



Bursledon Windmill, Hampshire – Condition Inspection Update Report

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Introduction

The mill was inspected by Luke Bonwick on Friday 22nd March in the presence of Gary the miller and Emma Banks of HCT.

Recent developments on site were discussed.

This report provides a short update on Bonwick HC's previous illustrated report dated 16th July 2018.

Executive summary

No major changes in the condition of the mill have occurred since Bonwick HC's previous report of July 2018.

The millstone cases, grain bins and associated equipment have been cleaned out to allow milling to recommence.

Test milling sessions by wind power were carried out in March 2019 and proved very successful.

Repairs to the reefing stage are still required.

Repairs to the south door at first floor level are still required.

Extensive repairs to the timber stocks supporting the sails are still required.

Repairs to the chain purchase wheel at the rear of the cap are still required.

Update to condition survey

REFER TO BONWICK HC'S PREVIOUS REPORT OF JULY 2018.

<i>Report reference</i>	<i>Component</i>	<i>Condition</i>
2.1	Reefing stage	Unchanged. The stage still requires extensive repair.
2.2	Doors and windows	Unchanged. Repairs to the south west door frame are still required, but measuring up is in progress (May 2019) with a view to repairing the door sill and floor boarding close by.
2.3	Walls	Externally: unchanged. Repairs are still required. Internally: mould cleaned off and walls re-limewashed.
2.4	Internal floors	Grain bins at 2 nd floor level have been cleaned out. Otherwise unchanged.
2.5	Cap roof	Unchanged. The barrier frame inside the cap roof remains in position, making access into and around the cap (for staff members) difficult. The cap cladding continues to deteriorate but remains generally watertight.
3.1	Winding gear	Unchanged. Chain purchase wheel still requires repair.
3.2	Sails	Unchanged. Condition of stocks supporting sails remains a concern.
3.3	Windshaft, brake wheel & brake	These remain in good working order. A problem with the safety chock that prevents the brake wheel (and sails) from turning was recently rectified by Gary. This item was damaged during recent high winds when the sails were forced around by a small amount.
3.4	Wallower etc	These remain in good working order. The wallower still requires surveying and truing up.
3.5	Stone nuts etc	The stone nut was put into gear and tested by the miller, and shown to run successfully with no issues.
3.6	Millstones and furniture	The eastern millstone furniture has been dismantled, thoroughly cleaned out and reassembled. The millstones have been tested in gear recently and found to produce flour to a satisfactory standard.

Conclusions

During recent strong winds in March 2019, the opportunity was taken to test the operation of the millstones using wind power.

The test milling sessions have produced satisfactory results and show that the mill is capable of producing flour by wind power when the wind is strong enough and is blowing from a suitable direction.

Extensive tree growth in the area directly surrounding the mill severely limits the occasions on which the sails of the mill can be turned. Only in exceptional circumstances – on a handful of occasions per year – are the conditions suitable for milling by wind power.

It is essential that finances are found to cover the outstanding repairs to the sails and reefing stage described in the previous report. The deteriorating condition of the cap roof covering was also noted in the previous report.

END OF REPORT