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Council Offices
Planning
Church Walk
Clitheroe
BB7 2RA

Square One,
4 Travis Street
Manchester
M1 2NY
Tel: 0161 880 3596
michael.gradwell@networkrail.co.uk

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Dear Sir or Madam

Proposed Works to Peels Rail Bridge, Newsholme, Ribble Valley: Part 18 GPDO Prior Approval Request

I am writing to notify you of Network Rail's intention to undertake work to infill the existing bridge at the above location. The bridge is a single span underbridge on the Blackburn to Hellfield railway line. It is located a short distance to the north east of Newsholme village and provides private access to agricultural land either side of the railway. There are no public rights of way at this location. The works are required as a consequence of the condition of the existing bridge structure.

In order to facilitate the proposed works, Network Rail proposes to remove the bridge parapets and infill the structure with concrete, with associated works as shown on the submitted scheme drawings.

From a town planning perspective the works at the bridge are permitted development Part 18, Class A (Miscellaneous development - development under local or private Acts or Order) of the Town and County Planning (General Permitted Development) (England) Order 2015. This section of railway was original authorised by the Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway (New Works and Additional Powers) Act, 1871. The provisions of the Railway Clauses Consolidation Act 1845 (RCCA) were made applicable to this Act. This incorporated powers for the then railway companies and their successors in title (now Network Rail) to undertake future works, not limited to the construction of the railway, but including all acts necessary for making, maintaining, altering or repairing and using the railway.

Under condition A1 of Part 18 GPDO, it is necessary for details to be submitted to the Local Planning Authority for prior approval to the design and siting of the proposed works. It should be noted however, that under Condition A2, the prior approval cannot be refused unless you are satisfied that the development ought to be and could reasonably be carried out elsewhere on the land, or the design or external appearance would injure the amenity of the neighbourhood and is reasonable capable of modification so as to avoid such injury.

I have submitted a site location plan and drawing numbers 664918-DJH-DRG-CV-001, 664918-DJH-DRG-CV-002 and 664918-DJH-DRG-CV-003. As required under Part 18, I would be grateful to receive the Council's prior approval for the works to the structure. Please note that under the