

Design, Access & Sustainability Statement to accompany application for full planning permission at St John's Community Centre, church Street, Penistone, Sheffield, S36 6AR.

Introduction

This statement has been prepared on behalf of Penistone Town Council and will accompany a Full Planning Application (Ref PP-13694061) for minor site changes and minor elevational changes to the existing community centre building involving the addition of new fire escapes, boiler flues and air transfer grills.

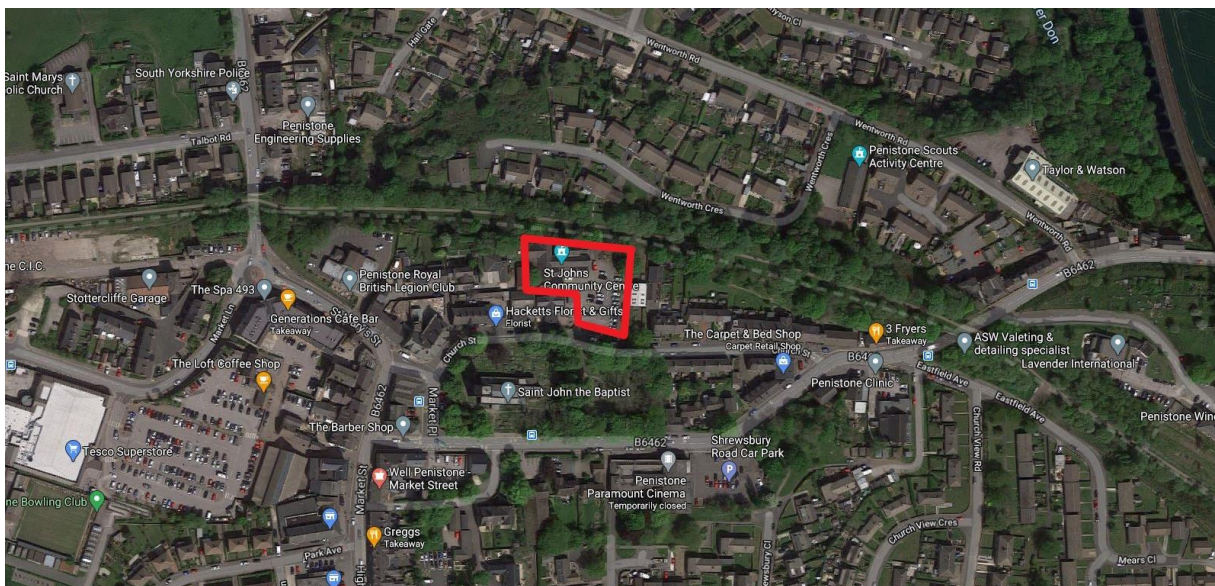
A previous applications have been submitted and approved for larger developments of the site under application number 2020/1088 & 2024/0132 but due to cost increases and a reduced budget an much reduced scheme it now being sought approval.

Context

Penistone is located in the Metropolitan Borough of Barnsley, approximately 10km to the south-west of Barnsley. It is situated approximately 17km south-east of Huddersfield and 19km north-west of Sheffield. The area of Penistone is a civil parish of approximately 2,262 hectares (22.62km²) and includes the town of Penistone, as well as the villages of Cubley, Springvale, Thurlstone, Millhouse Green and Hoylandswaine. The population of Penistone civil parish was approximately 11,000 at the last census in 2011.

The site is situated within the existing town boundary of Penistone, a principal market town. The site is approximately 0.1 miles from the centre of Penistone as measured from the Post Office on Market Street.

The site is flanked to the North by the Trans Pennine Trail (TPT) and further by domestic residences; to the East by domestic residences and another community building; to the South by the existing carpark and the Girl's National School (a non-designated local heritage asset) and further by St John's church (a grade 1 listed building), to the West are a number of commercial workshops, commercial shop premises and domestic residences.



