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fao Mike Parkes

Place-shaping and Economic Growth
Harrogate Borough Council
P.O Box 787
Harrogate HG1 9RW

2nd August 2021

Dear Mr Parkes

Planning Application ref: 21/01167/FUL
Demolition of redundant building and erection of 3no 2bed twin houses
Moss Arcade, Ripon

I fully appreciate that Ripon Civic Society missed this application when advertised and is therefore well out of time for the making of any comments. It has yet to be determined.

The application was drawn to our attention recently and having looked at the range of representations in support of the buildings retention I should like to confirm what we would have written, and indeed still consider to be the preferred approach.

The importance of this building has been well expressed by your heritage consultees, both internal and external. This building has been in dilapidated state for several years, its use (if any) being unclear. Moss Arcade is somewhat unsatisfactory as a streetscape and this building, restored would make a positive contribution being more in scale with the neighbouring yards and burgage plot character. It is to be preferred to the somewhat bland development proposed.

In addition to the Council's conservation policies, greater importance is being given to zero-carbon and the recognition of embedded energy within standing structures. Together the Society sees no imperative for the demolition of the building and is confident that restoration and re-use should be the way ahead.

Please add this to Public Access should your protocols admit.

Yours faithfully,

Christopher Hughes

Chairman, Ripon Civic Society