

About the application

Application number: 2019/91239	
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
Unfortunately it would appear that this building has never been listed. The society notes that listed building status “marks and celebrates a building's special architectural and historic interest and also brings it under the consideration of the planning system, so that it can be protected for future generations”. It is to be regretted that this policy does not seem to have been vigorously pursued throughout Kirklees. However, the society is aware of the significance of the Shears Inn at Liversedge as part of the industrial heritage and literary scene associated with the former West Riding. This has been clearly outlined in the objection submitted by the Council for British Archaeology Yorkshire. It is a sad reflection on many modern-day policy decisions that structures associated with our industrial and cultural heritage are often eradicated in the interest of short-term financial gain. On occasions these decisions can also result in environmental consequence which far from enhancing the experience of existing residents can cause a loss to their visual environment and quality of life. The planning proposal for the Shears Inn follows a now familiar pattern of demolition and further property development. Ironically this can in some instances subsequently energize rescue archaeological projects which through noticeboards and heritage trails retrospectively reflect on the significance of these sites as visitor and educational attractions. We would urge Kirklees and the current owner to explore the potential for this site, while it still stands, as a social, cultural and educational amenity, for both local residents and those in West Yorkshire as well as for communities elsewhere. Regrettably, much of our industrial heritage, which heralded the Industrial Revolution and brought about great social and political changes in society, is in our opinion being gradually diminished and lost In Kirklees. The history of this area is one of national and world importance, and deserves to be protected, promoted and celebrated. This can begin with a small but significant step in the Spen Valley with the Shears Inn.