**Design and Access Statement**

**Name and address of proposed development:**

 Eden Valley Museum
 Church House
 72 High Street
 Edenbridge
 Kent
 TN8 5AR

**List description:** Grade II\* listed

**Proposed Development or Works:** Erection of a Museum sign to replace one last in place 2018 on the same fixings and in original dimensions

**Consultation:**

1. Sevenoaks District Council Conservation department were consulted with details of the sign and confirmed the necessity of making a planning application
2. As an Accredited Museum and local community charity focussed on the preservation of local history the Eden Valley Museum Trust has consulted both its membership and members of the Edenbridge Historical Society to confirm re-erecting the sign, with the discussion being held at the last EVMT AGM

**Design Components:**

Layout: The site of erection and design of the sign shown in accompanying images was arrived at by following the previous signs design and placement

Scale: The sign measures 85cm x 100cm x 5cm, maintaining exactly the same dimensions of the original sign. The Hanging bracket and mounting of the original sign is situated at first floor level on the High Street facing side of the building and will be re-used for the new sign.

Appearance: The sign has been designed in a matching colour scheme to the original, unlike the original which featured machine printed laminate facias the new sign has been hand painted by a professional sign painter to further match with the appropriate aesthetic for the building and High Street conservation area.

**Historic Building Conservation Issues:**

 **Historic and architectural importance of the building:** Church House features extensive architectural components of timber framed wattle and daub style. Dating from the 14th century as a hall house it has seen significant changes over time whilst maintaining the same footprint and basic structural elements. Full details of the history of the building can be reviewed in the Heritage statement and accompanying documents. However, the pre-existing location for the sign on the Road side of the building is on a facia which has seen significant changes over time:

* Tile facia obscures original architecture
* Previous residents had secondary entrances open for ‘72a’, now closed
* The loss of railings and a porch area at some point in the second half of the 20th century

Working within these aesthetic criteria the erection of the sign will be sympathetic to the current arrangement of the building, being a direct replacement for a previous sign and fitted to the same bracket it will be indistinguishable other than a more authentic appearance on close examination due to the hand painted revision.

 **Setting:** Church House is part of the adjoining Rickards Hall complex including Rickards Hall and the Doggetts barn, location of the Town Council. On the Street facing side which the sign will be erected on it is most notably next door (detached) to The Crown Pub, featuring it’s famous street crossing sign. With this in mind, the sign has been hand painted and (following the original sign dimensions) is in the style of a traditional high street shop or pub hanging sign.

**Access components:**

 **Technical Advice:** The only technical aspect of the proposed sign will be the hanging, which will be undertaken either by the sign maker or (as with the previous sign) with the assistance of the Edenbridge Town Council Grounds work team, since ETC are the owners of the building.

 **Degree of Access/Future Access requirements/Emergency Access:** These are not relevant to the proposed plan