

About the application

Application number: 2019/91239	
What is the application for?:	Demolition of existing public house and erection of four dwellings
Address of the site or building:	The Shears, 201, Halifax Road, Hightown, Liversedge, WF15 6NR
Postcode:	WF156NR

User comments

Type of comment: An objection	
Do you wish your comments to be published on the website anonymously?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes
<p>The Shears Inn at Liversedge was an important meeting place for the Luddite croppers of West Yorkshire in the early 19th century. It was here that plans were drawn up to attack Cartwright's Mill at Rawfolds - in an attempt to destroy the mechanical cropping frames that were undermining the croppers' livelihoods. The property is extremely important to British history, to labour history and local history and should not be demolished to build four housing properties.</p> <p>I work in heritage and interpreting historic sites (and lead guided, historic trails) for audiences and have personally come to know the power a physical site has to convey history and a sense of place to people. Digital and other interpretive means will never replace the value, importance and power the actual physical site has to import the heritage of a place, instil a sense of pride in and an understanding of our shared heritage.</p> <p>Although I was raised in another country, I have lived in Kirklees for 15 years now, did a master's degree in heritage here in the UK and have come to cherish the historic sites that we do not have similar examples of in my country of birth. I am proud to live here in Kirklees, where there are historically important buildings that exist that can keep telling the stories of what our ancestors did, what they believed in and what they fought for.</p> <p>Luddite history is something that we should be extremely proud of and value - value to the point of conserving and protecting for future generations. Once it's gone, it's gone. Are four new dwellings worth the cost of demolishing a structure important in the story of the nation's labour history? I do not think so. Please save the Shears pub for generations to come. What will the wonderful Luddite memorial of a cropper and his daughter, unveiled with much community celebration on the 150th anniversary of the Luddites' attack on Rawfolds' Mill now point to, if the Shears pub is demolished? Just a sign that says 'here once stood' and people shrugging their shoulders on a guided 'Luddite history' walk and saying 'what a shame that it was torn down when they could have saved it.'</p>	