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BUXTON CRESCENT & SPA PROJECT

DESIGN & ACCESS STATEMENT
NEW ENTRANCE DOORS WITHIN THE LEFT HAND ARCHED RECESS OF THE CENTRE FIVE ARCHED RECESSES (INCLUDING CENTRAL ENTRANCE OPENING) TO THE NATURAL BATHS, THE CRESCENT, BUXTON SK17 6BQ

Historic Significance

The Natural Baths in their current form are Listed Grade II and were last restored and rebuilt in 1937. This front façade with its parapet, solid over the central three arches and with turned ballusters above the outer arched recesses was substantially re-built in 1937. It maintains some of the appearance, although plainer, of the Henry Curry elevation of 1854.

Proposals

The proposal is to make a door opening in the left hand arched recess in place of the existing leaded light arched head window by the removal of stonework from the existing cill level down to floor level. Into this will be inserted a leaded light fanlight using the existing pattern of coloured glass and a solid oak door of six panels detailed similarly to the existing entrance double doors in the central arched recess.

Justification

This alteration is required so that the Buxton Water Bottling Plant may have access to the source of the water supply 24hrs a day and 365 days a year so as to maintain their supply.

Mitigation

Following a study of all the options for supplying 24hr access to the source, it was agreed that this is the only route that would not mean asking permission to enter through the Natural Baths spa complex. It is an essential part of the agreement between High Peak Borough Council and the Buxton Water Bottling Plant that a 24hr supply is guaranteed. It is therefore essential both to the redevelopment of the spa and to High Peak Borough Council that a 24hr access without going through other ownerships is provided.

Access

The new entrance to the source of spring water will be directly off the footpath and will give level access to the room beyond. This room is the current means of access to the source and there is no change in the access from this point on. Therefore, there is no issue relating to access created by this proposal.