of the church. The rear elevation will also be built with a suitable brick stock to match existing.

4.0 Access & Parking

The proposal will keep the existing vehicular and pedestrian access to the site along with the current number of parking spaces including the two disabled parking bays near the Narthex.



Proposed main entrance with the Cedral cladding



Existing parking spaces



Proposed main entrance (evening)

5.0 Conclusion

The existing internal space within the church no longer meets the needs of Catholic parish members.

Special care has been taken to ensure that the proposed development not only embeds itself within the existing established built environment, but also helps to enhance the space for the benefit of all.

Overall, the proposal gives the church the needed facilities it requires.