

**Statement Of Common Ground Between Rossendale Borough Council & Historic England In Respect Of The Proposed Allocation Of A Gypsy/Traveller Transit Site At Sharneyford.**

**Date:** 15/6/2020

The Council is seeking to allocate a site within the Emerging Local Plan for Gypsy/Traveller Transit accommodation at Sharneyford. The Planning Inspectorate have requested a Statement of Common Ground be prepared between Rossendale Borough Council (RBC) and Historic England (HE), in order to clarify HE's latest position on the proposal, including whether the Council's proposed mitigation measures in its Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) would be sufficient.

The Council has prepared a HIA in respect of this site (*attached to the Council's response in its Matters, Issues and Questions [MIQ] paper as Appendix F*) which was submitted to the Planning Inspectorate on the 1<sup>st</sup> of June 2020.

The HIA has assessed the impact of the proposal on the nearest heritage assets and has found that there are two Grade 2 listed structures near the site. One is a Boundary Stone, marking the border between the respective boroughs of Todmorden & Bacup and the other is a private dwelling (the former Toll House). The HIA concludes that the development would be acceptable as there would be no harm to the boundary stone from the proposed allocation and a less than substantial harm on the setting of the Toll House that could be mitigated. This mitigation is as follows:

1. Not siting any development at the front of the site, closest to Todmorden Road, with the exception of the proposed access road (*in the area hatched red on the plan entitled 'Listed Building,' which is to be found at the end of this Statement of Common Ground*).
2. The road surface to be used shall not be of standard tarmac, but shall be akin to Turf stone, sunken stone mesh which can then be planted and grown over.
3. Details should be provided on appropriate boundary treatments/gates, landscaping and signage near the entrance to the site.

Reference to the HIA will be included within a site specific policy, which will include wording as follows or to the same effect:

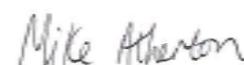
*Development will be required to be in accordance with the proposed mitigation measures proposed in the Council's HIA (Appendix F of the Council's MIQ response dated June 1<sup>st</sup> 2020)*

It is confirmed that the mitigation measures are acceptable to both RBC and HE and that there is no objection to the allocation of the site in heritage terms.

Signed by:



Emily Hrycan  
Historic Environment Planning Adviser  
Historic England



Mike Atherton  
Planning Manager  
Rossendale Borough Council

