

## Emily Green

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**From:** Jane Entwistle <jentwistle@thomasons.co.uk>  
**Sent:** 01 August 2019 13:51  
**To:** Kerry Kirwan (heritage@middlewich.org.uk); Emily Green  
**Cc:** Stephen Anderson; Peter.Barlow@HistoricEngland.org.uk  
**Subject:** 8903: Murgatroyd's Brine Pump

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Kerry / Emily

I had a very helpful meeting with Peter Barlow of Historic England last week after my visit to site.

**Peter** – I have copied you in to make sure that I am not misquoting you.

In essence Peter told me that the historically most important aspect of this site is the pump itself rather than the gantry or brine tank. With this in mind I suggested to him that we focus on longevity above historical accuracy in the restoration of the gantry particularly when we consider the potentially brine atmosphere and exposure of the structure; he agreed that this would be acceptable from his point of view. This means that he is happy for the steelwork to be galvanised and painted in whatever colour is appropriate for the site.

Peter and I agreed on the steel members of the gantry which are to be retained and also that the existing legs are to be cut off below the ring beam and returned, in due course, to site as an artefact. Cutting the legs at this point will allow us to see the details of the original timber connection between the ring beam and the legs so that we can replicate this in the new structure.

Peter is aware that the new timber legs will be in three pieces, as opposed to the current single length, and he is happy for us to develop a connection detail. He is also happy for us to introduce a splice in the steelwork surrounding the timber framework – this is necessary if we are to have galvanised steelwork. We will design a connection detail either at the roof line or at the ring beam, either of which will not be a great visual impact.

I discussed with Peter the possibility of using any “spare” money on other aspects of the restoration, such as the brine tank and/or its supports, particularly bearing in mind the forthcoming loss of crane access. He is not opposed to grant shifting money around if it is in the best interests of the historical asset. We discussed the idea of replacing the tank support beams as part of the current package of works so that they can be craned into place whilst access is still available.

In connection with the brine tank Peter was of the understanding that a local artist or craftsman was to be involved to design something that was effectively an interpretation of the former tank. This would not hold water and hence could be assembled on site not requiring crane access for a whole tank in a single lift. **Kerry**, you would need to include this in your brief to the designer.

I think that I have covered all the important/salient points of our conversation; if you have any queries please do give me a call.

Kind regards  
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