



YORKSHIRE GARDENS TRUST

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Mr Robert Morell
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27th April 2025

Dear Mr Morell

RB2025/0319 Replacement of waterplay area, installation of plant room including tanks and equipment, retaining walls, surfacing, fencing and water features with hard and soft landscaping, Clifton Park, Clifton Lane, Clifton, Rotherham S65 2AA.

Thank you for consulting The Gardens Trust (GT) 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 Clifton Park, Rotherham which is registered 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 park was opened in 1891 and overlies the landscape of Clifton House which was laid out in the late 18th century. The park is now entirely surrounded by residential housing, commercial properties and a school/playing field. The ground rises towards the south from where there are good views north and north-west across the park to Rotherham.

The area of this proposal lies in the northern area of the park, redeveloped from 1939 from the earlier fishpond, to include children's play facilities, summer fairground etc. There is a skateboard park to the north of the current waterplay area. The current waterplay area dates from 2008 and it is proposed to replace it using the same footprint. There are several listed features within Clifton Park, but these lie mainly to the south and all are outside the proposal area.

The submitted documents and the comprehensive Heritage Statement are very helpful. Considering any potential new impact on the registered park and garden, we consider that the important part of the proposal is the boundary planting and screening to the south of the waterplay area as this forms part of the northern boundary to the most historic designed area of Clifton Park and particularly as the land rises towards the south. The applicant has given regard to the planting and for the construction access which is within the southern tree boundary, and we trust that the Rotherham Local Plan Core Strategy 2023-2028 Policy CS21 Landscape "New development will be required to safeguard and enhance the quality, character, distinctiveness and amenity value of the borough's landscapes" will be achieved. We understand that due to the earlier interventions there is not likely to be any important archaeology.

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

Yours sincerely,

Val Hepworth
Trustee Conservation and Planning

Cc Yorkshire and the Northeast Historic England; conservation@ the Gardens Trust.