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7th April 2021

Mr Declan Feeney, Feeney McMahon Architects The Schoolhouse Bishop Street Limerick

Re: Rathkeale Goods Shed - Preliminary Structural Report

Dear Declan,

Further to our visit to the above site on 15<sup>th</sup> February 2021, we write to report on the structural condition of the goods shed. We did not have access to the interior of the building at the time of visiting the site.

The building principally comprises four coursed-rubble masonry walls enclosing a rail platform and trackway. The building has no roof or remains of the original roof. The trackway is accessed by a masonry and brick arch at each gable end of the building, one of which has been blocked up with 215 thick blockwork and the other of which is gated. There is a small masonry addition to the front with a fibre cement slated roof which we understand houses a boiler. There are openings on the long side of the building giving access to the platform, both of which have brick relieving arches and timber lintels. One has a steel door and the other in blocked up in 215 solid blockwork.

In general the original walls of the building are in good condition considering the degree to which they are unsheltered. They do not exhibit any cracking or other defect that suggests any inadequacy in their foundation. The principal defect is to the western gable where the upper courses of masonry are missing and a number of stones/bricks forming the arched entry have been displaced. There is also a pedestrian entrance on the south western gable which features a brick arch in need of repair. It was not possible to access the timber door heads to inspect them closely but they appear to be in reasonably good condition. These will require a more detailed assessment. The arched structures are generally in good condition other than on the south western gable where they needs to be taken down and carefully reinstated.

Although it was not possible to inspect the interior of the building other than a limited view through the sides of the timber gate we anticipate that it will be feasible to use the existing platform wall as a base for the proposed columns that are intended to support the mezzanine structure.

If you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours Sincerely PHM Consulting

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