

Heritage Statement for ABC* Memorial Hall

The building and filed that are the subject of this report are not listed but are located within the Hurst Green Conservation Area and are adjacent to other designated and non-designated heritage assets. As such this Heritage Statement has been prepared to satisfy the requirements of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF).

The Hurst Green Conservation Area was designated in 2005 and identified as an area of historic and architectural interest; Hurst Green is one of 22 conservation areas within the Ribble Valley. The boundary of the conservation area extends to the east as far as Timothy Farm St. John's Church to the west, the proposed site occupies a central location within the area. The conservation area contains many features of special interest that contribute to the character of Hurst Green, with architectural and historic interest in the conservation area's buildings including 11 listed buildings and several buildings of townscape merit. The rural setting of the conservation area is partly located within the Forest of Bowland Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) with several green spaces located within the village centre. The conservation area is adjacent to the Stonyhurst College Historic Park which is a Grade II* registered park and garden, the village also provides a route through to the principle entrance for the college.

1. A description of the heritage asset

The asset is (full title) the *Aighton, Baily and Chaigley War Memorial Hall*

It was built by public subscription and predominantly by local volunteers and opened in in 1965. It is known as the Memorial or Village Hall.

Its significance is:

- A reflection of community collaboration to honour those who fell in both World Wars
- The creation of a large building to hold large village events
- Its central location facilitating access for nearby households and a car park for those using their own vehicles
- Supports a variety of local community groups, from Toddlers to the W.I. to the two football teams to name but a few regulars.
- It is increasingly used by outside bookings such as weddings, charity fundraising events, family celebrations, rallies, keep-fit classes.
- It allows for a more modest budget activity, a blank canvas for them to decorate the hall accordingly, and generates the income to maintain itself.
- It has been the go-to location for many village/r events from its inception (as well as the polling station, annual May Day field day)

2. Assessment of impact.

The old heating system was ineffective, costly, and difficult to manage. The hall committee were looking to replace it with an eco-friendly system, with flexibility as to where heating was required (main hall, changing rooms, stairwells, front and rear access points) and to manage the heating on site and remotely (via an App). The project sub-committee, which consisted of three Parish Councillors and two village hall committee members, began the process by inviting a consultant with the necessary expertise and experience (currently involved with Stonyhurst College's energy requirements) to review and advise the best outcome and it was agreed to go for the ground source heating option.

We have two advantages for this option: a basement with space for the pump and associated buffer and pipework, and a big field alongside ([see map](#)) which is part used for football training, a sport recreational pitch, and children's play area.

The hall building allows for:

- ✓ A basement which has space for the mechanisms and cannot be seen other than within its confines ([see diagram](#))
- ✓ Access for the inspection of the machinery is through the current home team changing room which is at basement level, and into a secure breeze/stone built room. ([See photographs](#))
- ✓ The pipework for the hall's radiators are underneath the main hall floor.
- ✓ All associated radiators have in-house pipe work linked to and from the buffer.
- ✓ There is no external pipework.
- ✓ *The proposed work will not affect its heritage significance. There is no change to the hall building size, design or external features.*

The adjacent Bailey Field allows for:

- The capacity for thirty pipe loops to be laid fifty meters out and back, dug one meter below the surface and one meter apart
- Three lots of ten pipes are tied into three separate chambers. These are both the inspection chambers but also the tie-in to the pipework connecting to the pump in the hall. They are all close to the boundary of the hall building. ([see diagram](#))
- Each chamber is 1.5 cubic meters, built of breeze block and with pipework coming in (10) and one going out. There is a lockable metal inspection cover. ([see photo](#))
- The Chamber metal tops are painted green and lie at the ground level of the field.
- In addition, there is a drain pipe in each chamber which lead to an existing waste water drain
- There is an underground pipe from the chambers into the hall which is under concrete. ([See photograph](#))
- I have included a time series set of photos showing the start, middle and current picture during the disruption to the field.
- The field is not subject to any conservation regulations.
- The underground work has been successful and the only visibility of the operation is three ground level chambers.
- These will not affect any of the previous or current activity on the field.
- The work will not affect the field's heritage significance. There is no change to the field in terms of size, design, and grass coverage (in time) other than the top surface of the three underground chambers

3. Mitigation of impact

The proposals are essentially replacement works for the village hall's inefficient heating system.

They are in line with progressive eco-friendly evidence based efficient energy usages.

There is no visual impact relating to the hall

The field chambers are the only visible aspect of the change in the field. They are a necessary aspect to inspect the manifolds of the underground pipe work.

The proposal has no impact on the character of the conservation area by virtue of the nature of the works having no material impact.

Heritage Statement (source: WarwickDC.gov.uk)

* Aighton, Bailey and Chaigley War Memorial Hall