

23 April 2024

Ribble Valley Borough Council

Listed Building Consent.

Dear Sir/Madam

THE BARN, TALBOT ROAD, CHIPPING

We have been instructed to comment on the condition of the existing timber trusses at the above address and write with the following comments.

The four timber trusses are spaced at irregular centres ranging from approximately 3 – 4 m and span 8.9 m across the width of the building. Between the trusses, 3-4 timber purlins are provided on each roof slope to support the pitched roof.

There is obvious evidence of significant insect infestation throughout the trusses, and this has resulted in areas where the original timber can be pulled apart by hand.

There has been extensive water ingress through the roof and upper wall sections, and this is particularly noticeable at the bearing ends of the trusses which are now green in colour and extremely wet.

This moisture has caused severe deterioration to both ends of one of the trusses resulting in no meaningful support to the truss ends.

One of the trusses is showing signs of excessive deformation and has been historically supported with the with the introduction of a large section steel beam which span across the building directly below the bottom boom.

An historic repair has been attempted to the end of a separate truss, but the repair is of poor quality and in my opinion is not structurally adequate.

Regardless of the moisture and insect infestation issues, I would suggest that the timber sizes used in the trusses are undersized and would not be sufficient to comply with modern design codes.

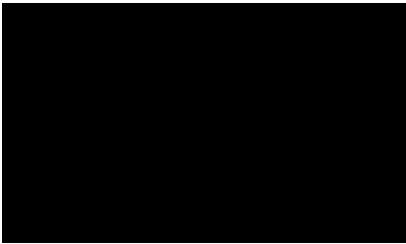


From a structural perspective I cannot recommend the re-use of the trusses as I have very serious reservations about their structural capacity, and from a Health and Safety perspective I would be concerned about site operatives working beneath them.

Trust this is helpful but if you have any queries, please let me know.

We trust the above is satisfactory for your current purposes however should have any queries please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours sincerely,



Andrew Pooler

B.Eng.(Hons). M.Eng. C.Eng. M.I.Struct.E

