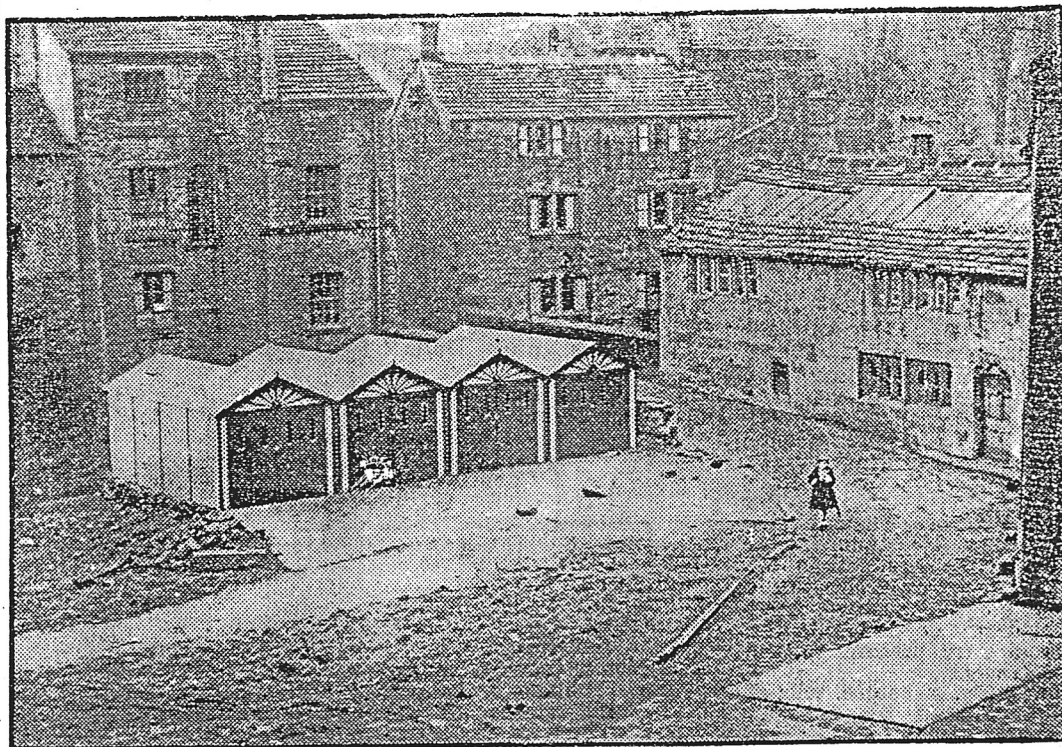


Garage block criticised as 'out of character' with Luddenden village

21 Jan 1957



BUT BUILDERS SAY, "WE HAVE HAD NO COMPLAINTS"

THE erection of a row of garages on waste ground in the centre of Luddenden village has led to criticism, the garages being described by some people as "an eye-sore" and "completely out of character with the rest of the village."

"Demolished houses in Luddenden have been left to become a dump—and now a row of unsightly garages has been put up practically on our doorsteps," said Mr. W. Edwards, who lives at 56, High Street, which runs through the centre of the village.

"Like many other out-districts we are forgotten except at rating and voting times," he added.

Hoped for a garden

Mr. Frank Moore, who owns a butcher's shop in the village centre, put forward the view that the garages were an improvement on land being left waste after demolition work.

"But we hoped that a garden or at least a plot of grass, with some seats, could have been laid down in the village centre. Yet since the old Bridge End public-house was pulled down a few years ago, the site has been more or less derelict."

"I think the garages are an eyesore, and I'm worried, too, about the noise that motorists will make in garaging their cars, perhaps late at night," said Mr. J. Tattersall, of 58, High Street.

Well-built, but —

Criticism came also from the Vicar of Luddenden (the Rev. J. A. Kings), who commented: "The garages are modern, well built and would be perfectly suitable as part of a new housing estate."

"But they are erected right in the centre of the village, a stone's throw away from a mid-17th-

century building. And I feel something much more suitable could have been found to tone with the character of the rest of the village."

The garages have been erected by Warnegate Products, Ltd., of Gibbet Street, Halifax, who carried out the work of demolishing the Bridge End public-house.

Mr. James Warne (managing director of the firm) told a reporter this morning that the firm had received no complaints about the garages.

"A local need"

"We believed there was a local need for garages, and we actually let three of the four garages before the row was erected," he said. "The garages are certainly not unsightly and some people at Luddenden have said they prefer them to the land being left vacant."

Mr. Warne said they had tried to use the land in the centre of Luddenden for some years, but had been told by the council that it was scheduled for development. More recently, however, they had been informed that the land was not now needed for this purpose, and plans were submitted for the erection of the garages.

"We are perfectly willing at any time to meet and discuss the question with the people who have been complaining," added Mr. Warne.

Told about the criticism of the garages, Coun. Wilson Haigh said he would be prepared, with other Warley councillors, to visit Luddenden to meet local people and discuss their complaints.

The row of garages recently erected in the centre of Luddenden, with the mid-17th century building on the right.

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