

Consultation Response from KC, Conservation and Design
2020/90630 Old Town Hall, Lewisham Road, Slaithwaite, Huddersfield, HD7 5AL
Erection of single storey side extension (within a Conservation Area)
Date Responded: 01/04/20 Responding Officer: Craig McHugh Responding Ref: Slaithwaite

The Old Town Hall is a late Victorian town hall in a Queen Anne Revival / Flemish Renaissance style which was particularly popular at the time it was built in 1892. The style is characterised by lively elevations. The Old Town Hall has many typical features such as the plinth at the base of the building, the quoin stones to the corners, the string course below the first floor windows, decorative pediments to the windows, the 8 panel door, the shaped gable to the south elevation and external chimney stacks. Timber was always painted on buildings in this style.

There is no concern in principle with an orangery / conservatory extension to the building. However, the proposed location built around the external chimney stack would partly obscure an important detail of the existing building. The proposed design utilising a simple lean-to extension with an oak frame (presumed to be oiled) is also heavy and overly plain for a building with such a lively style.

Policy LP24 of the Local Plan requires that extensions are subservient to the original building, are in keeping with the existing buildings in terms of scale, materials and details and minimise impact on residential amenity of future and neighbouring occupiers.

The proposed development would be acceptable if:

- The extension is shifted further north, away from the chimney stack
- The orangery/ conservatory is of a more traditional design with a lighter appearance and traditional materials e.g. painted timber or metal frame built on a stone plinth to match the main building