

HERITAGE STATEMENT IN SUPPORT OF THE PLANNING APPLICATION

Proposed minor alterations to adjust existing window opening to form disabled person access to comply Part M, Kirkburton Masonic Hall, 1 Shelley Lane, Kirkburton, HD8 0SJ

The premises lie within the conservation area of Kirkburton.

The Masonic Hall was built in 1880 for use as Masonic premises and has been continuously in use as such to the present time.

Over the years many aging members have found it increasingly difficult to use the present entrance and the 4 stone steps that are involved.

A former member who suffered the loss of a lower limb 30 years ago and after 22 years suffered the amputation of the other lower limb, wished to continue attending and this was only made possible with the assistance of members who with great difficulty managed to get him down the steps.

Sadly, another member has had to undergo an amputation above the knee and wishes to continue attending the Lodge. With membership age increasing it has become much more difficult to give assistance at the entrance and down the steps. The Masonic Lodge wishes to make these changes to ensure none of our members are discriminated against because of disability either now or in the future.

Fortunately, the gradient of Shelley Lane outside the premises means that at the position of the window involved is at ground level with the room within making it ideal to form a level means of access.

Care has been taken to ensure the design of the opening causes minimum disturbance to the West elevation using natural coursed stone reclaimed during the alteration.

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