



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

Ms Alice Rich
Asset and Information Officer
Parks and Countryside
Leeds City Council

conservation@yorkshiregardenstrust.org.uk

alice.rich@leeds.gov.uk

5th January 2023

Dear Ms Rich

Temple Newsam Tree Planting – Additional Response

Many thanks for your rapid and detailed work in response to our concerns regarding tree planting on the old golf course at Temple Newsam. The various soil analysis test sites give a very clear indication of the long term effects of open cast mining at this historically important site, the vital setting of the Grade I museum so well-known and cherished by Leeds residents over the years.

We too value the impoverished grasslands with their various orchid species and are heartened that these will be kept free of trees in the new plan allowing them to proliferate - we very much hope.

With regard to the "parkland" type of trees, we are concerned about their placing and spacing which does not appear to be shown in any detail on the maps provided (maps won't enlarge clearly via email so the key is unreadable). We trust that not only the species but also the spacing, size and form of these trees will conform to those used by Capability Brown on other sites, including the nurse trees necessary to get them established on such an exposed site.

A 15-year management regime sounds excellent, but we would advise that due to the existing poor soils, a further decade or more should be factored in to deal with the climax species' long term needs and inevitably slower than normal rate of growth.

Tree Species used by Capability Brown suitable for Temple Newsam (for acidic soils)

Nurse trees:- Scots Pine, Larch, (*Larix decidua*), Spruce (*Picea abies*), Weymouth Pine (*Pinus strobus*),

-Under storey:- yew, holly, hazel,

-Boundary protection against vandalism and/or grazing:- Gorse, hawthorn, juniper,

-Forest trees:- Oak, (*Q. robur*) Scots Pine, Beech, Elm, Lime (*Tilia europea* 'Dutch form' = upright) Sweet Chestnut

-Extreme conditions :- Alder (*A. glutinosa*)

-Exotics:- Cedar of Lebanon (*Cedrus libani*) Oriental Plane, (*Platanus orientalis*)

Tulip tree (*Liriodendron tulipifera*)

We trust that our comments and list will be useful for your work and we look forward to hearing how the planting progresses.

Yours sincerely

Val Hepworth
Trustee Conservation and Planning

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