



**Heritage Statement in support of
Planning Application**

**Darfield Library
Refurbishment Works and Air Source Heat Pump
Installation**

July 2024

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Background & Proposals

The Site

The site is located on Church Street in the village of Darfield, located 5 miles to the East of Barnsley Town Centre.

The site has level vehicle access from Church Street onto a small parking area directly in front of the building. There is a gated drive to the west side of the building, which leads to further car parking at the rear of the building. The site slopes from Church Street, with the rear car park sitting approximately 1m below the building floor level.

The site is bound by Church Street to the North, Residential housing to the West and South and the Darfield War Memorial to the East. Beyond the immediate site boundary, the local area consists of both residential and commercial buildings, varying in age and architectural style.

The Building

The building to which the application relates was built as part of the West Riding County Council library rollout programme and was officially opened in 1965. The building is single storey with a flat roof. The external walls are clad in brickwork with a large expanse of glazing to the front elevation and smaller windows to the remaining elevations.



Photo of the existing Library building

Proposed works under consideration

The proposals involve minimal external amendments to the building, which are limited to replacement glazing and alterations to existing openings, which will be formed in materials that match the existing. The existing aluminium curtain wall glazing will be replaced with new aluminium curtain wall glazing and will be similar in appearance. The existing windows are a mix of timber, metal and UPVC. The proposed windows will be UPVC frames with double glazed units to improve the thermal efficiency of the building. In addition to the works to the building fabric, the existing heating system is being replaced with new air source heat pumps, which will be located at the rear of the building. The units will be situated at low level and will not be visible from the main road.

Relevant Legislation / Planning Policy

The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)

NPPF Chapter 16 Conserving and enhancing the historic environment, covers policy relating to conservation areas and heritage assets.

NPPF para 200: The NPPF requires applicants to describe the significance (heritage) of any heritage asset affected by a proposal including any contribution made by the setting of the asset. The level of detail should be proportionate to the importance of the asset and the degree of intervention the proposal represents. The local Planning Authorities will take the heritage significance of an asset into account and consider any impacts on the asset to avoid conflict with the conservation of the asset.

Barnsley Local Plan Policies

Barnsley Local Plan Policy HE1: The Historic Environment: Positively encourage developments that help in the management, conservation and understanding of the historic environment.

Barnsley Local Plan Policy HE2: Heritage Statements: Outlines the requirement for applicants to provide a description of the heritage significance of the site and its setting.

Barnsley Local Plan Policy HE3: Developments affecting Historic Buildings: Proposals involving historic buildings should conserve and where appropriate enhance, respect historic precedents, and capitalise on opportunities to reveal significance.

Heritage Assessment

The Conservation Area

The Darfield Conservation Area covers a portion of the village of Darfield to the East of Barnsley and contains several listed buildings and other heritage assets.



View looking East along Church Street



View looking West along Church Street



Bowling Green Building opposite the Library



Garland House Surgery on Church Street



View towards Vicar Road, School Lane and Church Street Junction

Heritage Impact Assessment

This report aims to assess the impact of the proposed alteration and plant installation works on the local heritage value of the conservation area. The building itself has no heritage value due to its age and design. Whilst there are buildings within the conservation area that do have heritage value, the library building does not impact on their setting.

The proposed elevational changes will all be in keeping with the current appearance of the building with proposed materials being carefully selected to match the existing.

