

SWEET OR SOUR? ASSESSING THE PLANNING APPLICATON

Protecting Historic Parks & Gardens: Mastering the Recipe for Success

20th March 2017

Are you ready to tuck in?



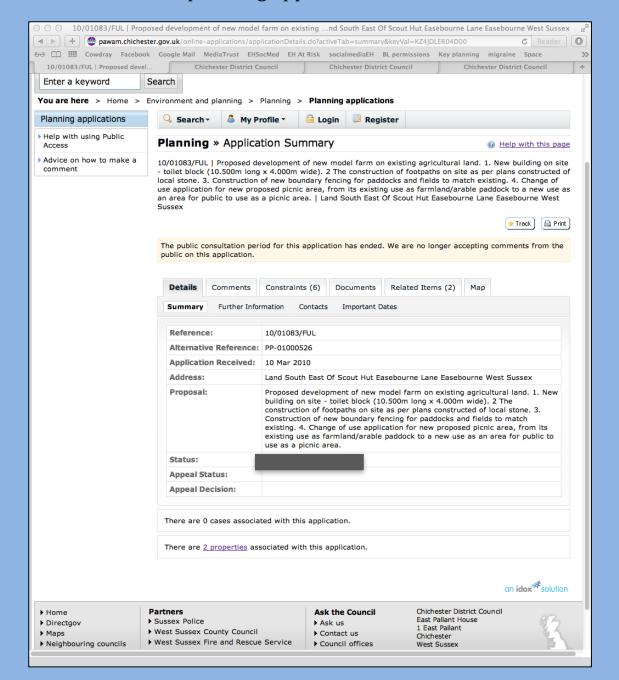
THE 8 STEPS

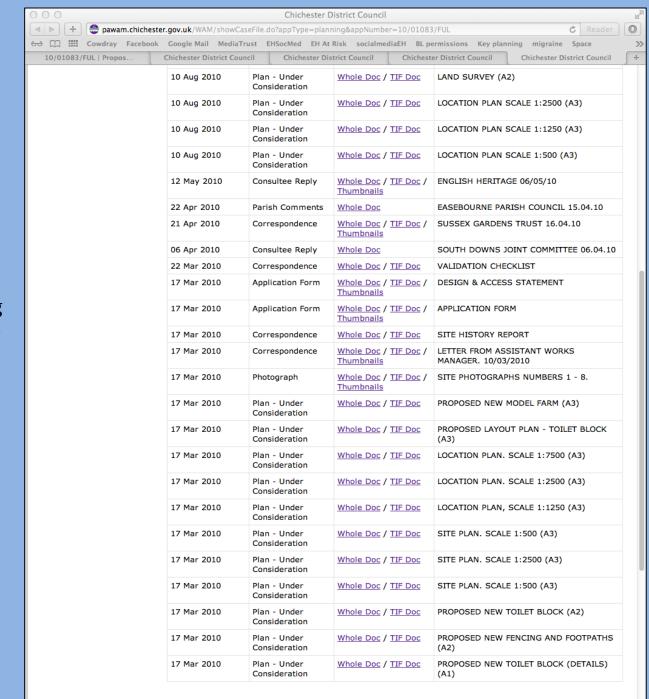
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Adapted from CPRE – How to Respond to Planning Applications

