

Kirklees Council  
Planning Services

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## **HERITAGE STATEMENT FOR THE DEMOLITION OF AGRICULTURAL BARNs WITHIN THE SOUTH CROSSLAND CONSERVATION AREA, KIRKLEES (PART OF FLEECE FARM)**

### **1. Introduction**

This Heritage Statement has been prepared to support an application for the demolition of two agricultural barns located at Fleece Farm, within the South Crossland Conservation Area in Kirklees. These barns, which are constructed as steel portal frame buildings with a mix of timber and metal cladding, and concrete siding, are of negligible heritage significance. This document outlines the barns' condition, their context within the farm complex, and the rationale for their proposed demolition.

### **2. Site Description and Context**

Fleece Farm is located within the South Crossland Conservation Area, a designated heritage area that contains a mix of traditional farmsteads, residential buildings, and rural landscapes. The conservation area is valued for its historic character, which is largely defined by its agricultural roots.

The barns are positioned away from the street scene, set on a concrete pad that forms part of the larger farmyard. The farmyard area is utilized for agricultural activities and includes a mixture of modern structures and traditional buildings. The barns themselves are situated in a relatively isolated location within the farm complex, making them largely inconspicuous in relation to the wider conservation area.

### **3. Historical and Architectural Significance**

The barns are relatively modern agricultural structures, constructed with steel portal frames and clad with a combination of timber, metal, and concrete materials. This form of construction reflects a more contemporary approach to agricultural buildings, primarily designed for functional use rather than architectural merit.

While the barns contribute to the agricultural landscape of Fleece Farm, they do not hold any particular historical or architectural significance that would elevate their value within the context of the South Crossland Conservation Area. The use of industrial materials, such as steel and metal cladding, places these barns outside the traditional aesthetic of the area. Additionally, they have been heavily modified to meet the practical needs of the farm and no longer maintain any significant historical features or character.

The barns are not listed and have not been identified as non-designated heritage assets by the local authority. As such, they are not considered significant heritage structures in terms of local or national planning policies.

#### **4. Impact on the Conservation Area**

The demolition of the barns will not negatively impact the South Crossland Conservation Area. As they are located away from the street scene, their visual impact on the overall character of the conservation area is minimal. The barns do not contribute significantly to the architectural or historic identity of the area.

The farm complex itself remains a functional agricultural site, and the surrounding landscape retains its rural character. The removal of the barns will not harm the setting of the conservation area, as their current contribution is limited to the agricultural landscape, which remains intact.

#### **5. Conclusion**

The two agricultural barns at Fleece Farm are steel portal frame buildings with a mix of timber, metal, and concrete cladding. They are of negligible heritage significance and do not contribute meaningfully to the character or appearance of the South Crossland Conservation Area. Their demolition will not have an adverse impact on the conservation area or the surrounding landscape, as they are located away from the street scene and are not prominent in the wider context.

Given their lack of heritage value, and minimal contribution to the historic character of the area, the proposed demolition is justified.

This Heritage Statement demonstrates that the proposed demolition complies with local and national policies concerning the conservation and management of the historic environment.

Yours Sincerely,



Connor Field

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