

## Bowling Green Café – Heritage Statement

### Site Location

The pavilion building is positioned in the South East of Clitheroe Castle Park between the lower hard court sports area and the higher bowling green. In the *Clitheroe Castle Historical Survey for Restoration* report dated January 1998, section G part 7.22 states 'The pavilion which lies, somewhat cramped, between the green and the upper ball court fencing, is used as a small catering outlet and store'.

### History and Context

The Bowling Green Café was constructed circa 1920 and is therefore has both architectural and historic significance. Clitheroe Castle Grounds are listed grade II on English Heritage's Register of Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest.

Clitheroe Castle Keep is a grade 1 listed (19<sup>th</sup> May 1950) and the Castle Museum buildings are Grade II listed (30<sup>th</sup> September 1976). The Castle Park description identifies that 'the castle site and grounds were purchased by public subscription by the Borough Council from Lord Montagu of Beaulieu in November 1920, to form a memorial to the 260 soldiers from the town who lost their lives in the war. Ribble Valley Borough Council owns and manages the castle and grounds as a museum and public park'. The above would suggest that the Bowling Green Café are to be considered as part of the Clitheroe Castle Keep listing (as curtilage structures) by virtue of Section 1(5) of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990.

In June 2013 the parks were awarded Diamond Jubilee status to mark Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II's diamond jubilee in 2012.

### Significance

In the *Clitheroe Castle Historical Survey for Restoration* report dated January 1998, the consultants stated in section G part 7.23 'Although used sporadically, these facilities continue to be important, being easily accessible and indeed have become part of the identity of the park.' It is our considered view that the proposed works will neither detract from the Castle or the surrounding park.

The *Clitheroe Conservation Appraisal* makes reference to the Castle Grounds which is included on the English Heritage Register of Parks and Gardens. In particular it states that 'the area is now a well used open space with the Castle and yard dedicated to museums and the public display of the monument and the surrounding open land landscaped as a public park with recreation grounds, tennis courts, bowling greens and open-air auditorium'.

### Purpose of the works

The property has been unoccupied for several years and as a result has become dilapidated. There have been spates of vandalism consisting of graffiti and the smashing of windows and the theft of the lead from the roof. Some of the soffits and the fascia have become dated and worn and are suffering from decay. It is hoped to re-open the café in the near future and in order to do this some remedial works will need to be undertaken. The main proposed works are listed below.

### Proposed restoration works

The proposed renovation works to bring the building back to its former glory will include the following:

- Replacement of the existing uPVC soil pipe with Cast iron stack painted black.
- Replacement of temporary lead replacement for the core rolls on the ridge and hips of the roof with Zinc.
- Splice repair and defective timber replacement of the soffits and fascias, then repainting to match the existing in colour and texture.
- Reopening the lower ground floor window that has been internally plastered over using UPVC glazing for the window opening.
- The provision of roller shutters to the remaining window on the lower ground floor.
- Rain water gullies and downpipes to be replaced with either cast iron or as existing aluminium profiled gutters.
- Replacing all the existing glazing with bullet proof glass as deterrent to the spates of vandalism.

### Discarded alternatives

As the roof is easily accessible to the front elevation it will be targeted by thieves if lead is used again on the roof so replacing with lead again is not a financially viable option.

As the site is in a conservation area other methods of ridge and hip replacement have been discarded as they are not aesthetically suitable although zinc has a similar appearance to lead.

The roller shutters are the preferred option to protect the glazing in the building due to the continuing vandalism on the ground floor rear elevation.

As the rest of the building is also potentially open to vandalism and the use of roller shutters not being an option due to aesthetics it is proposed to use bulletproof glass as a deterrent to smashing the glass.

The soil pipe and rainwater goods are to be replaced with cast iron or aluminium. The soil pipe and down pipes would originally have been cast iron, the existing uPVC is a replacement. The cast iron would be more resilient to the elements and also vandalism.

It is proposed to inspect the soffits and fascias and to remove any defective timbers and replace with the same profile and type of and / or splice repair using an epoxy resin. The timbers will then be painted the same colour as the existing members.

#### Impact on Bats and Associated Wildlife

As the proposed works do involve any alterations to the roof, fascias and soffits, it is understood that the works could be detrimental to the roosting of bats or nesting of other wildlife. If the works are approved then a full bat survey will be commissioned prior to the commencement of any building work.

