

Planning Statement

With reference to Planning Policy Statement 1 : Delivering Sustainable Development.

I believe we have proposed a development to the Kingswood site that combines the promotion of environmental, economic and social objectives.

The new Activity Barn has facilities that will provide the students with activities for when the weather inclement. There are two high ceiling rooms that can be used for ball games etc and one of these rooms will also have a climbing wall.

The Activity Barn is to be sited in part of the car/coach park. To make way for it, the existing Plant/Boiler house is to be demolished.

A much smaller plant room is to be built next to the barn. It will have new, more efficient boilers. There is an area designated behind the plant room for LPG cylinder storage. This will be fenced off to prevent access by the students. The area occupied by the gas cylinders has been included in the fee calculation. The proposed site for them is shown on the location plan (PVarea plan).

The Application is also for an accommodation block. This is for staff to use. The staff that run the activities, stay with Kingswood for 1 or 2 years and are mostly gap year students or have recently left university. At present, most of the staff are given accommodation off site. This is expensive. It is more effective to have the staff on site, which is how the staff accommodation is handled at the majority of the Kingswood Activity Centres.

The new accommodation unit will be able to take a total of 112 staff, although this would only be at peak usage times at the Peaks Venture site. A Kitchen/Dining room has been included in the plan along with a lounge with soft seating, TV etc. There is a main kitchen elsewhere on the site and the kitchen in the accommodation block would be for those staff not wishing to use the main dining facilities.

All of the bed/dorm rooms in the accommodation block have en suite facilities. Kingswood have undertaken a refurbishment program at their centres throughout the UK and where ever possible, washrooms have been replaced with en suite facilities. These have been provided for both the staff, teachers accompanying the students and the students themselves.

The new units use low energy lights and have a new plant room will house new, more energy efficient boilers.

The Barn and Accommodation units are well insulated, making them kinder to the environment and more cost effective.

A spatial approach was taken in the planning of these works. The new Accommodation unit is at a distance from the main building and is accessible along the access road or via a path that runs between two wooded areas. New lighting will be added here for the staff's safety.

The new Accommodation unit will be dark green in colour, to blend in with the rural surroundings.

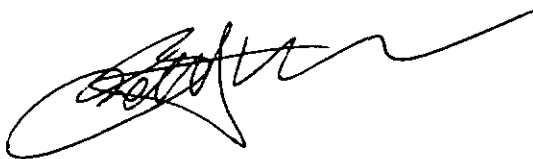
The Kingswood Centre at Peaks Venture, Penistone is open to students during school terms. The students attend the site for various indoor and outdoor activities. These promote awareness in social understanding and environmental issues as well as having classrooms for a 'school away from school' type environment.

The proposed development will improve the overall facilities of the site. The Activity Barn will provide class rooms for the students and a new reception area and offices is to be included. There is also provision for a medical room and a disabled toilet.

The centre itself is undergoing a series of refurbishments of which, this is one. It is intended to bring the whole centre to a level that makes the site a nicer place to visit and improve the teachers and students overall experience of using the centre.

We believe that the provision of these 3 new buildings to the Kingswood Centre will enhance the site as a whole and increase the provision of accessibility for disabled students.

With the provision of these facilities, we are trying to deliver a sustainable development which will improve the overall quality of the centre.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'BM Walker', with a large, stylized flourish extending to the right.

BM Walker

On behalf of Kingswood Learning & Leisure Ltd