



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

19<sup>th</sup> February 2020

FAO Matthew Porter

Dear Sirs

**DC/20/0119 Construction of 3 No. barns and enlargement of the associated gardeners' compound etc**

Thank you for consulting Sussex Gardens Trust (SGT) regarding the above application. The Gardens Trust (GT) - 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.

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). SGT commented on an earlier application (DC/19/1067) involving a bulky building nearly 10m high and objected because it was unclear whether this would cause harm.

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. Compared with the earlier application, the present proposals involve a significantly lower building and a screen of trees; the lower roof line and colour of the structure should be far more easily assimilated into the area than the bulky barn previously proposed. SGT welcomes these changes and supports the present application.

Yours faithfully

Jim Stockwell.

On behalf of the Sussex Garden Trust.

Copy to: The Gardens Trust

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[www.sussexgardenstrust.org.uk](http://www.sussexgardenstrust.org.uk)

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