

## A visit to Eggborough, 15-Dec-21

Mark Batchelor, Geoff Midgley and I went to meet one of the chaps from St Francis to discuss the hoped-for track on the site a couple of hundred yards south from where it used to be. The meeting went well and there is every hope that we will be able to get back on site – but it won't be this year! A more detailed report on what went on at the meeting is being prepared.

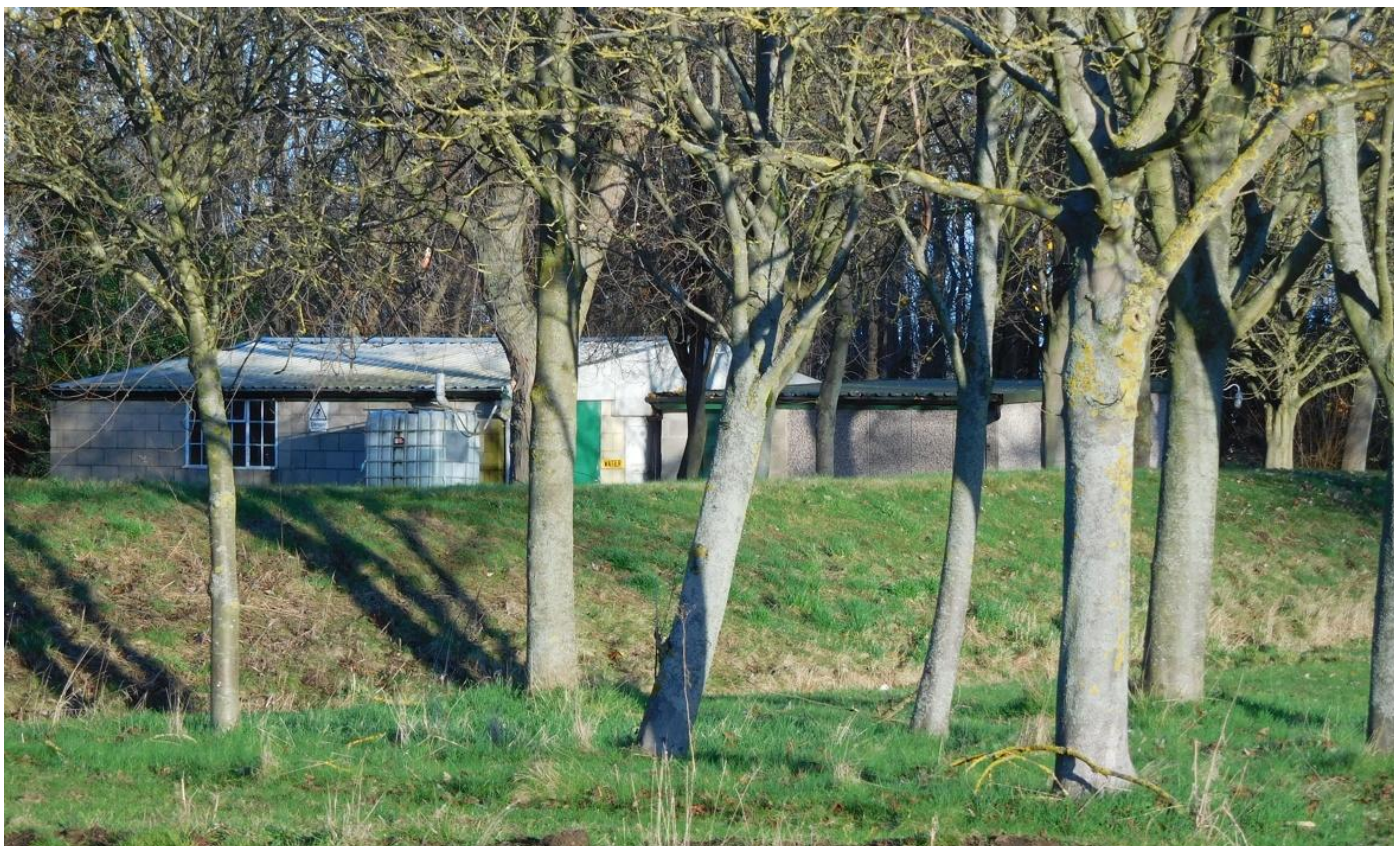
As we were on site, I took a few photos so people are aware of what it looks like now, and more importantly, the area where we hope to be. Here is what used to be the Sports & Social Club:



The bowling green isn't looking as well-kept as it used to do...



In the distance, we could see our old clubhouse still standing:



The tunnel too is still intact.



But that wasn't really what we'd come to see – we needed to check on some pylons – or transmission towers as they are more correctly known. These are in the area south of the line of conifer trees that used to border the old S & SC building, and we needed to confirm some dimensions. Looking up...



All being well, our new track will run either towards you (or away from you) on a line fairly close to the chimney.



Looking north; the new track should curve to the right of the pylon and head through the conifers.



Having passed through the conifers on a right-hand curve, the track should then proceed on a fairly straight line from here towards the pylon in the centre, before curving round to the right at the end of the conifers.



Still vestiges of cooling tower left standing....



So having curved round the other end of the conifers, the track will curve right and then head towards the centre of the two pylons.



We were able to find the line of the National Grid “Easement” that is shown on their diagram; it looks as if we can cross it with a railway, but putting a clubhouse or carriage shed on it – or close to it – will not be a good idea.



Ground levels here are a bit varied; we should be OK as we're on the higher ground to the right.



Looking down from the embankment with the A19 behind me, Geoff Midgley is somewhere near the line of the railway which will curve in front of those trees on the left and head north.



We then went over to the old railway – and nature is certainly taking hold on the tunnel mouth!



All the remaining buildings had been broken into...



But inside, apart from the smashed door frame and broken window, it was pretty well as we left it...





Not that we'd left a lot of stuff worth nicking...



"Cse of Old Rly" as it used to say on OS maps...



The other tunnel mouth...



View from the top of the tunnel; amazing how quickly the gravel has been covered in grass!



I'm standing in the steaming bays, looking towards the station and tunnel –look how high those weeds have grown!



We had a peep into the Bowling Green clubhouse – it seemed even more *Mary Celeste* than ours; there was even a packet of biscuits on the side, but as they lacked the necessary stiffness normally associated with biscuitry, we left them well alone...



So that was a peep into both the past and the future... **Nigel**