



Development Management & Compliance
Wokingham Borough Council
Council Offices
Shute End
Wokingham
RG40 1BN

By email from berksgtplanning@gmail.com

21st June 2025

Dear Sir/Madam,

Malmesbury Estate, Remenham Hill, Remenham, Berkshire, RG9 3HN

Application Number: 251400. Full application for the proposed retention of 1 no. triple unit, 3no. double units and 1 no. single unit stables (retrospective)

Comments from Berkshire Gardens Trust

Thank you for consulting The Gardens Trust (GT) in its role as Statutory Consultee with regard to development affecting sites listed by Historic England (HE) on their Register of Parks and Gardens. The Berkshire Gardens Trust (BGT) is a member organisation of the GT and works in partnership with it in respect of the protection and conservation of historic sites, and is authorised by the GT to respond on GT's behalf in respect of such consultations within Berkshire.

One of the key activities of the Berkshire Gardens Trust (BGT) is therefore to help conserve, protect and enhance designed landscapes within Berkshire. We are therefore grateful for the opportunity to comment on this planning application within the Grade II* Park Place.

BGT was involved in the 2020 Appeal to which the applicant refers. Since that time several developments have received a Certificate of Lawful Development including the buildings adjacent to the application sites (Appeal B). This has a significant bearing on the potential

impact on the RPG of the additional units which the applicant proposes to retain. These temporary units now appear a part of an approved built area contained on the northern boundary. The units would not significantly increase the footprint of the built area or extend it further into the RPG. Nor would it increase the visual impact of this built up area on the remainder of the RPG. Having said that, any further development expansion into the RPG would compound the loss to the historic significance of the Park Place as a Grade II* RPG.

We fully support the proposed trade off of permanently removing the 5 no. linked portacabins (Portacabin A) and a shed which we have long regarded as harmful to the RPG. These detract from the open parkland and wooded character of the RPG plateau and on balance we feel that the removal of these 5 no. linked portacabins (Portacabin A) and a shed would outweigh the intensification of development.

Conclusion: Subject to the removal of the 5 no. linked portacabins (Portacabin A) and a shed, and subject to no further expansion of inappropriate development, whether physical or visual, into the RPG, we support this application.

Kind regards,

Bettina Kirkham

Bettina Kirkham DipTP BLD CMLI (retired)
BGT Chair and Planning Advisor.

Cc The Gardens Trust