



Historic England

Mr Martin Jones
Charnwood Borough Council
Council Offices
Southfield Road
Loughborough
Leicestershire
LE11 2TX

Direct Dial:

Our ref: L01587282

3 February 2025

Dear Mr Jones

Arrangements for Handling Heritage Applications Direction 2021

STREET RECORD, ASHBY ROAD, LOUGHBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE Application No. P/24/2259/2

Thank you for your letter of 14 January 2025 regarding the above application for listed building consent. On the basis of the information available to date, we offer the following advice to assist your authority in determining the application.

Historic England Advice

Significance

The Temple of Venus in Garendon Park is an example of 18th century Palladian architecture, as a classical structure within the landscaped grounds, it reflects the cultural trends, showcasing the estate's wealth, aesthetic aspirations, and connection to the classical ideals of ancient Rome.

Impact

The proposed works to address the repairs needs of the Temple of Venus are welcome. The conservation and repair strategy for the temple is not stated but it is evidently largely one of 'conserve as found'. For example, the internal ceiling has been lost for some years; plasterwork is to be conserved / consolidated with only essential repairs proposed but there is no intension to reinstate the missing ceiling. This is pragmatic given perhaps uncertainties around what might have existed originally.

The application includes to remove what remains of the deteriorated felt covering from the colonnade, and to replace it on a like for like basis as option 1. We understand this to be a permanent scheme of repair and therefore wouldn't be supportive of this option in this instance. A second option to re-roof in stainless steel (as per the main dome) would be more appropriate for a highly graded building. It is a superior and longer lasting material than roofing felt. It is assumed that the colonnade was originally covered in copper sheet as per the dome. Has any consideration been given to



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reinstating in copper or similar material?

The proposed work does not appear to address issues with the panelled doors. The originals have been reinforced with metal sheeting as a response to and precaution against further antisocial behaviour. Whilst the past protection of the doors has perhaps saved them, the manner of protection is highly disfiguring. There is a suggestion that the original (or perhaps replacement) remain in a damaged state below the sheeting. Suitably reinforced doors in keeping with the historic setting may be more appropriate.

The timber frieze, etc is to be repaired and repainted. Missing motifs are to be reproduced based on those which survive. This is a slightly different approach to the treatment of internal plasterwork but is supported.

The repair and repointing of stonework is welcome. There is reference to sheltercoating some areas and it should be borne in mind that such coatings are sacrificial and, as such, periodically application will be required. There are evidently very many embedded iron cramps; repointing and reroofing will significantly slow the rate of further cramp damage.

Policy

We refer you to section 16 of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), in particular paragraphs 207 and 208

You may find the following published guidance helpful, *Church Roof Replacement Using Terne-coated Stainless Steel*; and *Theft of Metal from Church Roofs: Replacement Materials*, available on our website.

[<https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/church-roof-replacement-terne-coated-stainless-steel/>](https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/church-roof-replacement-terne-coated-stainless-steel/)

[<https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/theft-metal-church-roofs-replacement-materials/>](https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/theft-metal-church-roofs-replacement-materials/)

Position

Whilst Historic England welcomes measures aimed at conserving the Listed Buildings of Garendon Park, the submission of these three applications (P/24/2261/2, P/24/2259/2, and P/24/2277/2) should not be regarded as fully addressing the priorities outlined in the 2014 Conservation Management Plan and 2014 Conservation Assessment Report in relation to planning consent. The Local Planning Authority will need to assess the full scope of works required under the S106 agreement associated with planning application P/14/1833/2.

Additionally, the Local Planning Authority may wish to consider provisions following repairs for future inspection and maintenance provision.



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Recommendation

Historic England has concerns regarding the application on heritage grounds. We consider that the issues and safeguards outlined in our advice need to be addressed in order for the application to meet the requirements of paragraphs 207 and 208 of the NPPF.

In determining this application you should bear in mind the statutory duty of section 16(2) of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 to have special regard to the desirability of preserving listed buildings or their setting or any features of special architectural or historic interest which they possess, and section 72(1) of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 to pay special attention to the desirability of preserving or enhancing the character or appearance of conservation areas.

Your authority should take these representations into account and seek amendments, safeguards or further information as set out in our advice. If there are any material changes to the proposals, or you would like further advice, please contact us.

Yours sincerely

Sara Willhoit

Landscape Architect

E-mail:



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