

## St Nicholas - Stevenage

### Statement of Need: Refurbishment of the Churchyard Path

#### The Needs

The existing path is constructed of timber retaining boards held in place by timber posts and a gravel infill to form a path approximately 900mm wide, running from the lychgate through the churchyard to Western Road Cemetery. There are 3 steps located by the lychgate giving access to the path, there are no handrails to the existing steps.

The existing path is in a poor state of repair, much of the timber retaining boards and gravel are missing, and during periods of rain, the subsoil of the path is being washed down the path onto the lychgate steps, taking with it large quantities of earth which is then deposited on the steps making them slippery and dangerous. Additionally the action of the water running down the path and lack of gravel makes the path uneven and is constituting a health and safety hazard to the users, particularly as those who use the path are now walking either side of the path.

The proposal for the new path will widen the path to approximately 1800mm, give a flat surface finished with bonded gravel and concrete edgings. Additionally the steps will be removed and a ramp with a handrail formed to replace them, this will give access to those with mobility issues.

Mike Wilton  
Churchwarden

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