



YORKSHIRE GARDENS TRUST

President: The Countess of Harewood

Vice-Presidents: Lady Legard, Peter Goodchild, Nick Lane Fox

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Ms Eleanor Hardie
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Mrs Val Hepworth
Trustee
Conservation and Planning

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21st April 2024

Dear Ms Hardie

ZE24/00255/FUL | Change of use of grassland to site 14 no. additional static units for use as holiday accommodation with associated landscaping works | Lakeside Caravan Park Coneysthorpe To Hepton Hill Coneysthorpe Malton North Yorkshire YO60 7DD

Thank you for consulting The Gardens Trust (GT) in its role as Statutory Consultee with regard to any proposed development that could affect a site included by Historic England (HE) on their Register of Parks & Gardens – Castle Howard at Grade I. The Yorkshire Gardens Trust (YGT) is a member organisation of the GT and works in partnership with it in respect of the protection and conservation of registered sites and is authorised by the GT to respond on GT's behalf in respect of such consultations.

Castle Howard is a designed landscape of monumental scale developed from c.1678 and decisively important for the development of the English Landscape Style from the mid-18th Century. Horace Walpole commented following a visit in 1772 that Castle Howard presented 'the grandest scenes of rural magnificence' which allowed him to see 'at one view... a palace, a town, a fortified city, temples on high places, woods worthy of being each a metropolis of the Druids, the noblest lawn on earth fenced by half the horizon, and a mausoleum that would tempt one to be buried alive'.

The Lakeside Caravan Park lies north of the Great Lake between the Lake and part of the northern registered boundary and so potentially in distant views to the north from the Castle and that historic core of the designed landscape. The additional site for 14 static units is an extension of the existing caravan park to the north. The area is flat so the additional static units will not be any more visible in the views from Castle Howard than the existing site. There may be more visibility from the village of Coneysthorpe but that should be fairly minor.

We note that the vegetation along the stream will be maintained but we consider that 28 trees, two for each plot, although satisfying the BNG, is quite sparse. We have not noted the size and species of tree but agree that native shrubs under the trees would be an asset. We recommend that the landscaping is reviewed, and some additional trees of suitable species are planted.

We note that discrete lighting is mentioned, without details, and this should be clarified with a view to site safety in association with as little impact as possible on the landscape and sky. The amenity

areas will be made over polycell grids filled with gravel/stone chippings and the site infrastructure will be extended to match the existing loose surface materials and ad hoc parking areas adjacent to the access road. A hammerhead turning area will be provided for both emergency and visitor vehicles. Overall, the Gardens Trust, and Yorkshire Gardens Trust have no objection to this planning application but trust that our advice will be helpful for the determination.

Yours sincerely

Val Hepworth
Trustee Conservation and Planning

cc. e-yorks@historicengland.org.uk; Kristof Fatsar, Landscape Architect North, Historic England; Conservation@ the Gardens Trust