

Subject: Consultation Response 2021/90800 Hinchcliffe Mill

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Dear Richard,

RE: 2021/90800 - Redevelopment and change of use of former mill site to form 19 residential units (within a Conservation Area) @ Hinchcliffe Mill, Water Street, Holmbridge, Holmfirth, HD9 2NX

I have downloaded the report covering an archaeological and architectural recording. On a brief reading this appears satisfactory.

The structural engineers report states "The ground bearing slab is likely to require replacement to facilitate the proposed conversion to address damp ingress and thermal aspects."

Therefore I believe a structural watching brief is warranted on the ground floor of the northern part of the mill. This is to elucidate questions relating to the means of generating and distributing power within the mill including

both the original water wheel and later steam engine installations. The mill originally had a fulling mill on its lower ground floor and evidence of this activity may also survive below the present slab. Information on the flood of 1852 may also be revealed in this area.

This work can be secured as a condition of any grant of planning awarded by Kirklees District Council. Either of the following conditions would achieve the necessary record:

“No development to take place within the area indicated until the applicant, or their agents or successors in title, has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological and architectural recording. This recording must be carried out by an appropriately qualified and experienced archaeological consultant or organisation, in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which has been submitted by the applicant and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority.”

Or, as an alternative to the above model condition which was first introduced in 1990, the following condition is suggested by Historic England in their Historic Environment Good Practice Advice in Planning Note 2: Managing Significance in Decision Taking in the Historic Environment, 2015 paragraph 37:

No demolition/development shall take place/commence until a written scheme of archaeological investigation (WSI) has been [submitted to and] approved by the local planning authority in writing. For land that is included within the WSI, no demolition/development shall take place other than in accordance with the agreed WSI, which shall include the statement of significance and research objectives, and

- The programme and methodology of site investigation and recording and the nomination of a competent person(s) or organisation to undertake the agreed works
- The programme for post-investigation assessment and subsequent analysis, publication & dissemination and deposition of resulting material. This part of the condition shall not be discharged until these elements have been fulfilled in accordance with the programme set out in the WSI

Best regards

David



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