



YORKSHIRE GARDENS TRUST

President: The Countess of Harewood

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www.yorkshiregardenstrust.org.uk

Mrs Val Hepworth

Trustee

Conservation and Planning

Ms Melissa Marshall
Planning Officer
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Wakefield Council

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28th September 2023

Dear Ms Marshall

23/01681/LBC | Replacement of timber decking, installation of new drainage and associated repairs and redecoration to Cut Bridge at Yorkshire Sculpture Park | Yorkshire Sculpture Park Park Lane Bretton Wakefield WF4 4LG.

Thank you for consulting The Gardens Trust 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 Bretton Hall, Yorkshire Sculpture Park is registered grade II with the Hall listed 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 historic parks and gardens, and is authorised by the GT to respond on GT's behalf in respect of such consultations.

Cut Bridge spans the River Dearne immediately north of the Cascade Bridge (Listed Grade II) that forms the transition from the Upper Lake to the Lower Lake at Bretton Hall /YSP. The channel for the River Dearne called the Cut, which runs parallel to the north side of the lakes, was probably constructed in 1774.

This proposal is for the replacement of the timber decking and associated repairs to the Cut Bridge. The proposed works comprise repairs of the existing fabric, with the exception of the decking, which will be replaced with new, oak or Accoya timber deck boards sized to match existing, and the new drainage to the ends of the bridge. The existing ironwork and stone plinths will be repaired with matching materials and redecoration carried out sympathetically using either the existing colour or a previous colour based on paint analysis. The new channel drains to be installed at each end of the bridge, adjacent to the existing stone kerbs, are to prevent surface water ponding in this location. The channel drain is to be finished with a cast iron grate.

The Gardens Trust and Yorkshire Gardens Trust support the sympathetic repairs to Cut Bridge and are pleased to note that this work includes that where the stone plinth needs to be replaced due to damage or past replacement with concrete, this will be carried out using new stone suitably matched to the existing stone.

Yours sincerely

Val Hepworth

Trustee Conservation and Planning

cc, Historic England, e-yorks@historicengland.org.uk; Conservation@ the Gardens Trust