



Historic England

EAST MIDLANDS OFFICE

Mr John Williamson
High Peak Borough Council
PO Box 136
Buxton
Derbyshire
SK17 1AQ

Direct Dial: 01629 530731

Our ref: L00529074

26 September 2016

Dear Mr Williamson

**Arrangements for Handling Heritage Applications Direction 2015
& T&CP (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2015**

**TORR VALE MILL, TORRVALE ROAD, NEW MILLS, DERBYSHIRE, SK22 3HT
Application No HPK/2016/0438**

Thank you for your email of 26 September 2016 notifying Historic England of the above application.

Historic England Advice

Torr Vale Mill is listed Grade II* in light of its more than special architectural and historic character and interest. It is significant as an early cotton spinning mill and is a long standing entry on our national Heritage at Risk register.

The application proposes some works to facilitate the use of one floor of Building B as a events space, including creation of a toilet and underfloor heating. We provided pre-application advice on this proposal with your own conservation staff and the application reflects our discussions.

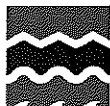
The NPPF reminds us of the benefits of identifying viable uses for historic buildings which are compatible with their conservation (para 131). In this case the owners continued efforts to repair the building and put it to new uses which are compatible with its fabric and character is to be welcomed in principle. As the existing floor surface in this area is already screed that addition of a further screeded floor incorporating underfloor heating should not damage the significance of the building. Concerns regarding the use of underfloor heating often arise because of the need to excavate down and thus damage any archaeological remains (not the case here) or the impact of introducing a non-breathable surface into a building which needs to breath. In this case the existing floor surface is already non-breathable and thus it seems unlikely that the addition of a further concrete screed will alter the existing conditions at this area within the building.



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Recommendation

We have no objections to raise and recommend that your authority proceed to determine the application

Yours sincerely

Louise Brennan

Principal Inspector of Historic Buildings and Areas

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