From the planning application on the website



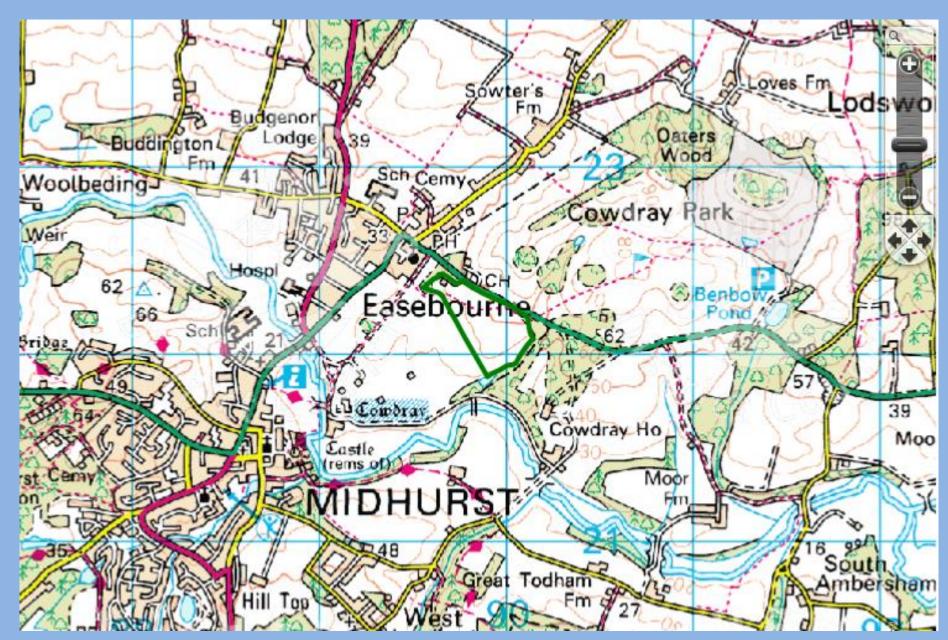


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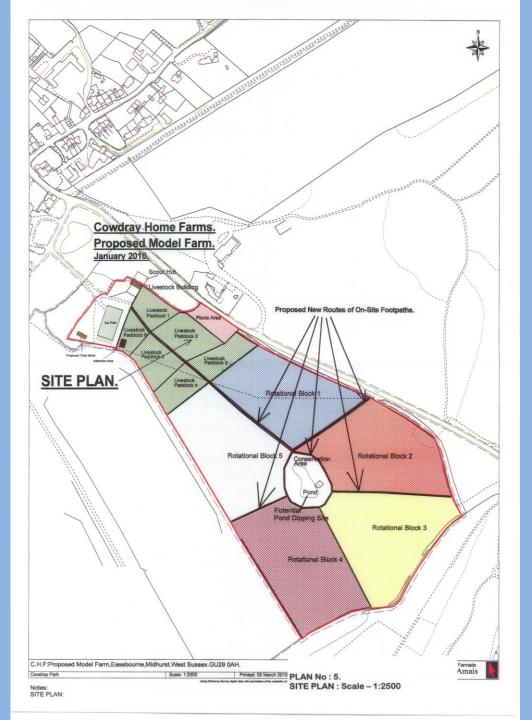
From application form:

- 1: Who is making the application / agent
- 2: Description of the proposal itemised
- 3: Pre-application advice whether sought, and nature
- 4: Vehicular access & Parking
- 5: Consultation who with and result
- 6: Materials especially any changes
- 7: Trees and hedges
- 8: Site visit accessibility from public paths etc

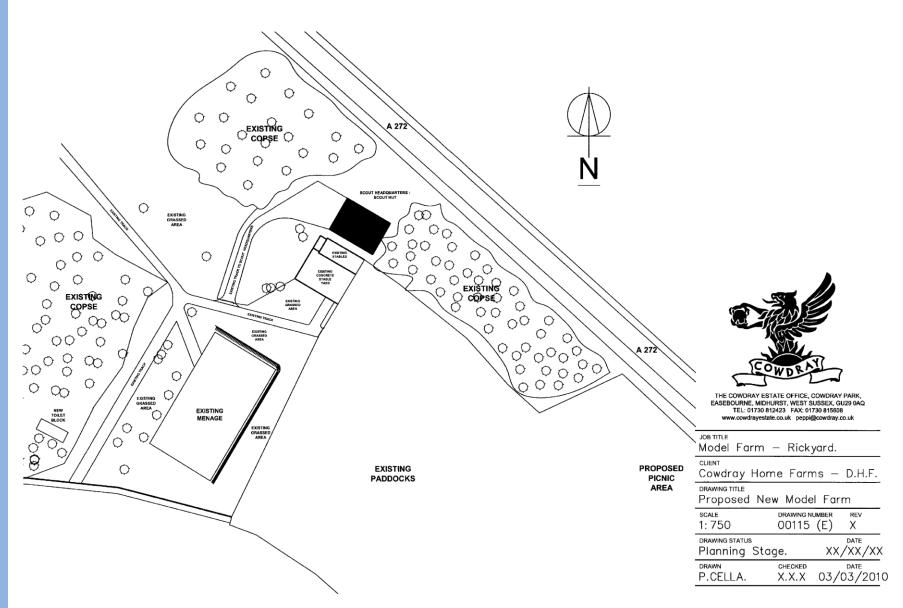
From the planning application on the website ['Map' tab]



