

## Design and Access Statement

**The planning application is for the design, construction and installation of a Mosaic on the side elevation of the National Trust's Old Coastguard Station (in a Conservation Area and National Park)**

The purpose of the mosaic is to visually indicate to tourists and visiting public, that there is a Quarterdeck and viewing area, with a much more comprehensive beach, even when the tide is lapping around the Dock area. Dozens of people have been observed gathering in the Dock and did not have a clue there is a whole new unexplored area up the Cove Hill steps, at the side of the Old Coastguard Station; this also serves as access to the cliff path and the onto the Cleveland Way.

**Two artists were separately given the same design criterion:**

The mosaic should be to enhance the visitor experience, when visiting our wonderful village. It should be sympathetic to the local surrounding and at the same time, tell a visual story of what else there is to see and do by venturing up the Cove Hill steps.

The new mosaic could be used as an educational tool, as indeed are the series of mosaics on the Sea Wall and inside the National Trust's Visitor Centre.

Consideration could be given to using broken glazed local pottery in the design and also one that is removable from the building, as are the ones on the sea wall. It obviously needs to be frost resistant and materials requiring no maintenance.

Ultimately, the collection of mosaics on the Sea Wall, in the Dock and inside the Old Coastguard Station could be promoted as a worthy feature of Robin Hoods Bay and encourage schools and general public to visit. It would certainly make an iconic reference to the National Trust building and Dock area.

Out of the design guild lines have come two totally different and both equally visually appealing pieces of art. Jo Whitney's design consists – a porthole with view of Ravenscar from the quarter deck, with directional arrow indicating access to beach, Quarterdeck, Cleveland Way and Ravenscar. (Text can be altered if required). A wave design framing the image. The porthole design would follow on from an existing mosaic inside the building which features several other mosaics

Jo Whitney would like to use a mixture of found/recycled materials, e.g. pottery/pebbles from the beach and would ask friends/local businesses (pubs/cafes) to donate unwanted/broken crocs and plates which could be broken up and used as mosaic, as well as buying some new glass mosaic.

Ruth Wilkinson, well known for her mosaics on the Sea Wall has produced a simple, yet artistically pleasing oblong design in the shape of an arrow, pointing up the Cove Hill steps. She would use mainly the unglazed tesserae with small amounts of glass and silver leaf. The picture indicates the coastline, as far as Ravenscar and the seating area of the Quarterdeck. The artwork would be similar construction to the mosaics on the Sea Wall and be completely weather proof.

As both designs are both completely different, I would request that NYMNP planning either grant approval for either design to be used, or grant approval for their own chosen design. If both are approved, the final decision could be from either the Parish Council, or the owners of the building; The National Trust.

### History of the Old Coastguard Station

The building itself has never been listed and has changed many times over the years. Records show that in the early 1800's the building then on the site was a public house was later converted into 3 tenements. In March 1829, the recently established Coastguard service took over the building. This was originally aimed

at combatting smuggling on the Yorkshire coast. They stayed until moving to other premises in the early 1900's.

The building once again reverted to accommodation and in 1910 is recorded as being used for holiday lets. In May 1912 Leeds and Sheffield universities hired the building which became known as the Yorkshire Universities Marine Laboratory.

In the 1960's a grant from the Wellcome Trust enabled the university to demolish the old building and rebuild in a more modern style.

The structure was demolished and rebuilt with an exterior shell as true as possible to the original 1800's design. With the aid of a grant from the North York Moors National Park Authority, it was constructed as an interpretative visitor and education centre, along with a holiday flat on the top floor. The Old Coastguard Station opened to the public in September 2000

**Disability Access Consideration:**

The Quarterdeck can only be accessed via steps in all three directions:

From the beach there is a ramp onto the lower Quarterdeck, but this has a permanent barrier, preventing any wheel chair access. There is a further set of steps onto the upper Quarterdeck, also preventing wheel chair access. There are further steps down to the beach onto the lower Quarterdeck.

There are steps down from the Cleveland Way, but this too is impossible via wheel chair and persons with mobility impairments.

There are the main steps down from the top of Cove Hill and this too is impossible via wheel chair; additionally, to access the top of these steps there are further steps up from the Dock at the side of the Old Coastguard Station.

NYMNP

29/01/2020









# **Heritage Statement for The Old Coastguard Station (asset) The Dock**

## **Robin Hoods Bay – YO22 4SJ**

### **Overall Existing character and appearance of the asset**

In accordance with planning policy HE6 of PPS5 which sets out to assess the overall impact of the alterations on the Heritage Asset and evaluate the measures taken to ensure that the proposals I have prepared the following statement.

