

HOLCOMBE SOCIETY

Heritage Statement

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Development Management Team
Bury MBC

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Ref:-Planning Application 72526 Retention of Tack Room, Margaret Haes Riding Centre

As President of the Holcombe Society and long standing resident of Holcombe village, I am delighted to submit this heritage statement to support this planning application for the Margaret Haes Riding Centre.

The Centre has been in the same location for almost 60 years and was warmly commended in the 2010 Holcombe Conservation Area Appraisal and a highly commended as an Approved Centre by the British Horse Society, providing alternate education for 5 to 25 year olds disengaged with school or college and /or with additional needs and not least awarded a 5 star Horse Welfare License by Bury MBC.

We're confident the retention of the Tack Room will not harm the character or appearance of Riding Centre or the village, considered by many to be one of the few remaining examples of a pre-industrial Pennine Village. Containing several listed heritage asset such as the neighbouring Higher House, Harriers Cottage, Shoulder of Mutton, Peel Tower etc etc ...

The Tack Room's location is also unchanged since it was installed five years ago, having been granted temporary planning permission which is now coming to an end. And has proved to be an invaluable facility for the storage of saddles, bridles unique to each horse and pony plus other tack items used daily at the Centre.

The Tack Room is a former 20ft shipping container and now has a black felt roof and walls clad in dark stained wooden cladding to precisely match all the other buildings around it. The view of the Centre from the slopes of Holcombe Hill and the nearby recently established West Pennine Moor SSI is of a long established development that looks completely at home in its semi-moorland setting.

If approved, this proposal will be greatly appreciated by the hard working staff and local volunteers in the much loved community asset that makes a genuine daily contribution to everyday life in the village and the wider Conservation Area around it.

Yours Sincerely,
John Ireland (President of the Holcombe Society)

