



# YORKSHIRE GARDENS TRUST

President: The Countess of Harewood

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[www.yorkshiregardenstrust.org.uk](http://www.yorkshiregardenstrust.org.uk)

Mrs Amy Harrap  
North Yorkshire Council  
(former Scarborough B C)

Mrs Val Hepworth  
Trustee  
Conservation and Planning

[planning.services.sca@northyorks.gov.uk](mailto:planning.services.sca@northyorks.gov.uk)

[conservation@yorkshiregardenstrust.org.uk](mailto:conservation@yorkshiregardenstrust.org.uk)

4<sup>th</sup> September 2023

Dear Mrs Harrap

## **ZF23/01206/LB Addition of two lower ground floor terraces to apartments, Yorkshire Coast College Westwood Annexe Valley Bridge Parade, Scarborough North Yorkshire YO11 2PL**

This planning application has been sent to The Gardens Trust by the staff and volunteers who maintain the Joint Committee of the National Amenity Societies (JCNAS) casework log <https://casework.jcnas.org.uk/>. The Gardens Trust's (GT) role is 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 Valley Gardens and South Cliff Gardens at Scarborough 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.

The Yorkshire Coast College, Westwood Annexe is situated immediately above and to the north-west of the Valley Gardens. The Valley Gardens, which terminate the north end of the registered site, are bisected by Valley Road and pass beneath Valley Bridge. At the west end, on a small island at the centre of the pool, stands the remains of a rustic timber pavilion, probably mid to late 19<sup>th</sup> century in origin. A few metres to the east is a cascade, part of its ornamental rockwork being built up against one of the bridge piers.

The Westwood Annexe (Listed Grade II, NHLE 1272842) is a special building, the first major work by the distinguished Scarborough architect Edwin Cooper c.1897-1900 and overlooks the Valley Gardens with the site boundary clearly defined. We have not visited the area recently but in 2021 when we were consulted on the conversion, the existing trees broke the views north-west across the valley to the Yorkshire Coast College Westwood Annexe building. The site is within the Scarborough Conservation Area.

We understand from the Application Form that the Listed Building Alterations are the 'lowering of window to form a door onto new terraces in two locations.' The Proposed Block Plan shows 'New Terrace' at either end of the Listed Building's south elevation. The Lower Ground Floor Plan indicates New Windows, Timber (presumably 'decking') and Galvanised Steel Black – presumably railings. We have not noted any other information or photographs relevant to this application. The Heritage Impact Assessment is dated March 2021 and is the document that we saw when we responded to the consultations for the conversion in 2021.

As this application is for a Listed Building, we would expect to have more information about the proposed changes; preferably in the form of a short specific Heritage Statement with photographs. There is no information about the proposed doors, their design and materials and we cannot be sure of their precise location or how they will integrate with the historic windows of the architecturally significant south elevation that forms the setting of the Registered Park and Garden. Is the 'decking' and are the railings, sympathetic in materials, design and colour to the historic fabric and the overall south elevation?

We consider that we have insufficient information and so must object to this application as documented.

Yours sincerely,

Val Hepworth  
Trustee Conservation and Planning

cc. Yorkshire and the Northeast Historic England, ([e-yorks@historicengland.org.uk](mailto:e-yorks@historicengland.org.uk)); the Gardens Trust