



# YORKSHIRE GARDENS TRUST

President: The Countess of Harewood

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[www.yorkshiregardenstrust.org.uk](http://www.yorkshiregardenstrust.org.uk)

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20<sup>th</sup> October 2022

Dear Ms Gallagher

**21/00321/FULL Full Planning Permission for Redevelopment of Gardener's Cottage and Dog House to be Used as Tourist Accommodation and Erection of a Timber Fence to Protect the Orchard from Strong Winds (Part Retrospective) at Middleton Lodge, Kneeton Lane, Middleton Tyas, Richmond, North Yorkshire, DL10 6NJ**

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 – Middleton Lodge at Grade II, (list entry number: 1001699). 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.

The Registered Park and Garden (RPG) at Middleton Lodge, although relatively small has all the characteristics of a designed estate (c.1780) in the English Landscape Style and complements Middleton Lodge (Listed Grade II\*, list entry number 1317085), designed by John Carr of York. The designer of the park and garden has not been determined although it is possible that John Foss of Richmond was involved. It was laid out at a similar time to the building of the Lodge for the barrister George Hartley. The RPG of c 67ha consists of pleasure grounds, formal gardens, landscape park and the walled kitchen garden with orchard and ancillary buildings.

The site for this planning application lies within the RPG, immediately to the south - west of the walled garden and within the orchard with its wall enclosures.

We note that the documents date from 29<sup>th</sup> April 2021 with revised details in early 2022 and a Retrospective Bat Assessment August 2022. The 2021 documents indicate the poor condition of the site at that time. This is the Gardens Trust first consultation on this planning application.

It is a well-documented application and having been out on site today we can confirm that the works are seemingly completed and appear to be to a pleasing standard. The Gardener's Cottage with its overhanging eaves on the short flanking ranges either side of the central gabled entrance bay overlooking the orchard, and with its small 'front' garden, look very well. It is sympathetic to the historic character of the site. The other works are to also to a pleasing standard with site appropriate materials. The orchard is being managed as a floriferous meadow and planted with older varieties of

fruit trees. The whole area has been sensitively enhanced and can be enjoyed by the visitors staying in the accommodation.

As an aside, the walled garden designed by the notable designer Tom Stuart Smith, looked stunning in its autumn colours and is a credit to Middleton Lodge, the staff who care for it and the design concept and planting.

In conclusion the Gardens Trust and Yorkshire Gardens Trust have no objection to this planning application.

Yours sincerely

Val Hepworth  
Trustee Conservation and Planning

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