

M849 The Shrub Club Design and access statement

The proposed alterations are located within part of the grade 2* listed Torr Vale Mill complex, its list entry is 1119721. The proposals are located on the ground floors of the Old Mill building 1790 and attached Link Block c.1860.

The Shrub club is a bar/restaurant which has been in operation since 2019. The proposals relate to improving the restaurant facilities.

Current access is via a single door which gives level access to the upper bar area, there is a step however a removable ramp can be deployed when required for wheel chair access, there is a disabled toilet at this upper ground level. The lower ground level and terrace is accessed from the exterior by a set of double doors leading to an internal stair, there is also an internal stair linking both floors. There is no wheelchair access to the lower ground level.





1. Change to front door:

Relocate the location of the timber door to the wider part of the door opening. The proposal is to replace with a new, wider, ledge and braced door to match the appearance of the existing.

2. New self supporting timber raised floor.

The lower ground floor has some uneven areas particularly where there are broken stone flags near the internal stair. The main dining area has an uneven concrete screed floor. The proposal is to raise a timber floor on self supporting timber legs which will enable the contractor to lay a level floor. It is proposed that the floor finish is a timber tongue and groove floor. The finish to the floor is TBC, we'd suggest at this stage that they could be stained and oiled to match as close as possible to the upper exposed floors.



Lower ground floor dining area and uneven floor/step

3. Service bar area

The proposed new service bar to lower ground area will help to reduce internal traffic within the internal stair particularly by service staff carrying drinks and will help reduce the risk of accidents and improve service. The bar could be entirely self supporting on the new raised floor although we are proposing a single restraining fixing to the top of the bar shelves to prevent them tipping forward. The wall is rendered in what looks like sand/cement render at present.



Proposed area for service bar.

4. Stage area.

It is proposed to extend the stair serving the lower ground entrance to provide a stage area for live performances and additional dining (wheel chair) and storage space. It is designed to be a self-supporting but it would be helpful if by agreement some restraining bolts could be fixed into the rendered stone walls for rigidity.



Proposed stage to rear of this existing stair.

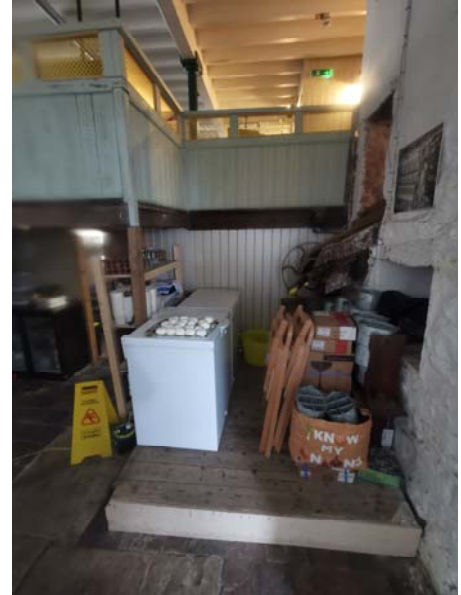
5. External Awning

The external terrace at present is uncovered and it would improve the facility if it could be covered. This would provide not only a future improvement but also a potential lifeline for the business in terms of any future Covid restrictions, enabling them to have some served exterior space



Above. The external terrace area. Faces the river Goyt and millennium bridge

Below. Area for Freezer store.



6. Freezer storage

An area is required for cold storage for the kitchen. It is proposed to fill in a space in the void area between the upper and lower ground areas that is currently used for storage.

7. Change to openable windows

The proposal is to change the current fixed Perspex windows to openable sash windows. It is not believed that the existing windows are original. This would enable better ventilation. Refer Drawing 021 for all proposals.

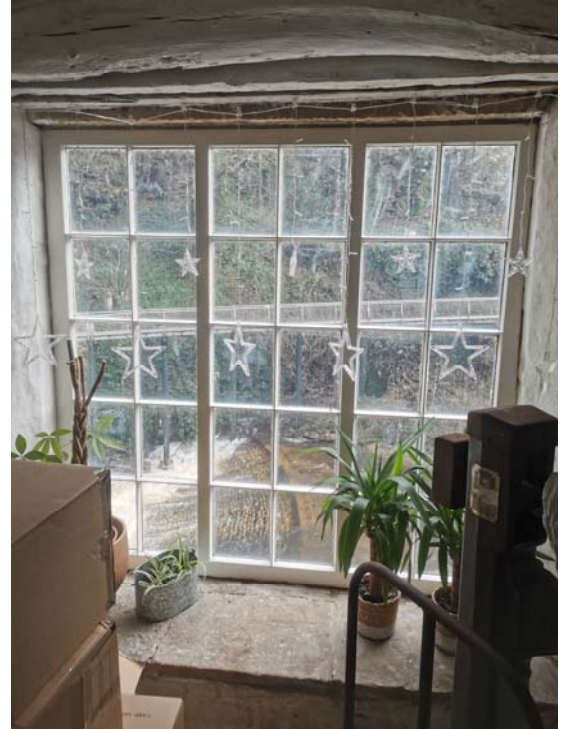


Left - WG01 Previous door opening with non original timber window infill. WG02 Below





Above WG03/4. Right WG05.



8. A/C plant area

The current air conditioning unit is located internally and is releasing a lot of heat which is making the working conditions uncomfortable for staff and causing the system to work harder to try to keep the heat down. It would work more efficiently if condensers were located externally both for the comfort A/C and the cellar cooling. It is proposed to locate the condensers in a discreet ginnel to the rear of the building. Some drilling will be necessary through the infill stone work for some small diameter pipes and electricity supply.



Image showing the proposed location for the condensers. There is an original door way that has been infilled with stone and a small window, it is proposed to bring any pipework through this location.

9. New kitchen extract

The kitchen requires a better extract fan. The type of cookers is of a type that does not require roof level ducting therefore only a discreet louvre is required on the external wall. The fan required is 450mm square and can be located within a bricked in window opening. There is a series of infilled windows at this location, some have been infilled with stone and some with brick, there it is proposed to remove a section containing the brick infill. The grill can be colour matched to the stone or any other appropriate colour. The location is close to the adjacent weir which gives an acoustic reading of 55db which is higher than the sound levels given by the fan at 49db therefore it should not be discernible audibly.



Left. The proposed extract louvre location is highlighted with a black square.

Below. Upper ground duct location



10. Toilet extract duct

A toilet extract duct was not completed as part of the Landlord's works. It is proposed to run it straight through a non original partition wall, through the proposed freezer store and then up to connect to the duct as indicated in the photo below.