

YORKSHIRE GARDENS TRUST

President: The Countess of Harewood Vice-presidents: Lady Legard, Peter Goodchild, Nick Lane Fox www.yorkshiregardenstrust.org.uk

> Mrs Val Hepworth Trustee Conservation and Planning

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18th May 2023 Dear Sir/Madam

23/00640/LI 23/00815/FU Alterations including stone renewal to main building and blocking up of basement windows; installation of roof lights, sun pipe, extraction equipment and maintenance access hatches at roof level; creation of an additional passing place, six additional car parking bays in the orchard, and the installation of new external lighting. Ledston Hall Hall Lane Ledston

Thank you for consulting The Gardens Trust (GT) in its role as Statutory Consultee with regard to any proposed development affecting a site listed by Historic England (HE) on their Register of Parks and Gardens. In this case the park and garden at Ledston Hall is registered grade II* with the Hall listed 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.

Ledston Hall is significant as a fine example of an English Country House estate with a long history. The Park has 17C origins and the walled gardens and terraces are probably of a late 17C date with later additions/changes. The gardens, designed landscape and park registered at grade II* means that it is a nationally important site of more than special interest.

The alterations proposed for the registered park and garden are to introduce an additional passing place in the north park, introduce 6no. additional car parking bays in the orchard to the north- west of the Hall, and to revise the lighting bollard specification to the external path round the Hall.

The proposed additional passing place is close to the existing. It is unfortunate that a second passing place is deemed to be necessary, but we understand that the additional passing place is to improve vehicle and pedestrian safety at a point along the single-track driveway in close proximity to a bend and crest in the road. It will be constructed in the same manner as the existing passing place and should prevent vehicles passing by driving on the grass verge.

The orchard already includes 18 resin bound surfaced formal car parking bays with 6 informal grass bays. It is proposed that these 6 grass bays will be installed as 'grasscrete' style cellular modules with grass infill. We presume that the informal grass bays were not left for tree root protection purposes in which case we would have concerns?

External lighting bollards as previously approved are proposed to be substituted with a more discrete, low-level unit, that provides a wash of light at ground level across the paths. These are proposed to be positioned in the same locations as the original bollards.

We trust that these proposed alterations to the earlier consented proposals for changes to the registered park and garden at Ledston have little additional impact, in which case the Gardens Trust and Yorkshire Gardens Trust have no objection.

Yours sincerely,

Val Hepworth Trustee Conservation and Planning

cc. Historic England <u>e-yorks@historicengland.org.uk;</u> Conservation@ the Gardens Trust