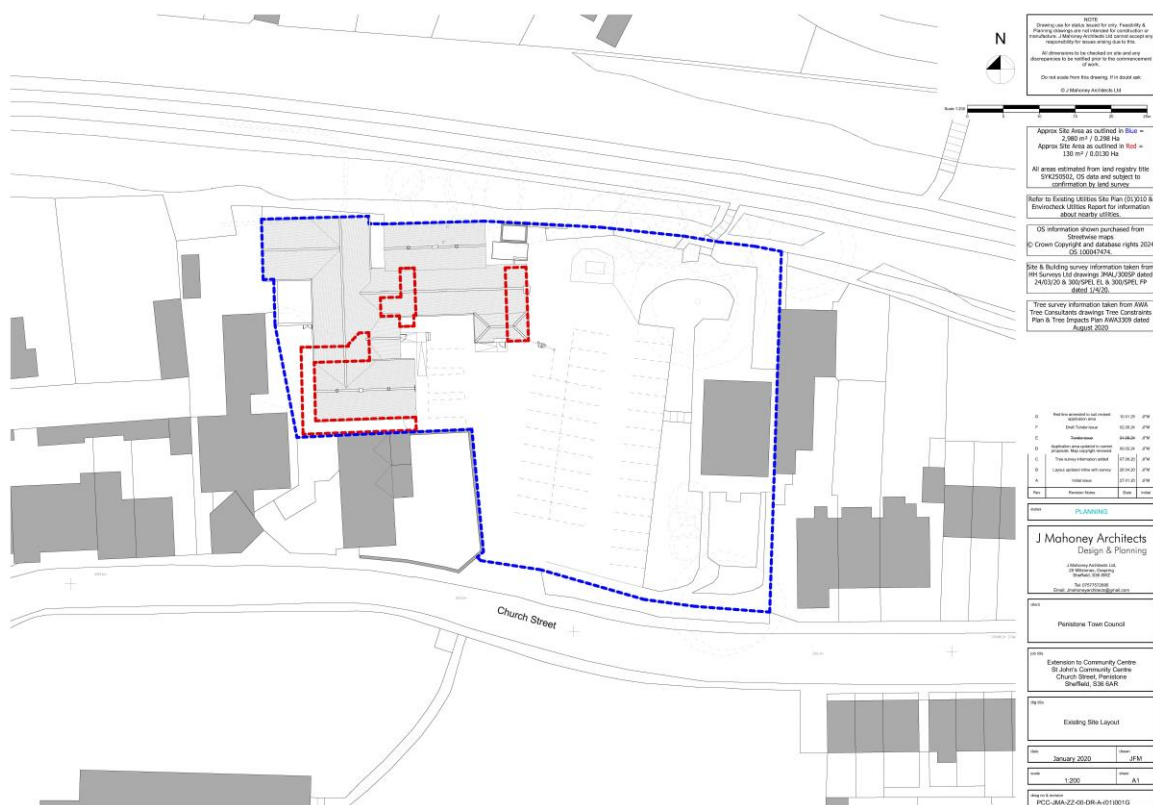
Aerial view of site (Google Maps)

The site is served by several local bus links no.s 20, 21, 21A, 25, 25A, 350, 407 to other local towns and villages as well as the local train station which connects to Huddersfield and Barnsley from which national services can be accessed.

Use

The site is currently used as a community centre. The existing rooms of St John's Community Centre (SJCC) are rented out by Penistone Town Council (PTC) to local activity groups for a variety of activities. The building also houses the town clerk's administrative offices and hosts some of the PTC meetings from time to time.

The existing buildings of SJCC are situated on the rear of the site, set back from Church Street. The existing tarmacked carpark fronts Church Street and provides access to the community centre beyond. There is also pedestrian access to the site from the TPT in the North-East corner.

