



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

Planning Services (Harrogate Area)

North Yorkshire Council

planningconsultation.har@northyorks.gov.uk

dmst.har@northyorks.gov.uk

conservation@yorkshiregardenstrust.org.uk

1st April 2025

Dear Sir/Madam

ZC25/00786/REMMAJ Reserved matters application for Phase 1a (Tennis) seeking approval of access, appearance, landscaping, layout, and scale for the construction of a new tennis pavilion, outdoor tennis courts, access, car parking, landscaping, and associated engineering operations and ancillary works pursuant to outline planning permission reference: 2301184/OUTMAJ Rudding Park Hotel Follifoot Harrogate North Yorkshire HG3 1JH

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 – Rudding Park at grade II. 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.

As we wrote on 28th April 2023 in response to **23/01184/OUTMAJ**, Rudding Park is notable for its links with Humphry Repton who drew up a Red Book in 1790 for its then owner Lord Loughborough, and then later the work on the gardens by James Russell in the mid- 20th Century. Rudding Park was originally part of the forest of Knaresborough, and we understand that there were ancient oaks retained within the parkland.

This reserved matters application is for the access, appearance, landscaping, layout, and scale for the construction of a new tennis pavilion and outdoor tennis courts so we have no idea about the materials, colours etc of the pavilion. The scheme is immaculate but lacking in character and we find it difficult to come to any conclusion. Our main concern is that the plans do not show any herbaceous or shrub planting or climbing plants to anchor the building into the landscape nor anything to indicate how the upper deck will be 'greened' with eg quality pots etc. There is an opportunity to make this development an integral part of Rudding's quality gardens/gardening found in the other areas of the estate.

Again, as in our response to **ZC25/00787/REMMAJ** whilst we note the variety of ornamental tree species, we have the following advice:

We consider that trees would be better in clumps and, apart from possibly some ornamentals close to the new buildings, clumps of trees reflecting the historic mix would be preferable. Some of the species could be planted in groups of three or five etc – historically 'landscape improvers' disapproved of 'spottiness' in planting.

This development and that for the maintenance building will we presume remove holes from the established golf course.

The Gardens Trust and Yorkshire Gardens Trust have no significant objections to the principle of this reserved matters application and trust that our advice will be helpful for further design work for Phase 1a.

Yours sincerely,

Val Hepworth
Trustee Conservation and Planning

Cc Kristof Fatsar, Yorkshire and the Northeast Historic England; conservation@ the Gardens Trust