CLAIMS:

1. A latch mechanism ~~(100)~~ for a gate, comprising:

a main support ~~(206)~~;

a first retention member ~~(202)~~ having a first key aperture ~~(208)~~ and a second retention member ~~(204)~~ having a second key aperture, wherein the first and second ~~apertures~~ members are spaced along a vertical direction on the main support so as to be separated by a vertical gap;

a rotatable latch ~~(212)~~ comprising:

a latch portion ~~(216)~~;

a seat;

~~one or more~~a first key portion~~s (218, 220)~~ extending in a first direction ~~which extend through either or both of the first key aperture and second key aperture; and,~~

a neck portion; and

a second key portion extending in a second direction; the first and second key portions configured to extend through the first key aperture and second key aperture respectively;

an axis of rotation extending vertically along the main support, wherein, when the rotatable latch is mounted on the first and second retention members, the seat is configured to rest against the first retention member restricting movement of the latch portion along the axis of rotation towards the first retention member, the first key portion is configured to be positioned between the first and second retention members, and the second key portion is configured to be positioned below the second retention member; wherein when the rotatable latch is mounted on the main support, the rotatable latch is rotatable about the axis of rotation between a receiving position in which the rotatable latch is disengaged from the gate and the gate is moveable between an open position and a closed position, or vice versa, and a latched

position in which the rotatable latch is movable about the axis of rotation to receive a portion of the gate between the latch portion and the first retention member such that the latch portion restrains the gate in the closed position, wherein in the latched position the first and second key portions engage with the first and second retention members to prevent withdrawal of the rotatable latch; wherein in the area of the neck portion and the seat, the rotatable latch is configured to interact with the first retention member and the second retention member to provide a staged failure of the rotatable latch when the rotatable latch is in the latched position and under load against the gate ~~(213),~~

~~the rotatable latch being rotatable about the axis of rotation between a receiving position in which the gate is moveable between an open position and a closed position, or vice versa, and a latched position in which the gate is restrained in the closed position by the latch portion, wherein the one or more key portions engage with either or both of the first and second retention members when in the latched position to prevent withdrawal of the rotatable latch~~.

2. A latch mechanism as claimed in claim 1, wherein either or both of the first and second key apertures are slots.

3. A latch mechanism as claimed in ~~either of claim 1 or 2~~claim 1, wherein the first and second key apertures overlie each other such that there is line of sight through the first and second key apertures along axis of rotation.

4. A latch mechanism as claimed in ~~any preceding claim~~claim 1, wherein the first and second key apertures are the same size.

5. A latch mechanism as claimed in ~~any preceding claim~~claim 1, wherein the first key aperture and the second key aperture are angularly aligned with each other when viewed along the axis of rotation.

6. A latch mechanism as claimed in ~~any of claims 1 to 4~~claim 1, wherein the first and second key apertures are angularly offset from one another when viewed along the axis of rotation.

7. A latch mechanism as claimed in ~~any preceding claim~~claim 1, ~~further comprising a neck portion (228) which separates the latch portion and at least one of the one or more key portions,~~ wherein the rotatable latch is rotatable between the receiving position and latched position whilst the neck portion is in the first key aperture.

~~8. A latch mechanism as claimed in any preceding claim, comprising a plurality of key portions, wherein adjacent key portions are separated by a further neck portion (226).~~

~~9~~8. A latch mechanism as claimed in claim ~~8~~1, wherein the neck portion comprises ~~at least one of the plurality of key portions has~~ a first neck portion at a first end of the first key portion and a second neck portion at a second end of the first key portion, wherein the first and second neck portions lie along and define the axis of rotation.

~~10. A latch mechanism as claimed in any preceding claim, in which the number of key portions is the same as the number of key apertures.~~

~~11~~9. A latch mechanism as claimed in ~~any of claims 8 to 10~~claim 6, wherein the ~~plurality of~~ first and second key portions are angularly offset by the same amount as the first and second key apertures when viewed along the axis of rotation.

~~12~~10. A latch mechanism as claimed in ~~any preceding claim~~claim 1, wherein ~~either or both of~~ the first and second key apertures include a first slot portion and a second slot portion, wherein the first and second slot portions are angularly offset.

~~13. A latch mechanism as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein the rotatable latch includes at least one seat surface (234) which abuts the first or second retention member and limits the travel of the rotatable latch through the first and second key aperture.~~

~~14~~11. A latch mechanism as claimed in ~~any preceding claim~~claim 1, wherein the first and second retention members are flanges attached to and extending from the main support.

~~15~~12. A latch mechanism as claimed in ~~any preceding claim~~claim 1, wherein the main support is a post.

~~16~~13. A latch mechanism as claimed in claim ~~15~~12, wherein the post includes a third and fourth retention member on an opposing side of the post to the first and second retention members.

~~17~~14. A latch mechanism as claimed in ~~any preceding claim~~claim 1, wherein the latch portion includes a barrier which passes over a portion of the gate when in the latched position to restrict the movement of the gate relative to the first retention member.

~~18~~15. A latch mechanism as claimed in ~~any preceding claim~~claim 1, wherein the rotatable latch comprises a lock portion ~~(230)~~ which engages with a further lock portion external to the rotatable latch, wherein the engagement of the lock portion and further lock portion prevents the rotation of rotatable latch from the latched position to the receiving position.

~~19~~16. A latch mechanism as claimed in claim ~~18~~15, wherein the lock portion comprises a lock aperture.

~~20~~17. A latch mechanism as claimed in ~~either of claims 18 or 19~~claim 15, wherein the further lock portion also prevents the rotation of a further rotational latch.

~~21~~18. A latch mechanism as claimed in ~~any preceding claim~~claim 1, wherein the key portions are plates.

~~22~~19. A latch mechanism as claimed ~~any preceding claim~~in claim 1, wherein either or both of the first and second key apertures are provided by a v-aperture.

~~23~~20. A latch mechanism as claimed in claim ~~22~~19, wherein the ~~one or more~~first and second key portions comprise a plurality of plate members arranged at an angle to each other.

~~24~~21. A gate system comprising:

a boom which is rotatably received and restrained by the latch mechanism of ~~any preceding claim~~claim 1.

~~25~~22. A gate system as claimed in claim ~~24~~21, wherein the gate includes two bars, each bar received by a first latch mechanism and a second latch mechanism, each latch mechanism according to ~~any of claims 1 to 23~~claim 1.