

HERITAGE STATEMENT

2 Providence Terrace, Lions Lane, Turners Hill, RH10 4NX

1. Introduction

This Heritage Statement has been prepared in support of a proposal for the erection of an external aluminium shelter to provide covered outdoor dining space to the front of the existing café at 2 Providence Terrace, Lions Lane, Turners Hill, Crawley, Sussex RH10 4NX. The site lies within the Turners Hill Conservation Area.

2. Site and Heritage Context

The property forms part of an established terrace within the historic core of Turners Hill. The conservation area is valued for its village character, traditional building forms, active frontage, and contribution to the rural streetscape. The café is an existing commercial use serving the local community. The shelter is required to help retain a customers to the cafe in the winter months. The cafe is popular within the community and the external shelter will help provide a space in the winter months.

3. Description of the Proposed Development

The proposal comprises a lightweight external aluminium shelter positioned to the front of the café. The structure will provide a covered area for customer seating and dining. The shelter is intended to be visually simple, subordinate to the host building, and reversible in nature. The scale is limited to the operational requirements of the café and does not involve alteration to the principal built fabric of the property.

The structure is proposed to independent of the main building fixed at ground level and purely strapped back to the building for restraint. No permanent fixings will be made to the building.

4. Assessment of Heritage Impact

The proposed shelter has been designed to preserve the character and appearance of the conservation area. Aluminium is a modern material; however, the structure is lightweight and visually unobtrusive. The shelter will maintain views of the principal building and will not obscure significant architectural features. The proposal supports the continued viable use of the café, helping sustain activity and vitality within the conservation area. Due to its modest scale, limited footprint and independent construction, the development is considered to result in no harm, or at most less than substantial harm at the very lowest end of the spectrum, to the significance of the conservation area.

5. Design Considerations

The shelter has been designed to: remain subordinate to the host building; avoid excessive bulk or visual dominance; respect the existing building line and streetscape; use a simple contemporary appearance; and retain the ability for future removal without permanent heritage loss.

6. Planning Policy Context

Section 72 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 requires special attention to be paid to the desirability of preserving or enhancing the character or appearance of conservation areas. The National Planning Policy Framework advises that great weight should be given to the conservation of heritage assets and that proposals should be assessed in proportion to their significance.

7. Conclusion

The proposed external aluminium dining shelter is a modest addition to an existing café within the Turners Hill Conservation Area. The structure is lightweight, subordinate and an independent structure, and will support the ongoing commercial viability of the café. It is considered that the proposal preserves the character and appearance of the conservation area and is therefore acceptable from a heritage perspective.