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**Sent:** 21 November 2017 09:27  
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**Cc:** Jackie Hughes <[jackiehughes@tresco.co.uk](mailto:jackiehughes@tresco.co.uk)>  
**Subject:** Replacement Windows, The Tower, Tresco Abbey

REFERENCE EML-OUT/3975/20171121-92401-787

 Dear David

 Thank you very much for your e-mail about our application.  I do understand your suggestion for the replacement of the windows with metal.  Our big problem is finding a source which can provide windows which are up to the exposure, both in terms of wind speed and the durability of the product.  The Crittall windows which you mention, which we use elsewhere quite frequently, are made of steel and although they are galvanised and can have a marine finish the manufacturers will not provide a warranty on Tresco.  We have also looked into using aluminium but the problem here is that the finishes peel back from the joints where they are welded at the mitres on the corners of the frame. The bare metal oxidises where it is not protected which means that they don’t last very long.  We have talked to bronze window suppliers who also won’t warrant their product for use in the Tower on account of the fact that they need a protective lacquer applied to the outside of them every four years which does away with the advantage of a metal window,

Timber windows do therefore represent a good solution. They could be painted a darker colour than the existing white p.v.c. in order to be less prominent.  However it is very important not to paint them too dark a colour as they then absorb more heat from direct sunlight and this breaks down the timber more quickly.  I therefore suggest that we use a grey painted timber window as redecoration is so difficult given the height of the tower.

I have talked to Robert Dorrien Smith about the period allowed to replace them. He has suggested that 18 months would be more practical because the works for this winter are already scheduled and the materials ordered. The Tower is let as a commercial property during the summer.  This would allow the work to take place over the next winter season 2018/19.

I trust that you will be open to this suggestion.”

With best wishes

Yours

Martin