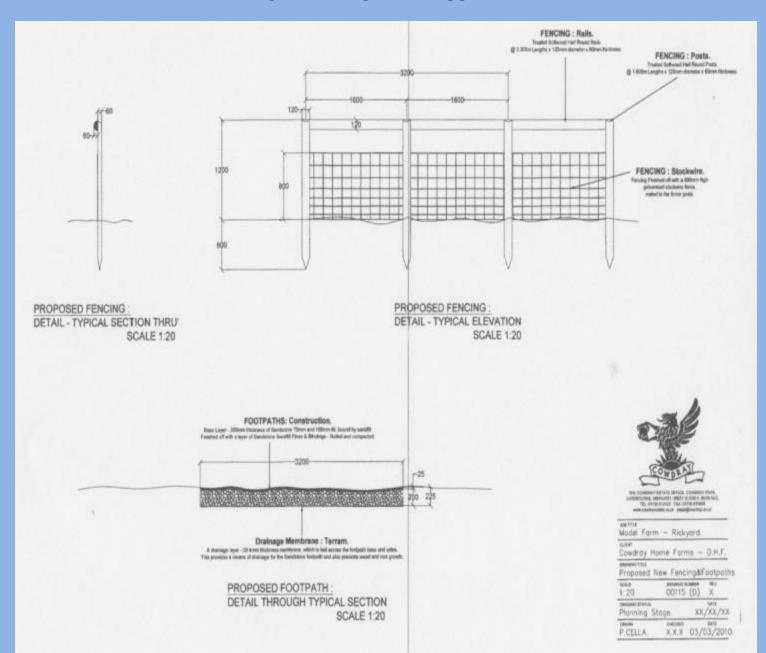
Site Plan from Application



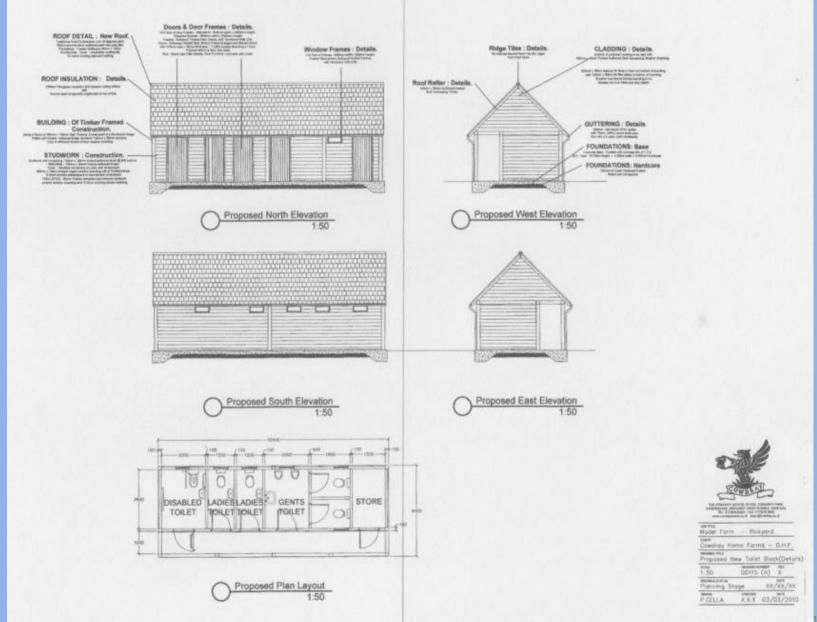
Site Plan from Application



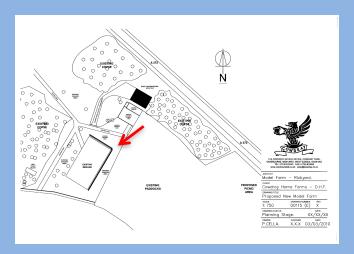
Design Drawings from Application



Design Drawings from Application



Photographs from Application



C.H.F: Proposed Model Farm. Easebourne Midhurst West Sussex. GU29 0AH.

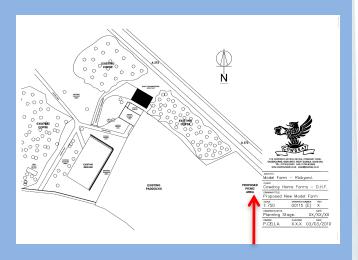
Digital Photograph: No 4.

View From North of Site.



Description:
Showing ex-menage area in the fore-ground
Currently being used as an overspill car
parking area.
In the back-ground are the Cowdray Ruins,

Photographs from Application



C.H.F: Proposed Model Farm. Easebourne Midhurst West Sussex. GU29 0AH.

Digital Photograph: No 6.

View From South of Site.



Description: Showing proposed Picnic Area Site. Top end of existing field/paddock.

From HE Website – National Heritage List

Cowdray: a fortified medieval house and part of its landscaped grounds

List Entry Number: 1017500 Heritage Category: Scheduling

Location:

Easebourne, Chichester, West Sussex

COWDRAY HOUSE

