YORKSHIRE GARDENS TRUST

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Dear Mr Parker

26/01388/STPLFE Three Oaks Renewable Energy Park, Thornholme Fields, Rudston Road, Burton Agnes, YO25 4NE.

The Yorkshire Gardens Trust (YGT) is a member organisation of the Gardens Trust and works in partnership with it in respect of the protection and conservation of historic parks and gardens in Yorkshire. YGT has only recently been alerted to this planning application for 6 wind turbines, 149m high and associated infrastructure in Thornholme Fields, 1.5km north-east of Burton Agnes Hall. We were disappointed not to have been consulted directly at an earlier date given our extensive knowledge of historic parks and gardens across the region. Whilst late in the day we wish to offer the following comment:-

Burton Agnes Hall, built between 1601 and 1610, is a remarkable late Elizabethan/Jacobean building; one of the finest in England. This original form remains readable both in the building's form and layout and also in its dominance of the surrounding landscape. This importance is underlined by its Grade I listing.

We note submissions in the case from Historic England (21st September 26) and the Building Conservation team (13th August 26, 9th October 26) and wish to agree with both views on the harm to historic assets, including listed buildings and structures, which this work would present. In addition, we would like to flag the existence of historic garden and parkland around the site. These are undesignated but evolve around the Hall from its construction with particular extension and enhancement happening in the 18th C and should be an important consideration in the determination of this planning application. These features are described in our online research at:

https://www.yorkshiregardenstrust.org.uk/sites/yorkshiregardenstrust.org.uk/files/database/YGT%20ER%20REPORT_burtonagneshall_no%20figures.pdf see Appendix below.
The garden and parkland are historic assets which enhance the form and setting of the site.

We note and support the Historic England view that the architectural dominance of the Hall over the landscape is not accidental, but purposely designed to express the wealth, status and power of Sir Henry Griffith who built it in 1601. They also comment that 'the layout and design of the garden to the east of the Hall channel views out, towards the coast and historically associated farms,

demonstrating the extent of the owner's landholdings and status in the area. The ha-ha along the eastern edge of the garden encourages uninterrupted borrowed views across the wider landscape. Therefore, in addition to the aesthetic value of the wider value of the agricultural landscape to the setting of the house, these views also hold considerable historic interest in relation to the significance of Burton Agnes Hall.'

In considering these views we would emphasise that they also take in the historic parkland beyond the ha-ha.

The Building Conservation Team also make significant reference to the wider countryside in which the Hall is experienced. It points out the particular importance of landscape views, including borrowed views from the interior of the house. These were crucial in projecting a sense of the grandeur of the building and internal space. These views extend across the parkland and beyond. They note, a point which we would support, that the presence of the turbines would create a distracting, discordant and harmful intervention.

In summary our view, like that of our conservation partners, would be that due to the scale and location of this proposed development it will have a significantly harmful visual effect on Burton Agnes Hall and its associated historic assets including the park and garden. We would assess this impact as High. As such the proposals would not meet NPPF (September 2026) HE4 paragraphs 1, 2, and HE6 paragraphs 3,4 and the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990.

We trust that the degree of this harm will be carefully considered against the public benefits of the proposals and ensures that due weight is given to the conservation of historic assets at Burton Agnes Hall.

Yours sincerely

Val Hepworth
Trustee Conservation and Planning

Cc Dr Kristof Fatsar, Historic England; The Gardens Trust

APPENDIX

https://www.yorkshiregardenstrust.org.uk/sites/yorkshiregardenstrust.org.uk/files/database/YGT%20ER%20REPORT_burtonagneshall_no%20figures.pdf

4.2 The present area of gardens and parkland to the north enclosed by the Rudston Road and the Woodland Walks is 47.5 acres (19 ha). To this can be added the 61. 5 acres (25 ha) of land east of the gardens and north of the Bridlington Road that was shown as planted in a parklike manner with clumps of trees. This includes the field enclosed to the south and east by New Lane, and the fields directly east up to the boundary with Thornholme township. In total the historic parkland and gardens at its greatest extent is 109 acres (44 ha).

4.5 SETTING Burton Agnes Hall and grounds lies in East Riding Landscape Character Assessment Area 19C North Holderness Open Farmland. An area dominated by open arable farmland which provides the setting for the parkland.