

The Old Cross, Old Glossop

Heritage Statement

26th October 2012

INTRODUCTION

The cross is located at Old Cross, Old Glossop. The cross is located to the centre of the road called Old Cross. From 1157 to the 15th century the monks of Basingwerk Abbey (North Wales) erected crosses at a number of locations around Glossop to mark the boundaries of the area they held, this cross in Glossop being an example of one of these medieval land boundary points. The cross is a Scheduled Monument with Grade II listing and is situated in the conservation area of Old Glossop. English Heritage describes the cross as follows in its register:

'The Market Cross OLD CROSS Old Glossop. Market cross. Probably C15, restored C20. Millstone grit. Octagonal shaft with pyramid stops on moulded base and squared plinth. Shaft rises to moulded cap. Surmounted by C20 celtic cross. Moved from original position adjacent to No.16 Church Street South (qv). Market charter granted 1290.'

The listed building application which this design and access statement relates to is for the proposed works as detailed below:-

- Repair to damage caused by vehicle collision with the Cross in early 2012;
- Raising of whole Structure, including plinths to reveal approximately 150mm of base plinth;
- Assumed buried existing support stones to corner of base plinths (as shown in image 'The Old Cross, 1855' above) to be lifted and installed or new in Millstone Grit stone to match existing stone to exposed parts of Cross.



Figure 1) The Old Cross in late 2011, prior to the vehicle collision.

CHARACTER OF THE AREA

The predominant materials used for construction of buildings and boundary walls are sandstone and Millstone Grit coursed stonework, whilst the Old Cross itself is Millstone Grit to the cross-shaft and plinths. The Celtic Cross at the top of the cross-shaft is a 20th century addition as Figure 2 below shows in the late 19th Century with no Cross:



Figure 2) The Old Cross in the late 19th Century, not the absence of the Celtic Cross.

The area is generally residential, with two local public houses, a sandwich shop and some office space within 100 metres of the Cross. Also in the area are a church and primary school. The area has a number of watercourses which are fed from the Bleaklow plateau and surrounding hills. The Old Cross road itself takes its name from the stone boundary post (The Old Cross) that exists on the road, erected in medieval times by monks from Basingwerk Abbey, with settlement in the area dating back to Norman times. The properties in the area date from the early 17th Century through to the 19th Century, with the pattern of the roads in the area remaining largely unchanged. This has meant some very narrow roads with few dwellings having front gardens.

FEATURES OF PREVALENT BUILDING FORM

The existing design for buildings in the area of the Old Cross is principally uniform with sandstone external walls to buildings and walls dividing plots, with structural openings to buildings have stone heads and cills, with the earlier properties featuring stone mullions. The Cross of somewhat earlier origin forms a principal focal point for the area, with the buildings around it, despite being of later build date, complementing the Grade II listed Cross.

MITIGATION TO PROTECT EXISTING CHARACTER

The repair is to restore the Cross to its late 19th Century appearance, with the base plinth being exposed, although the Celtic Cross will be retained in position. Assumed buried existing support stones to corner of base plinths (as shown in image 'The Old Cross, late 19th Century' above) to be lifted and installed or new in Millstone Grit stone to match existing stone to exposed parts of Cross. Pointing is to be undertaken with Hydraulic Lime mortar, with the shade to be agreed with the Conservation Officer.

PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT DESIGN

The Cross is located in the centre of the Old Cross (street name) as shown on attached plans, and is to be retained in this location. It has formerly being located to the extreme east of the road called Old Cross, being moved to its current location in the 19th century.

The works are to not only repair the damage caused by the vehicle collision but also the opportunity is being taken to raise the Cross by approximately 150mm to expose the base plinth again and provide support stones, as per those shown on the 'The Old Cross, late 19th Century' image, to all corners of the Cross.

Any new stonework will be Millstone Grit if needed for the corner supports and thus be to match existing.

The works do not affect the local streetscape of the conservation area but are simply to repair the damage caused by the vehicle collision and to restore the Cross back to its original state prior to the 20th century.

SITE SPECIFIC DEVELOPMENT HISTORY

The original Cross, as aforementioned, had a Celtic Cross added to the top in the early 20th Century, and the road formation level lifted to a level matching the top of the base plinth. It is thought that in the 19th Century the cross structure was moved from the eastern extents of Old Cross to its present location in the centre of the Square to the north west of Old Cross.

GRAPHICAL DESCRIPTION OF WORK AND USAGE

Drawing 1210P.04B shows the works to the Cross, these being to repair the Cross and restore to its configuration as it would have been in the late 19th Century.