

Seymour & Bainbridge

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Laura Mathias
Shakespeare Southampton Legacy Trust
Palace House
Beaulieu
Brockenhurst
Hampshire
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LB/SES/819/26905

18th March 2022

Dear Laura

ST PETER'S CHURCH, TITCHFIELD - SOUTHAMPTON MONUMENT AND VAULT INITIATIVE

I am writing to support application for grant towards the cost of Building Environmental Performance Assessment (BEPA) at St Peters Church, Titchfield as Tobit Curteis Associates LLP proposal of 16th February 2022.

This is recommended as essential in understanding the environmental conditions affecting:

- The fourteenth century Southampton Chapel fabric
- Monuments including the notable Purbeck slab inlaid with the figure of The Knight William de Pagenham set in the floor, and the magnificent sixteenth century alabaster and marble memorial to the Earls of Southampton as well as other wall monuments.
- The Tudor brick vault below the chapel, which was opened up for inspection in 2021.

The chapel fabric has been affected with dampness over many years, alleviated by repair of the valley gutter and drainage repairs in 2015, and in 2021 the external masonry was repointed in lime mortar replacing cement, and the south side rainwater goods renewed.

Internally, the chapel walls are damp stained with flaking particularly where there have been hard cement repairs in the past and salt production is damaging the surface. The floor damp with partial mid twentieth century repaving set in cement mortar.

The quinquennial inspection is due this year and the Building Environmental Performance Assessment will help to inform the priority and nature of essential and recommended repairs and conservation.

Continued..

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Consultant: GARY SEYMOUR DipArch

Work to the church heating system has been proposed, but not yet afforded, to improve comfort of the congregation in the nave pews and also to reduce fluctuation of relative humidity, for which some data is available.

This proposal for the BEPA is timely to ensure a well-considered approach to any intervention and for the long term conservation of the fabric, of fixtures and contents.

Yours sincerely



LOUISE BAINBRIDGE
Seymour & Bainbridge