



Historic England

Mr Bill Topping
Kirklees Metropolitan Council
PO Box B93
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Huddersfield
West Yorkshire
HD1 2JR

Direct Dial: 01904 601982

Our ref: P01085531

1 August 2019

Dear Mr Topping

**T&CP (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2015
& Planning (Listed Buildings & Conservation Areas) Regulations 1990**

**4A RUTH STREET, NEWSOME, HUDDERSFIELD, HD4 6JF
Application No. 2019/91630**

Thank you for your letter of 5 July 2019 regarding the above application for planning permission. On the basis of the information available to date, we offer the following advice to assist your authority in determining the application.

Summary

Newsome Mill is an iconic local landmark and important physical reminder of the West Yorkshire textile industry. Historic England is keen to find a solution for the site which would enable the repair and reuse of the listed buildings. However, at present we have some concerns about the level of information provided and how the repair of the listed buildings can be secured. As such we are not able to support the application as submitted and recommend further information/ discussions as outlined in more detail below.

Historic England Advice

Newsome Mills is a grade II listed, integrated textile mill complex comprising of a main mill block with attached clock tower and bell, weaving sheds, Tuscan archway, ancillary and administrative buildings.

The mill complex, constructed from hammer dressed stone, was erected in the late 19th century following the loss of the earlier woollen mill established by John Taylor in 1827. The new mill was described at the time of opening as "a splendid block of buildings, mills and weaving sheds of great extent and admirable arrangement." The existing buildings operated as a worsted mill under the partnership of Taylor & Littlewood until its closure in 1983 having provided employment for generations of mill workers. A number of buildings were subsequently demolished including the chimney, boiler house and more recently weaving sheds.



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The surviving buildings continue to be a prominent feature on the Huddersfield skyline. The structures form the major part of a significant worsted textile complex of the second half of the 19th century, an industry which was an important specialism within the nationally important textile industry. The clock tower in particular is an iconic landmark visible from many locations across the town and contributes strongly to the considerable communal value of the mill. In addition the clock tower and the attached archway are of architectural interest, being well executed and decoratively detailed, as well as being the centre around the remaining buildings are grouped.

Having lain vacant for over 10 years, the mill suffered significant damage following a fire in November 2016 resulting in the partial demolition of the main range and last weaving sheds. Whilst the clock tower, archway, lodge and office building remain, the structures are exposed and in a deteriorating condition.

We are keen to find a solution for the site which would enable the repair and reuse of the listed buildings. However, at present we have some concerns about the level of information provided and how the repair of the listed buildings can be secured. As such we are not able to support the application as submitted and recommend further information/ discussions as follows:

- Further detail on the treatment of the elevations of the proposed apartments within the former mill building;
- Further detail on the proposed consolidation of the remaining structure of the listed building and the interface with the new fabric;
- Further information on how the repair and on-going maintenance of the listed structures can be secured as part of any consent granted on the site.

Paragraph 193 of the National Planning Policy Framework indicates that “great weight” should be given to the conservation of the listed buildings in determining this application. With this in mind, we are unable to support the applications as currently submitted but would welcome the opportunity of working with the applicants and your authority to address our concerns.

Recommendation

Historic England has concerns regarding the application on heritage grounds.

We consider that the issues and safeguards outlined in our advice need to be addressed in order for the application to meet the requirements of paragraphs 192 and 193 of the NPPF.

In determining this application you should bear in mind the statutory duty of section 66(1) of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 to have special regard to the desirability of preserving listed buildings or their setting or any





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features of special architectural or historic interest which they possess.

Your authority should take these representations into account and seek amendments, safeguards or further information as set out in our advice. If, however, you propose to determine the application in its current form, please treat this as a letter of objection, inform us of the date of the committee and send us a copy of your report at the earliest opportunity.

Please contact me if we can be of further assistance.

Yours sincerely

Emma Sharpe

Inspector of Historic Buildings and Areas

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cc: Phillip Alsopp



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