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11 December 2025



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Please reply to:
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Dear Kirsty Harte,

24/00384/FUL Installation and Operation of a Solar Farm and Battery Energy Storage System (Output upto 40 MW), With Associated Works, Equipment, Infrastructure and Landscaping: Land Adjacent To A614 Blyth Road, Worksop, Nottinghamshire, S80 3PA

Thank you for re-consulting the Gardens Trust (GT) in its role as Statutory Consultee on the above application which would have a material impact on the significance of Clumber Park and Thoresby Park, historic designed landscapes of particular significance which are included by Historic England on the Register of Parks and Gardens (RPG) of Special Historic Interest at Grade I. The inclusion of these sites on the statutory register requires the greatest weight to be given to their conservation (National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) paragraph 212).

We note the submitted Planting Plan (571_PP_01 28.03.24) has been updated (Planting Plan 571_PP_01_Rev C_26.11.25) to reflect changes made during the determination period of the planning application (Rev 10) and now during the appeal process (Rev 12) and refer you to our previous responses dated 21 January and 17 March 2025 in relation to the then submitted planting plan. For the sake of brevity we will not repeat their contents here.

We have studied the amended planting plan (Rev 12) and note the additional belts of woodland planting proposed along the western boundary of Field 1, and scrub planting along the western boundary of Field 8, and accept that, with time, this additional planting would strengthen screening of the development from the A614 and Clumber Park RPG. As such, this may eventually reduce the level of less than substantial harm which would result to the significance of the Clumber Park RPG in particular.

As stated in our letter of 21 January 2025, the Gardens Trust and Nottinghamshire Gardens Trust do not object to solar developments in locations where they will not harm the designated heritage of the area but retain concerns about these proposals and the introduction of industrial-type development into the currently largely rural settings of Clumber Park and Thoresby Park. The harmful impacts, whilst less than substantial, on the setting of two of the 30 registered parklands of Nottinghamshire, both registered at Grade I, is considered to be a very considerable price to pay and we refer you to NPPF 215. *Where a development proposal will lead to less than substantial harm to the significance of a designated heritage asset, this harm should be weighed against the public benefits of the proposal.*

We confirm we have no further comments to add at this stage but would be grateful if a copy of this response could be forwarded to the Planning Inspectorate in connection with Appeal No. APP/A3010/W/25/3367817. The Inspectorate recently notified us that they had only received a copy of our response dated 21 January 2025, however the second response of 17 March has now been submitted to their office directly. Thank you for your help in this matter.

Yours sincerely,

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and a Company Limited by Guarantee. Registered in England
and Wales No: 03163187

Alison Allighan BSc (Hons) MSc CMLI

Conservation Officer

.cc Nottinghamshire Gardens Trust

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