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13th December 2018

Our Ref: **18-548**

Your Ref: **2018/62/93740/W**

Dear Mr. Wakefield,

PLANNING APPLICATION 2018/62/93740/W FOR THE RE-DEVELOPMENT OF TRAINING FACILITIES INCLUDING ERECTION OF NEW TRAINING AND ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDINGS AND FORMATION OF NEW PITCH FACILITIES AT HUDDERSFIELD TOWN ASSOCIATION FOOTBALL CLUB AT PPG CANALSIDE, 509 LEEDS ROAD, HUDDERSFIELD, HD2 1YJ.

Heritage Assessment

I write further to your email of 27th November 2018 regarding the above and in particular the request for an assessment of the impact of the proposed development on the setting of two Grade II listed canal locks on the Huddersfield canal/Sir John Ramsden's canal which is located to the north of the application site. In preparing this assessment, PWA Planning has had regard to paragraph 189 of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) which states that the level of detail should be proportionate to the assets' importance and no more than is sufficient to understand the potential impact of the proposal on their significance. Equally it is noted that Policy PLP 35 of the emerging Local Plan states that *"Development proposals affecting a designated heritage asset (or an archaeological site of national importance) should conserve those elements which contribute to its significance. Harm to such elements will be permitted only where this is outweighed by the public benefits of the proposal"*.

The first of the relevant listings (directly to the north of the application site and the westerly of the two locks in question) is listed on the Historic England website as the Calder and Hebble Navigation Number 8 Lock/Sir John Ramsden's Canal Number 8 Lock and was listed in 1978. It is noted as having ashlar kerbstones, iron mooring hooks and two wooden lock gates. The second (to the north/north east of the application site, just to the west of where Fieldhouse Lane crosses the canal) is listed as the Calder and Hebble Navigation Fieldhouse Lock/Sir John Ramsden's Canal Fieldhouse Lock. It was also listed in 1978 and is also noted as having ashlar kerbstones, iron mooring hooks and two wooden lock gates as well as a hammer-dressed stone bridge with a depressed arch, string course and parapet.

Part of the application site is already occupied by a training ground and the proposal seeks to expand the current operation into land to the east of the existing training ground (to the south of the canal). Given the existence of the use on part of the site, it is not considered that the setting of Number 8 Lock would be affected by the proposed development. The proposal would bring the training facilities closer to Fieldhouse Lock. The submitted plans do however show a substantial area of screen planting between the new pitch and the lock which, given the quality of landscaping proposed, would help to enhance its setting.

The outlook from the listed structures toward Leeds Road is one of a mixture of commercial and industrial land uses. The proposed development would not alter this in any perceptible manner and would generally introduce a higher standard of architecture to the application site inferring the outlook would be improved or as a minimum remain unharmed. The sensitivity of the lock's setting is generally limited to the canal, towpath and adjoining vegetation. In this context the application would not result in any perceptible change. Moreover, whilst the works result in development closer to the canal, the works relate to the construction of a new playing pitch on land which is currently disused, overgrown and unsightly inferring that any impacts could be viewed as slightly beneficial.

Overall, it is considered that the proposed development would have a negligible impact on the setting of the two designated heritage assets and the proposal complies with the relevant provisions of the Local Plan and the NPPF.

Please let me know if you have any further queries.

Yours Sincerely,



Joshua Hellawell MRTPI MTCP
Planner