



# Asbestos Policy

## All Saints' Church, Walsoken

Please refer to Church document H&S\_Doc\_001 for all General Health & Safety requirements

### Specific Policy

This Health & Safety (H&S) sub-policy controls asbestos or asbestos containing material (ACM) at church.

#### Introduction

Asbestos is a naturally occurring, fibrous material which if inhaled can cause serious diseases. These include cancers of the lungs and chest linings, which can take many years to develop following exposure.

The use of asbestos or (ACM) in construction or refurbishment was banned in 2000. However, prior to this asbestos was widely used, so can potentially be found in any premises, particularly if they were built, refurbished, altered or extended during the twentieth century.

Where asbestos (or ACM) is present, exposure can generally result when it is disturbed, damaged or is just in a poor condition. Therefore, those people who are most at risk are those carrying out maintenance and repair jobs. This could be builders, roofers, electricians, painters, decorators, joiners, plumbers, gas fitters, plasterers, heating engineers or surveyors.

The only building work in All Saints' Church, Walsoken during the 20<sup>th</sup> century using, the then contemporary, asbestos (or ACM) were

- 1) The external boiler house.
- 2) The installation of the kitchen and toilet when the ringing area was raised.

#### Legal Requirements

**Note:** Work with asbestos and ACM can only be carried out by licenced contractors according to safety guidelines. The congregation or visitors must not interact with asbestos or ACM.

The PCC have a legal requirement to manage asbestos or ACM as the church is a non-domestic property for which they have formal control.

### Reference Documents

The Health and Safety at Work Act 1974.

The Control of Asbestos Regulations 2012.

### Procedure

The PCC at All Saints' Church, Walsoken must

- 1) Identify what asbestos and ACM are present at church. Label it in its location. Its condition is assessed annually. We retain a written record of this.
- 2) Keep a record of any asbestos work.
- 3) Assess the risk from any ACMs that might be present and retain a written record of this. (see document H&S\_Doc\_0001)
- 4) Ensure that a written plan to manage the risk from any ACMs is prepared. Implement the requirements of the plan to make sure that any asbestos or ACMs are known to be in good condition and are removed, repaired, protected and labelled where necessary (see document H&S\_Doc\_0002).
- 5) Provide information on the location and condition of the asbestos or ACM to anyone who is liable to disturb it or is otherwise potentially at risk (e.g. emergency services).
- 6) Keep a records of works done on asbestos or ACM. (see church document H&S\_Doc\_0003 Annual report & Asbestos).
- 7) Provide relevant information to those that need it where you are planning construction work.
- 8) This procedure documents the church's arrangements and responsibilities for managing asbestos or ACM.

### Forms

None

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## All Saints' Church – Walsoken

### Diagrams

Diagram 1. Indicative ACM locations at church

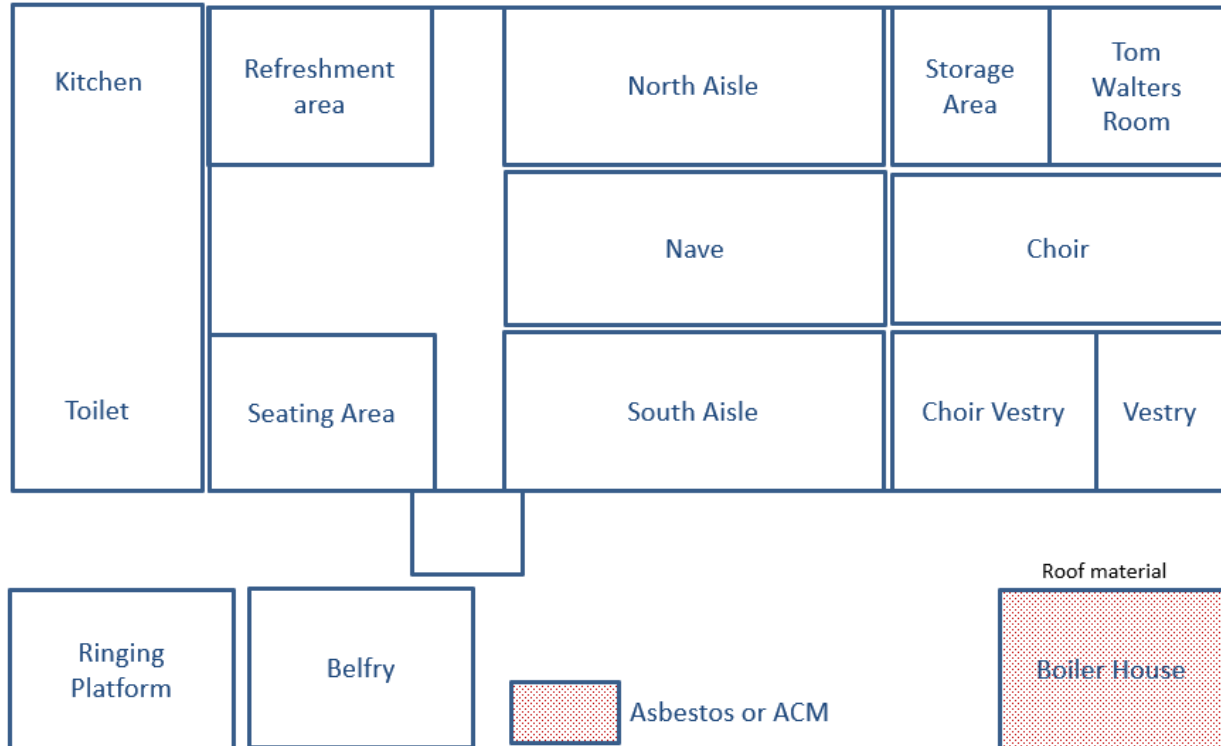
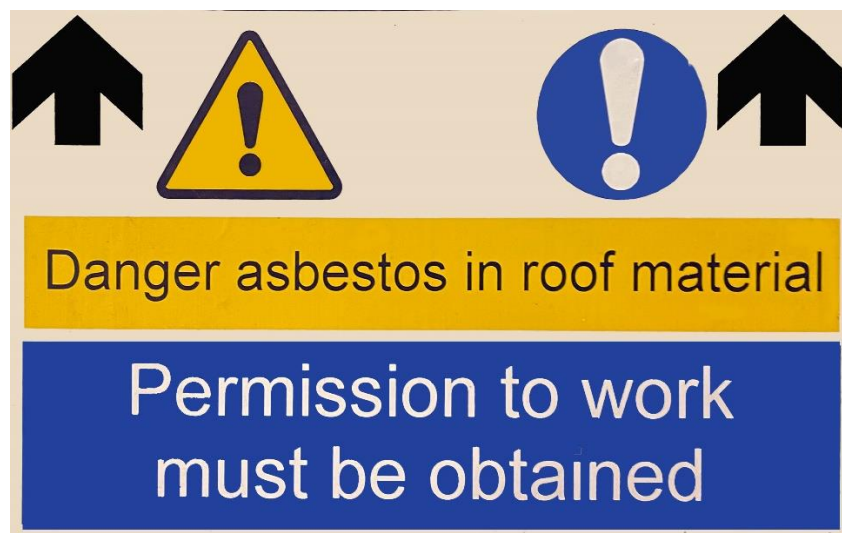


Diagram 2. Asbestos Warning in Boiler house



### Appendices

None

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