



YORKSHIRE GARDENS TRUST

President: The Countess of Harewood

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www.yorkshiregardenstrust.org.uk

Mrs Val Hepworth

Trustee

Conservation and Planning

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7th November 2024

Dear Mr Witham

ZC24/03291/ADV | Advertisement consent for interpretation signs for the Skell Valley Project | Land Situated Across Ripon North Yorkshire

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 – Studley Royal 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.

Studley Royal and Fountains Abbey was designated as a World Heritage Site (WHS) in 1986 due to its world importance, combining an early water garden and designed ornamental pleasure grounds with the ruins of a monastic site.

The Skell Valley Project is a £2.5m four-year scheme to safeguard the valley's unique cultural and natural heritage. The project focuses on the 12-mile River Skell, which flows from Dallowgill Moor to Ripon and includes Studley Royal and Fountains Abbey. The interpretation is proposed for three walking trails. This application is for Area 1 - Ripon and Fountains Way. We understand that there has been extensive consultation with local communities and organisations.

There are three locations for signage within the Registered Park and Garden or its setting. We note that British larch is proposed for the supports for the information panel RF7 Deer Park and we presume is also being used for the waymarkers/fingerposts etc RF8 Seven Bridges and RF13 and RF14 Mackershaw Bridge.

The information panel RF7 is proposed for the entrance to the Deer Park where the footpath from Studley Roger village enters the Park through a gate in the wall and should not be obtrusive. As the waymarkers/fingerposts are of wood they should also be recessive and blend into their surroundings whilst being functional.

The Gardens Trust and Yorkshire Gardens Trust have no objection to this planning application.

Yours sincerely,

Val Hepworth
Trustee Conservation and Planning

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