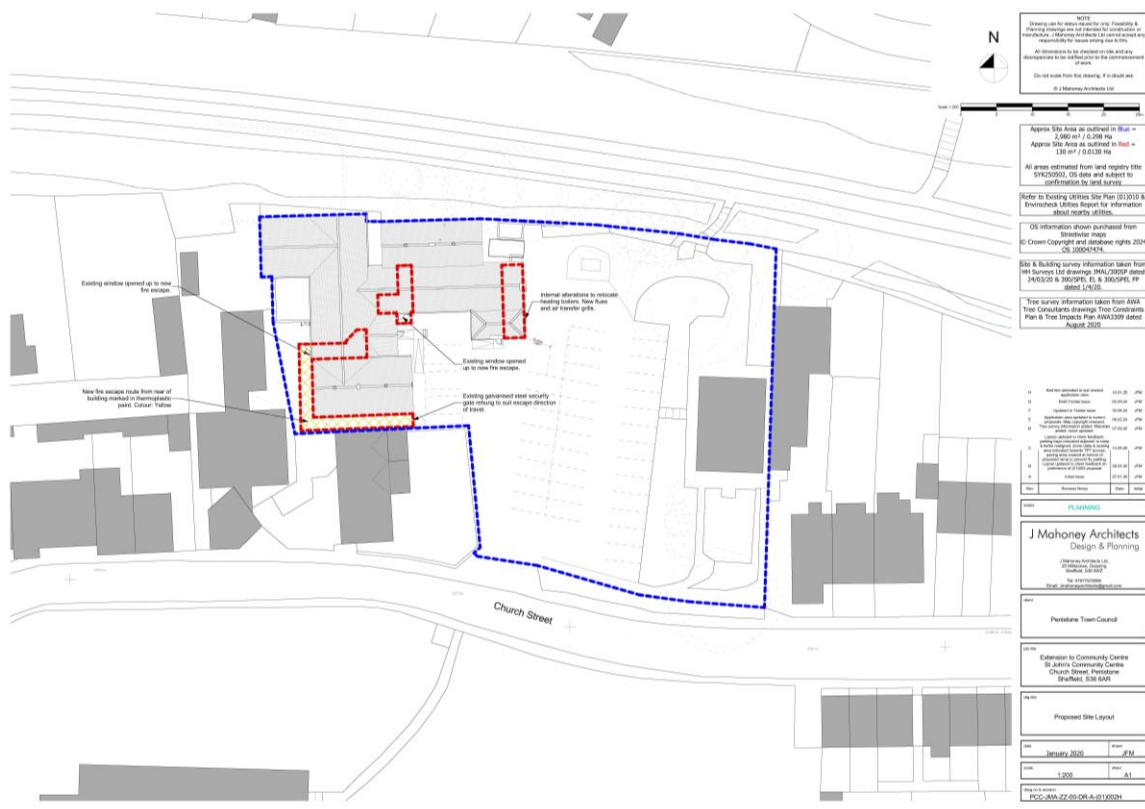


Existing Site Plan

The scheme proposes to minimally alter the external facades to include additional fire escapes and introduce new boiler flues and air transfer grills.

The additional fire escapes seek to improve the existing fire escape strategy and also provide a secondary means of access to the community centre.

As a result, minor alterations are proposed to the rear yard area and the external security gate to this area.



Proposed Site Plan

Access

Vehicular and pedestrian access for the community centre will remain unchanged from Church Street and the TPT.

The minor alteration to the access to the rear yard is to ensure the gate opens in the direction of emergency egress.

Amount

The blue lined wider ownership site measures 2,980 m² / 0.298 Ha. The red lined application area measures 130 m² / 0.013 Ha.

The existing community centre measures as follows

Upper Hall – 362.9m² GIA.

