

About the application

Application number: 2019/62/91239/E	
What is the application for?:	Demolition of existing public house and erection of four dwellings
Address of the site or building:	The Shears, 201, Halifax Road, Hightown, Liversedge, WF15 6NR
Postcode:	WF156NR

User comments

Type of comment: An objection
<p>Does anyone at the Planning Office actually look at the historical significance of these buildings before they allow submissions for demolition and "repurposing of land"? This is the Inn where the croppers / Luddites are rumoured to have met and planned the smashing of the new shearing frames while being transported, and the subsequent raid on Rawfolds Mill in 1812.</p> <p>Its history may not matter to those in power in Huddersfield in 2019, but those of us who live more locally find it of far greater value than 4 new houses.</p> <p>We have had a large number of building projects approved within North Kirklees recently which have involved the loss of historically-interesting buildings, including the demolition of the Whitcliffe Mount School buildings and Old Pack Horse pub, and I do not feel the destruction of such a historically significant building as The Shears for the erection of four new dwellings is worth the cost to history.</p> <p>I am aware that Kirklees has in the past put conservation / preservation orders on buildings in far worse condition and of far less historical significance, and feel such an order would be appropriate in this case, rather than the destruction of yet another lovely old building steeped in history. I would strongly suggest that given its historical significance - the Luddites being known worldwide, not just in North Kirklees - the subject of its demolition in order to build new houses should be thrown out.</p> <p>Halifax Road is busy enough, without adding the vehicular burden of yet another collection of habitations to it.</p> <p>The Shears is in keeping with the character of the area - can the Council confirm that the new-builds will be of the same or similar character, or will they simply be twee little brick boxes, built from a similar template to those further up the road at Hightown?</p> <p>I would ask that the Planning Office take a serious look at the historical significance of the building and its surroundings, and consider the message that its destruction would send out - not just to the people of Liversedge but the wider community - that the history of North Kirklees isn't worth preserving.</p>