



47 Denmans Lane
Lindfield
Haywards Heath
West Sussex
RH16 2JN

By e-mail to Horsham District Council
Parkside,
Chart Way, Horsham,
West Sussex RH12 1RL

13th June 2019

FAO Tamara Dale

Dear Sirs

DC/19/1067 - Construction of a new gardener's barn and Victorian style greenhouse

Thank you for consulting Sussex Gardens Trust (SGT) regarding the above application. The Gardens Trust (GT) - formerly the Garden History Society (GHS) - is a statutory consultee on matters concerning registered parks and gardens, and is now working closely with County Garden Trusts such as SGT regarding commenting on planning policy and planning applications.

SGT welcomes the commitment of the new owners to the restoration, maintenance and enhancement of Leonardslee and recognises the need for carefully designed and screened utility buildings to support these activities. While the main structure included in this planning application is located well away from the most significant parts of the garden, it is a bulky building nearly 10m high. While there are some existing trees near the site, the application does not explain how the buildings would affect views from the Grade I listed Gardens nor whether any planting is proposed to provide longer-term screening.

Leonardslee is designated by Historic England as a Grade I Historic Park/Garden. As such, any planning proposal that causes harm, even "less than substantial harm" should be wholly exceptional (NPPF para 132 – 134). As the application is currently presented, it is unclear whether any harm will be caused. Hence SGT is unable to support the application and objects. However, as touched on above, the Trust would not object if these issues were satisfactorily dealt with.

Yours faithfully

Jim Stockwell.

On behalf of the Sussex Garden Trust.

Copy to: The Gardens Trust

information@sussexgardenstrust.org.uk

www.sussexgardenstrust.org.uk

*The Sussex Gardens Trust is a member of The Gardens Trust
Registered Office: 47 Denmans Lane, Lindfield, Haywards Heath, West Sussex RH16 2JN
Registered Charity No. 1052734. Company Limited by Guarantee: Registered in England and Wales No. 3149760*