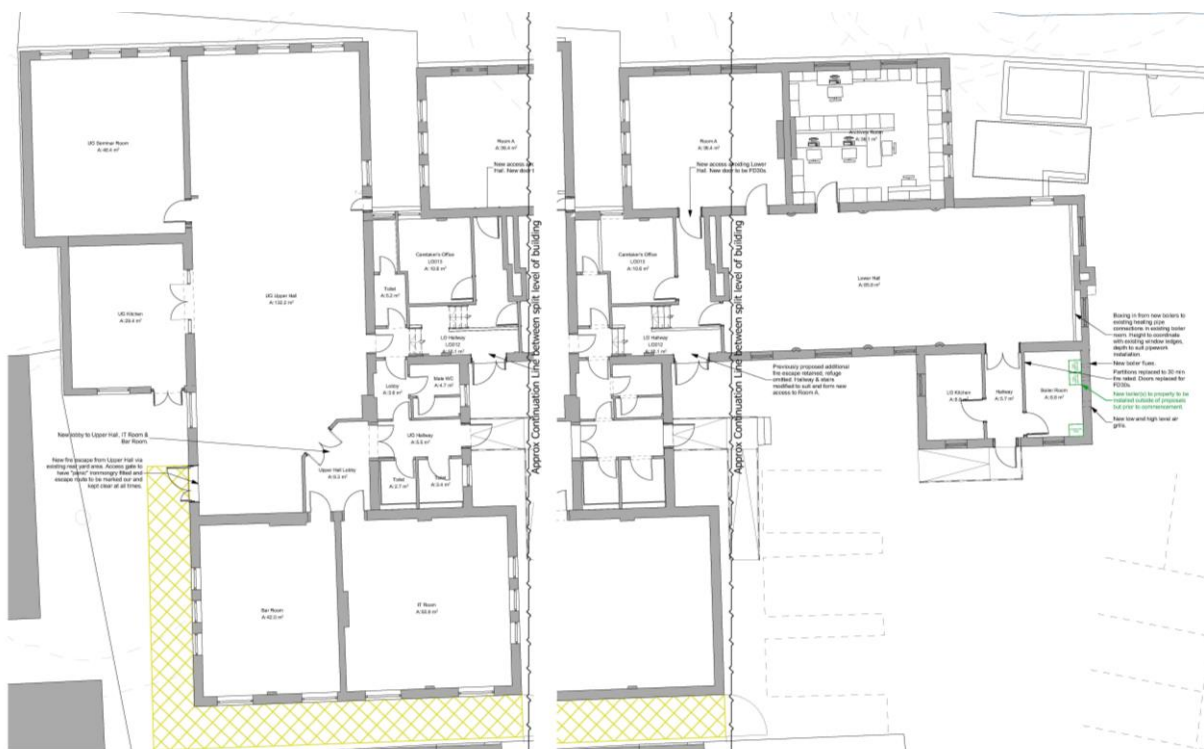
Lower Hall – 223.3m² GIA.

Total – 586.2m² GIA.

There will be no increase in areas.

Layout

The site consists of a carparking area to the front with the community centre building located in the North West corner. Both the carpark and the community centre building in terms of external layout will remain unchanged by the proposals.



Proposed Floor Plan

Internally, the additional fire escapes improve the egress from the building in an emergency as well as improve access to the lower hall when the main lower hall is in use.

Internal alterations are focused around this and additionally relocating the boiler room to a more accessible and function location within the existing building envelope.

Appearance

The community centre is a traditional building in a historic setting, featuring pitched slate roofs, red brick facades and yellow stone lintels & cills as well as other detailing. The existing building benefits from large Victorian era proportion windows with many windows per elevation to ensure the space beyond benefits from as much natural daylighting as possible. This architectural style ties in with the buildings initial use as an extension to the adjacent former Girl's National School.



Existing Site Photo

The proposed alterations aim to match this appearance in size, scale and appearance by being matching (as far as possible) with the openings feature reconstituted stone heads and cills. The materials selection below has been chosen in conjunction with Conservation officer feedback of the proposals at pre-application stage.

A sample of the materials under consideration is as follows;

Timber Doors – White painted	
Thermoplastic Hatching - Yellow	

Landscaping

The layout and its landscaping will remain unaltered. The existing yard hard landscaping, tarmac, will have thermoplastic hatching added to the egress route from the yard.



Existing yard egress route

The boundary treatments will be maintained to all perimeters of the site unaltered.

Conclusion

This design and access (D&A) statement has been updated in support of a full planning application for the minor site changes and minor elevational changes to the existing community centre building involving the addition of new fire escapes, boiler flues and air transfer grills and should be read in conjunction with the Heritage Impact Assessment accompanying this application.

This D&A statement provides background information regarding the site context as well as a summary of technical reports and pre-application discussions. This statement demonstrates that the scheme has been developed in accordance with the guidance of these reports and advice and where appropriate amendments to the original proposals have been made.

Overall, it has been demonstrated that the site can be sustainably developed to provide appropriate, alterations to the existing community building.