

Havant Borough Council
Heritage Consultation Response

Date – 7/1/26

Officer – Rachael McMurray, Principal Heritage Officer

Application – APP/25/00926

Site Address – Sir George Staunton Country Park, Middle Park Way, Havant

Proposal:

HCC consultation for lake wall structural strengthening and repairs

Site / Location

The application site is located at Sir George Staunton Country Park, which forms part of the wider Staunton Country Park. It is also a designated conservation area and forms part of a Grade II* registered park and garden.

Legislation

When assessing the proposal, the following legislation and policy context is taken in consideration.

Planning (Listed Building and Conservation Areas) Act 1990

Section 16 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 ("1990 Act") requires local planning authorities to have special regard to the desirability of preserving a listed building, its setting or any features of special architectural or historic interest when considering whether to grant listed building consent.

Section 66 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 requires planning authorities, when considering whether to grant planning permission for development which affects a listed building or its setting, to have special regard to the desirability of preserving the building or its setting or any features of special architectural or historic interest which it possesses.

Section 72 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 requires planning authorities, when considering whether to grant planning permission for development which affects a **Conservation Area**, to have special regard to the desirability of preserving or enhancing the character and appearance of that area.

National Planning Policy Framework (revised December 2024)

Chapter 16 of the NPPF relates to **the Historic Environment** including paragraphs 202-221.

Havant Borough Local Plan (Core Strategy 2011 and Allocations Plan 2014)

Policy CS11 – Protecting and Enhancing the Special Environment and Heritage of the Havant Borough

Policy CS16 – High Quality Design

Policy DM20 (Allocations Plan) - Historic Assets

Assessment

The application relates to proposed repair works, including strengthening where required, to the lake wall. The works are being proposed by Hampshire County Council which own, operate and maintain the country park. A full survey of the lake has been carried out and certain structural defects have been identified. The retaining wall around the lake is mainly of modern construction however, historic submerged walls have been identified in certain parts of the lake. 14no. additional buttresses are proposed for the lake, where the wall is failing the most and causing flooding issues. These would be submerged under the water level, so not highly, if at all visible. These will comprise brick buttresses of dark blue engineering bricks, laid in a brick bond to match the existing lake wall.

The scheme also requires the repair of other parts of the wall with localised repointing. The full list of repairs is set out on Page 11 of the design, access and heritage statement.

Overall, it is considered that the proposed repairs are necessary to maintain the longevity of the lake, which is a feature of important significance within this historic setting and would not result in harm to the Sir George Staunton Conservation Area, nor the Grade II* RP&G.

Conclusion

NO OBJECTION