



Reg Charity No 1013861 Company No 2723974

15, Village Gardens, Stafford, ST17 0LL

Planning Department
Staffordshire Moorlands District Council
Moorlands House
Stockwell Street
Leek
Staffs, ST13 6HQ

Fao: Lisa Jackson

12 October 2023

Dear Sir

SMD/2022/0117

PROPOSED NEW FLIGHT OF STEPS, MRS BATEMAN'S GARDEN, BIDDULPH GRANGE, GRANGE ROAD, BIDDULPH

The National Trust has drawn our attention to the revised submission for this application about which we originally wrote to you on 22 March 2022. As in our previous letter Staffordshire Gardens and Parks Trust is responding both in its own behalf and on behalf of The Gardens Trust (TGT) in accordance with agreed working arrangements for commenting on planning consultations.

The Trusts have read the very detailed research paper prepared by the National Trust since receipt of the gardens Trusts' previous objection to the proposed development. This demonstrates clearly that the layout of this part of the historic landscape has changed several times and to varying degrees since James Bateman originally laid out the site. It is also clear that the present layout introduced by the National Trust in the 1990, while reflecting the spirit of earlier designs, is an evolution and not a replication of any single earlier design.

The Trusts have found this research very helpful in understanding both the site, the impact of the proposed works on its significance, and the motivation for further change to improve circulation within the landscape. In the light of the new historical evidence and the minor revisions to the design of the steps and

handrail it is no longer considered that the scheme will cause harm to the significance of the registered heritage asset.

The Trusts withdraw their previous opposition to the scheme and now raise no objection to this application.

Yours faithfully

Alan Taylor
Chairman
SGPT

Cc: Historic England
Margie Hoffnung TGT
Daniel Bowles TGT
Alison Allighan TGT