

Planning Statement – Worsbrough Mill, upright shaft replacement and removal of three metal restraints

Worsbrough Mill is currently experiencing vibration in the mill machinery that is being transferred to the fabric of the building. A number of repairs/adjustments/replacements have been undertaken since July 2021 but these have not solved the issue. In May 2024 Malcolm Cooper (millwright) undertook another series of tests, including disengaging both sets of stones from the machinery, and concluded that the upright shaft needs to be replaced. He has also recommended that three metal bands that hold the sprattlebeam that supports the upright shaft be removed to allow full adjustment of the shaft by use of paired wedges, as would have been the case originally.

The proposed solution has been discussed with BMBC's Senior Conservation Officer

It is proposed that the current upright shaft be removed and that a new shaft be shaped from a single piece of oak. It will then be installed in the same place. Before installation the metal bands holding the supporting sprattlebeam will be removed and paired wedges made to allow future adjustment.

Although Worsbrough Mill is a Grade II* listed building this replacement will have zero impact on the building.