Having examined this part of the conservation area of Robin Hoods Bay, the general character and appearance is that of mixed architectural styles of houses and cottages ranging from 17<sup>th</sup> century to Victorian. There is a varied and mixed use of different materials from painted render to traditional lime mortar and natural stone, with uninspiring alterations and additions from the 1960's era.

The Asset is an important educational facility and the proposed Mosaic will help implement and maintain the National Trust's aims to educate and inform all visiting members of the public. The Asset is not listed building, although it is set in a conservation area of the North Yorkshire Moors National Parks. It's significance in the area is not high, in comparison to the many buildings surrounding it, which are mainly Grade II Listed and dating back to the early 17<sup>th</sup> century. The existing asset is a 20-year-old modern-day reproduction of what was thought to stand on the same site. Indeed, it's immediate predecessor, which was constructed of concrete and built in the 1960's, was later demolished in 2000, to make way for the asset, which stands on the site today. So, in this instance and bearing in mind the building is surrounded by extremely valuable 'Heritage Assets' the old Coastguard station cannot be regarded as a Heritage asset, but merely an Asset.

Directly adjacent and nearest to the Asset stands an important Heritage asset called 'Coble House' This is a White painted rendered building, dating back to around 1760. Directly opposite the Asset and in the Dock stands an equally important Heritage Asset called the Bay Hotel.

### ***Assessment of Impact:***

The proposed Mosaic will have little or no detrimental impact on the fabric of the Asset and will be spaced off a few millimetres, to allow ventilation and water to escape. It will be of a size approximately 3m by 2m and stand off the wall approximately 3 to 4cm. It will serve as a piece of art work and guide tourists, showing them there is still yet more to see and do, up the Cove Hill Steps, in Robin Hoods Bay. It will also serve as an educational tool for children, can be used in conjunction with the many other mosaics along the Sea Wall and inside the Old Coastguard Station. Its design is intended to blend in with the surroundings and with the

Asset itself. I therefore feel the mosaic will not have any detrimental effect on the Asset or to surrounding Heritage Assets in the area.

***Mitigation Strategy:***

The existing Gable end of the building is plain and painted white, with no windows or openings, apart from a small attic window in the apex of the gable. The addition of the proposed Mosaic will break the vast expanse of white wall, whilst providing an educational and informative piece of art.

The proposed Mosaic will be sympathetic to its surroundings and where possible, will incorporate local glazed pottery.

Because the Mosaic will be spaced off the wall slightly, it can also be easily removed for building maintenance and will therefore have no detrimental impact on the Asset to which it will be fixed.

**From:**  
**To:** [Planning](#)  
**Subject:** RE: The Dock, New Road, Robin Hoods Bay, - NYM/2020/0056/NEW  
**Date:** 05 February 2020 18:03:16  
**Attachments:** [Ownership Statement163.pdf](#)  
[Heritage Statement for The Old Coastguard Statement.docx](#)  
[Location Plan.doc](#)  
[Block Plan Showing position of Mosaic.doc](#)

---

Hello Wendy

Sorry for the omissions; the size of the proposed mosaic is 3m X 2M X 3-4cm deep.

I have attached the new Location plan, new block plan and Heritage statement, together with the statement of ownership. I did serve this to Simon Colvin of the National Trust in December and he replied that it was ok, but as this was outside the 21 days I have served it again today.

Many thanks

Graham kemp

---

**From:** [planning@northyorkmoors.org.uk](mailto:planning@northyorkmoors.org.uk) <[planning@northyorkmoors.org.uk](mailto:planning@northyorkmoors.org.uk)>

**Sent:** 04 February 2020 14:17

**To:**

**Subject:** The Dock, New Road, Robin Hoods Bay, - NYM/2020/0056/NEW

You have received this email from North York Moors National Park Authority (Planning Service) in relation to a planning matter at The Dock, New Road, Robin Hoods Bay, .

The attached correspondence contains important information; please retain it for your records.

If this is a consultation/re-consultation and you are set up with a log-in username and password, please click the link <http://tinyurl.com/z5qmn4j>

In any correspondence, please quote the Council reference number, which is included in the attached letter.

If you are a statutory consultee and would like to use electronic correspondence via our e-consultation site please contact the Planning Dept via email at [planning@northyorkmoors.org.uk](mailto:planning@northyorkmoors.org.uk) who will be happy to set you up with a log-in username and password..

If you cannot open the attachment you can download the following software free of charge:

- Microsoft Word Viewer for Word attachments.
- Adobe Reader for PDF attachments.

