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# Speaking for Scotland's Buildings

AHSS
THE ARCHITECTURAL HERITAGE SOCIETY OF SCOTLAND

Stuart Herkes
Planning Department
Scottish Borders Council
Council Headquarters
Newtown St. Boswells
Melrose
TD6 0SA

Wednesday 8th February 2017

Dear Mr Herkes

**17/00037/LBC | Partial demolition, alterations and extension to form two dwellinghouses**
**Former Stow Primary School 177 Galashiels Road Stow Scottish Borders**

The Architectural Heritage Society of Scotland is grateful for the opportunity to comment on this application.

The former Stow Primary School is a C listed building of local importance, which contributes greatly to the historic character of the area.

The proposal to create two dwelling houses out of the property has been approached in a highly sensitive manner. The Panel were pleased to see the removal of inappropriate later additions to the building and the proposed extensions to the rear are particularly sensible. Due to the mirrored school proportions with separate entrances for the different sexes, the building lends itself to changes of this nature.

The Panel were concerned to see the proposed removal of the shouldered wallhead stack. This architectural feature is a key element of the building's façade which is highly visible from the road and is specifically mentioned in the property's listing as an aspect of high importance.

The Panel also wished to comment that the two front entrance doors, matching for boys and girls entrances, are also specifically noted in the building's listing and these must be protected and retained during any works to the property. There is no mention of the interior of the building, however there may also be some features of importance that would be best retained.

The AHSS Cases Panel therefore wishes to object to the removal of the wallhead stack.

Kind regards,

Sarah Pearce
On behalf of the Forth & Borders Cases Panel



The Architectural Heritage Society (AHSS) is a registered charity: SC007554REG. The Society is registered as a Company Limited by Guarantee: SC356726
President: Simon Green MA FSA FSA Scot.

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