



Heritage Statement

Application address: 290, Bradford Road, Batley, WF17 5PW

Historical analysis

The Station Road conservation area is one of 59 existing conservation areas in Kirklees. Kirklees Council have expanded the boundary of the existing conservation area to encompass a greater mix of industrial, commercial and residential properties, all of which were intrinsic to the development of the Station Road area, which still retains many properties which contribute to the overall character of the area.

The Station Road conservation area was first designated by Kirklees Council in 1987 and is located approximately half a mile from the centre of Batley. It was enlarged and redesignated as a conservation area in 2006 and contains 32 listed buildings. The population of the whole of Batley in 2001 was 44,709.

In 1854 Batley Station Road conservation area was very different to the area we see today. At that time development was concentrated around Bradford Road, which attracted early development as the original Dewsbury-Gomersal turnpike linking the heavy woollen conurbation with Bradford.

The character of the revised Station Road conservation area is derived from the mix of industrial, commercial and residential development which occurred largely during the late 19th and early 20th Century. The grandeur of the properties on Station Road still capture the glamour and wealth of Batley in its heyday. The associated mills and houses remaining from the period remind us of the hard work and economic conditions which were required to achieve such opulence.

There were 32 listed buildings within the existing conservation area, and with the proposed boundary changes one more was added

The following views of Station Road, when approaching the area, are of particular significance:

- Arriving by rail to Batley the old selling houses on Station Road dominate the skyline heightening the sense of arrival.
- On Station Road the gently sloping gradient provides good vistas across the eastern part of Station Road conservation area allowing one to appreciate the historical development of the Station Road area
- The twisting descent of Hick Lane affords exciting glimpses of the varied skyline of Station Road conservation area.



Site Analysis / proposed use

The application site is a 3-storey property fronting Bradford Road.

The building is finished in stone with side quoin stones to the first and second floor, the windows have stone surrounds with stone cill and heads.

The ground floor has solid timber doors with no glazing as the premises was used as a night club.

There are no special architectural features on the ground floor of interest that need to be retained.

The proposal looks to install a new shopfront to provide a fresh new look as currently the ground floor is in a really bad state.

The upper floors will be retained as no changes proposed.

The proposed canopy will be installed to the side elevation but is completely out of view from the main road.

Once complete the premises will operate as a restaurant serving healthy grilled fresh food to the local community.