With regards to the alteration of a window to form a door, this alteration is to the principal building and will involve the removal of historic fabric and also the interruption of the historic regular window pattern, both of which would constitute harm to the heritage significance of the listed building. Any harm requires clear and convincing justification (NPPF, p.132) and the supporting statements do not appear to address this.

The existing windows retain the gothic intersecting glazing details to the arched head of the windows however the remainder of the window is more modern, altered in the past to introduce a top opening stormproof sash. Due to the internal and external floor level differences, steps are proposed inside the building to enable egress.

We would therefore recommend that the scheme is amended to retain the existing opening as existing, but instead amend the modern window sash below the arched head to a single side hung opening door in order to maintain the symmetry of this elevation, matching existing glazing bar profiles etc. Given that steps are required inside, we see no reason why a step cannot be incorporated outside as well, rather than have to lower the opening and remove historic masonry. The existing windows are single glazed so we would not support the introduction of double glazing to a single door as this would emphasise the contrasting appearance between windows and door.

We would object to the current proposal. Please re-consult with amended plans.

Comments made by Building Conservation of The Old Vicarage
Bondgate
Helmsley
York
YO62 5BP
via email: building@northyorkmoors.org.uk
Phone: 01439 772700
Fax: 01439 770691
EMail: building@northyorkmoors.org.uk
Preferred Method of Contact is: Post

Comment Type is Object with comments
Letter ID: 498994