



The Town Clerk
Thame Town Council

By email only:
Mandy.sturdy@thametowncouncil.gov.uk

 THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND

OXFORD DIOCESAN
REGISTRY

John Rees MA LLB M Phil
Darren Oliver BA LLB
Registrars of the Diocese

Sara Leader LLB
Helen Lambourne
Registry Clerks

Our Ref: DPO/HML/10877

Date: 08 February 2022

Dear Madam

Church: St Mary, Thame
Special Notice under Rule 9.1 of the Faculty Jurisdiction Rules 2015

I am writing at the direction of the Chancellor of the Diocese of Oxford to give you special notice that we have received a Petition for a gravespace reservation in the churchyard of the above church detailed on the enclosed Public Notice which is currently being displayed inside and outside the church. I also enclose a copy of the Petition for your reference.

Given that there is only enough burial space remaining in this churchyard to accommodate burials for another 7 – 10 years, the churchyard will be full long before the petitioner's normal time comes and the reservation will prevent someone with a present right of burial from being buried there. Not only should the limited amount of burial space be a matter of potential interest to the Parochial Church Council and to worshippers at St Mary's, but also to the residents of the town more generally, given that the burden on providing further burial space falls to municipal authorities.

The Chancellor considers that notice should be given to Thame Town Council so that it can consider and be given the opportunity to comment from the perspective of the residents of the town generally.

If you have any representations which the Town Council would wish to make, please can you respond within 21 days from the date of this letter (to be received at the Diocesan Registry no later than **Tuesday, 1 March 2022**).

Yours sincerely

Darren Oliver
Solicitor and Registrar of the Diocese