

YORKSHIRE GARDENS TRUST

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

Mr Matthew Peck Planning Officer Rotherham MBC Mrs Val Hepworth
Trustee
Conservation and Planning

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31st May 2022

Dear Mr Peck

RB2022/0719 Application to vary Condition 02 (revised embankment) imposed by RB2019/1505 at Upper Lake Sandbeck Park Sandbeck Hall Maltby

Thank you for consulting The Gardens Trust (GT) in its role as Statutory Consultee with regard to any proposed development affecting a site included by Historic England (HE) on their Register of Parks & Gardens. 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.

Sandbeck Park and Roche Abbey are on the Historic England Register of Historic Parks and Gardens at Grade II*. The fourth Earl of Scarbrough engaged Lancelot 'Capability' Brown in 1760 but as he was himself noted for his great taste for the fine arts, particularly architecture and planting, it is likely that he contributed to Brown's designs for the landscape.

We were pleased to be consulted on application RB2019/1505 (our response dated 30th October 2019) to which we had no objection.

Due to its capacity (over 100,000 cubic metres of water) the Upper Lake at Sandbeck Park must comply with the terms of the Reservoirs Act 1975. During work in May and June 2021 structural defects to the scour culvert that could pose a threat to the stability of the embankment were discovered. We understand from the Planning, Design and Heritage Statement that the Amended Safety Works are described by the project engineers as the erection of a timber wave wall (to match the existing one) for some 83m in length with a top level of 40.50m AOD along those sections of the crest where it is missing. For the short area where the wave wall will cross in front of the scour structure it shall be demountable to allow access to the scour penstock. These measures are proposed due to the need to minimise any additional load behind the existing stone wall and to ensure wave protection to the dam top. It will mean that the new section will not require the bank in this area to be raised as per the Permission and thereby better protect the structural capacity of the eastern scour wall, which was not in the best of condition. The scour wall has been variously underpinned, rebuilt and repointed in some sections but will benefit from not having to cope with further loading. The revised safety works are required to be carried out no later than December next year, being a period of less than 20 months.

