

Design & Access Statement
Proposed Extension, Temple Gym, Station Road, Wombwell, Barnsley,
S73 0AH

Prepared on behalf of:
Temple Gym

Job No 0015

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The Process

The building was originally constructed as a meeting place for the Salvation Army, since then it has had various uses. The building is currently being used as a gymnasium. In order to improve the facilities the gym provides, our client intends to invest in the construction of a new extension.

The existing building is mainly of brick construction with a stone frontage. The roofs are covered in natural slate. The topography of the site is such that the site slopes down from left to right and slopes up from front to back.

Use

The position of the building is within a largely commercial area and is currently being used as a gymnasium. Having a central location within the town it has good transport links and ample public car parking behind the Library. It is ideally situated for its current use.

Amount

The proposal consists of a two storey extension which has been designed to fit in as seamlessly as possible with the existing building and its boundary.

Layout

Due to the constraints and topography of the site and in order to reduce the impact of the extension on the surrounding buildings we are proposing the layout indicated on our drawings. The position of the extension on an existing piece of unusable hard standing will provide various benefits. It will allow the gym to extend and provide more facilities for its existing members. More importantly it will provide a wheelchair accessible entrance that is currently not available.

Scale

The proposed extension has been kept to a minimum in terms of floor area and height. The use of a pitched roof was investigated but was deemed unsatisfactory because it made the extension too overpowering with regard to height. Therefore a flat roof option was decided upon with a parapet wall.

Landscaping

The existing landscaping should not be affected by the erection of the extension.

Appearance

The extension is to be built in brickwork to as closely as possible match the existing building. No actual windows have been included due to problems with vandalism. Instead, false window openings with a brick soldier course head detail have been indicated to reflect some of the original building details. The use of a flat roof with proprietary roof covering allows the extension to better blend in with original building as well minimising the new buildings impact.

Access

The proposal will not affect the vehicular access to the site and no other buildings will be affected. It will however allow a better access for the disabled to be formed. Currently the building is totally inaccessible to wheelchair users due to the numerous changes of floor level and steps to every entrance.

The proposal also includes the provision of an Access W.C for use by disabled and ambulant disabled people.