HERITAGE STATEMENT

- Little St Marys, The Street, Bramber . BN44 3WE
- Application “Inglenook” - to remove existing brick open fire insert and replace with woodburning stove and chimney liner.

CONTEXT

Little St Marys is a medieval building, thought to date from c.1640. It is adjacent to St Marys Lodge and opposite St Marys House, a former priory dating from c.1470, now an open house and gardens. As such the three properties form part of an iconic view along The Street to Bramber Castle and St Nicholas Church.

As a medieval building it is most likely that the chimney was an addition. Originally smoke would have escaped through the roof and it is possibly soot that can be seen on the roof beams that would support this. It is not known when the chimney was added, it is not listed in the Hearth tax records, 1662-1689. The modern brick insert is most likely from the last century.

Little St Marys is a grade II listed building (entry 1353966, 09-May-1980). The listing is combined with St Marys Lodge and references the wooden mullion window, now blocked internally, to the eastern end upper floor of Little St Marys. No internal features are referenced.

IMPACT

The external works are likely to take no more than a few hours and will not be visible from the externally, with no negative impact on neighbouring heritage assets.

SIGNIFICANCE

The removal of the brick insert returns the inglenook opening closer visually to when it was added to the building c.17 or c.18. The existing ceiling plate within the inglenook is a modern addition that has deteriorated over time and requires replacement to maintain compliance with modern regulations.

The addition of the woodburning stove is less of an impact to the heritage of this building than the attached brick insert. The woodburning stove will be a free-standing object within the inglenook space. The impact to heritage is thus kept minimal.