

DIOCESE OF SHEFFIELD

In the Consistory Court

Her Honour Judge Sarah Singleton QC
Chancellor

In the Matter of Rotherham All Saints Minster Church

Judgment

1. The Petition in this case seeks permission for the installation of a sharp second bell in order to create a true light octave of the front eight bells in the bell tower. The Petition is brought with the unanimous support of the PCC and the unqualified recommendation of the DAC. The relevant amenity societies have been consulted and have no comment. This is not surprising because the works will have no impact upon the historic structure of this beautiful and ancient building. The new bell can be accommodated in the existing frame with only slight adjustments to create a ring of thirteen.
2. All Saints, the Minster Church of Rotherham, holds its place at the heart of the town geographically, spiritually, socially and culturally and has done so for more than 1,000 years. There is a long tradition of bell ringing at the Minster which is visited by external teams of ringers. The original ten bells of the current peel were supplemented in the mid-1980s to bring the existing ring to 12 bells. This additional bell will enable the front eight bells to be rung alone and to sound as a true octave when there are no qualified ringers available for the heavier bells.
3. The church is Grade 1 listed but these works do not affect the ancient structure or the architectural or the historical significance of the building.
4. The necessary funds are in place for these works and I hope that they can be successfully completed in a timely way so that everyone, including the donor, is able to enjoy the enhanced sounds of the Minster bells as soon as possible.
5. I have no hesitation in directing that a faculty be issued to permit these works.

HHJ Sarah Singleton QC

Chancellor

29th December 2021