

Re Long Bennington Parish Church

Lincoln Consistory Court: Bishop Ch, January 2009

Reservation of gravespace – family grave

The petitioners were parishioners and respectively the partner of 25 years and daughter of the deceased. They sought a faculty for the reservation of gravespaces in order that they might be buried respectively with and alongside his remains. His three children by his former wife and his sister objected on the basis that it would be uncomfortable for them talking to him in his grave in the knowledge that the petitioners were also buried there. The chancellor noted the Christian belief that although mortal remains stay in the grave, the immortal soul of the person who has died is not there, but lives on in Christ. The faculty was granted. [RA]

doi:10.1017/S0956618X09990196

Re St Mary the Virgin, Bishops Lydeard

Bath and Wells Consistory Court: Briden Ch, January 2009

Lighting – confirmatory faculty

The parish had embarked upon a major programme of restoration of the Grade I listed building. This included the replacement of the electrical wiring, for which a faculty had been granted, but also the replacement of most of the lighting without faculty. The works included the removal of light fittings designed by Sir Ninian Comper. The Twentieth Century Society had objected to the new scheme but did not become a party opponent. The petitioners apologised for carrying out unlawful alterations and pointed out that they were mistaken in believing that a faculty had been granted for all of the proposed works. The chancellor had directed the petitioners to apply for a confirmatory faculty and pointed out that the court could order the removal or modification of the works that had been carried out without faculty. However, having regard to the quality of the new scheme and the prospective cost of restoring the old a confirmatory faculty was granted. [WA]

doi:10.1017/S0956618X09990202

Re Undercliffe Cemetery

Bradford Consistory Court: Walford Ch, January 2009

Exhumation – restriction in access to grave

The chancellor granted permission for the exhumation of the remains of the petitioners' son in circumstances where increasingly restrictive opening times