



YORKSHIRE GARDENS TRUST

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3rd June 2024

Dear Mr Cheseldine

2024/91117 Listed Building Consent for removal of Bandstand on Longcauseway and re-erection of Bandstand at Crow Nest Park

Thank you for consulting The Gardens Trust (GT) in its role as Statutory Consultee with regard to any proposed development that could affect a site included by Historic England (HE) on their Register of Parks & Gardens. The Yorkshire Gardens Trust (YGT) is a member organisation of the GT and works in partnership with it in respect of the protection and conservation of registered sites and is authorised by the GT to respond on GT's behalf in respect of such consultations.

Crow Nest Park is a Grade II registered park in Dewsbury laid out in the early 1890's by the Borough Surveyor, incorporating features from the grounds of an earlier country house. The Register description and map (December 2000) notes that the eastern promenade in Crow Nest Park led past the bandstand which formerly stood c. 140m north of the mansion, at the heart of one of the most formally ornamental areas of the park, framed by shrubs and floral displays. By 2000 the bandstand had been removed but its raised platform and some of the evergreen planting which encircled it remained at that date.

We have not been able to visit the site but we understand from the Design and Access and Heritage Statements that the bandstand is still extant and surrounded by a grassy open space but there is no mention of any evergreen planting remaining.

The Bandstand for proposed relocation to Crow Nest Park is currently a fairly recent structure (2013) on the Memorial Gardens on Longcauseway, near Dewsbury Town Hall. It needs to be removed to allow for the proposed improvements (Dewsbury Civic Space) to that area. The bandstand is not currently listed nor in a conservation area. The intention is to dismantle the bandstand and erect it onto the existing bandstand base at Crow Nest Park.

This proposal seems eminently suitable, and we note the comments from Kirklees Senior Conservation Officer regarding the paint colour scheme reflecting the historic scheme which we support. Archive photographs may be useful for that purpose, and we suggest that historic images would be helpful for understanding the design of the area and any planting. This will of course

depend on how the community will enjoy this part of the park in the 21st century and perhaps a Friends group if there is one, would like to be involved in design, planting and maintenance?

The Gardens Trust and Yorkshire Gardens Trust agree with Kirklees Landscape Architects comments on the advantages of the relocation and community/cultural benefits, and we support the re-erection of the bandstand in Crow Nest Park.

Yours sincerely,

Val Hepworth
Trustee Conservation and Planning

Cc Yorkshire and the Northeast Historic England; the Gardens Trust