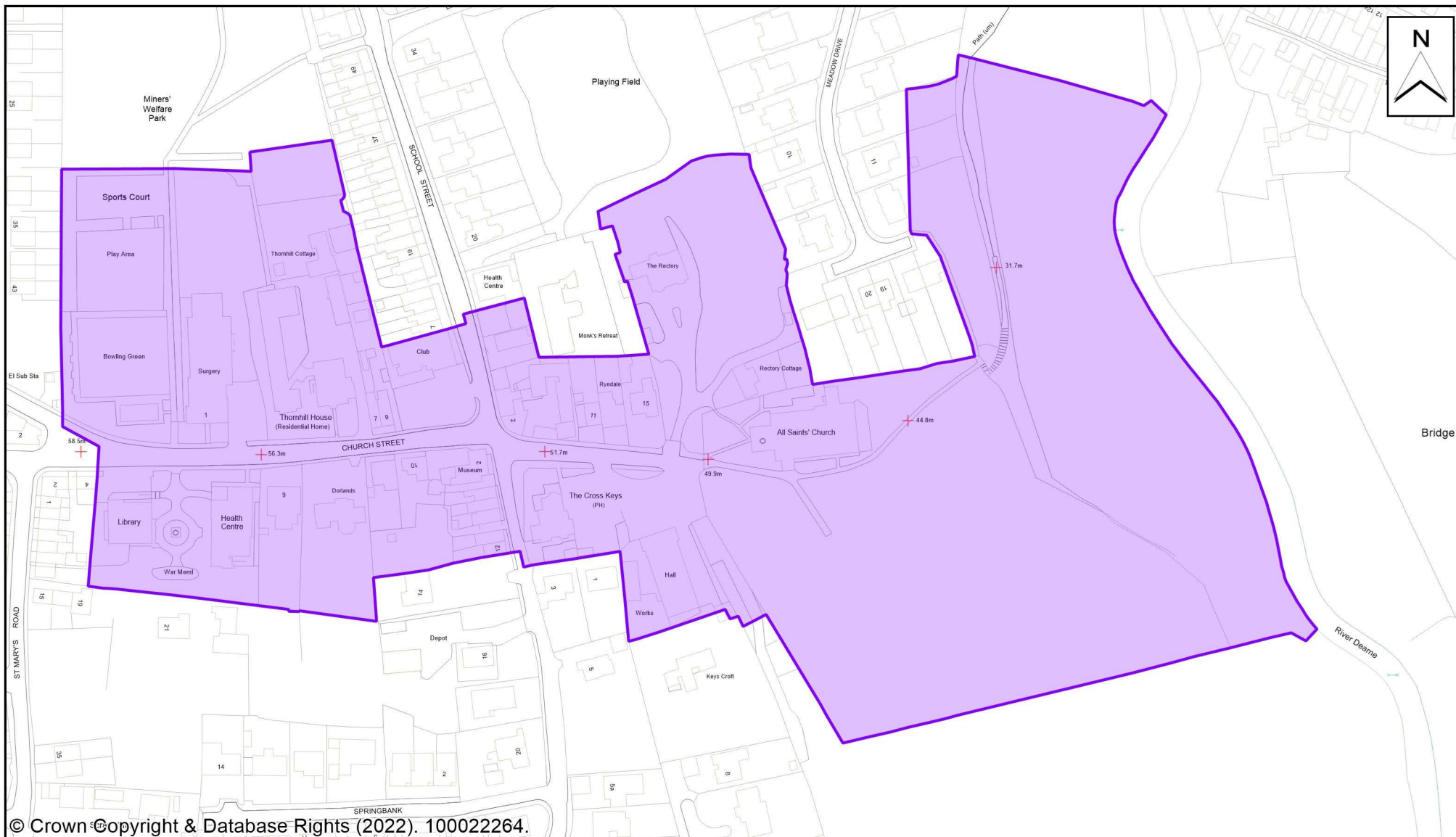
The proposed air source heat pump units will be located at the rear of the building and will not be visible either from Church Street or from any of the surrounding properties.

Conclusion

Overall, we would suggest the proposal is justified and represents no harm to the heritage significance of the Conservation Area and is therefore in accordance with local and national planning policy.

Appendix A

See overleaf



Drawn by: Date: Drawing No: Scale:	Atkinson , Charlie 23 January 2023 1:2000	Title: Darfield Conservation Area	 BARNSELY Metropolitan Borough Council
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