List Entry Number: 1001210

Heritage Category: Park and Garden

Grade: II*
Location:

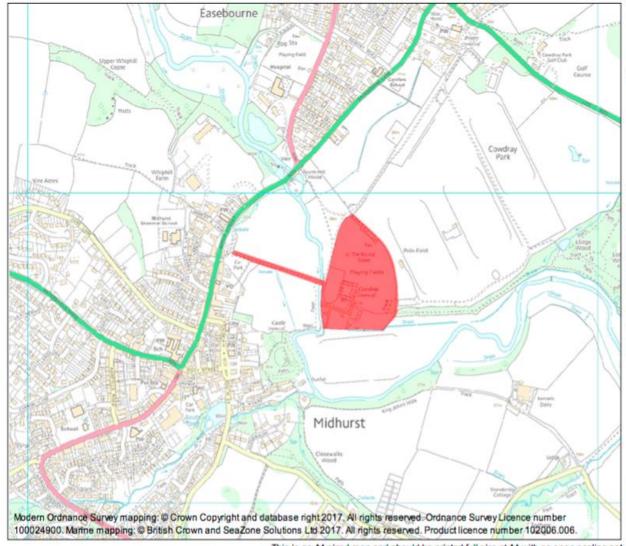
COWDRAY HOUSE, Midhurst, Chichester, West Sussex

1 of

If you would like help finding something, please contact

heritagelistenquiries@HistoricEngland.org.uk / 01793 414883. You can also try using the advanced search or map search.

From HE Website – National Heritage List – Cowdray Scheduled Monument



Heritage Category:

Scheduling

List Entry No: 1017500

County: West Sussex

District: Chichester

Parish: Easebourne, Midhurst

Each official record of a scheduled monument contains a map. New entries on the schedule from 1988 onwards include a digitally created map which forms part of the official record. For entries created in the years up to and including 1987 a hand-drawn map forms part of the official record. The map here has been translated from the official map and that process may have introduced inaccuracies. Copies of maps that form part of the official record can be obtained from Historic England.

This map was delivered electronically and when printed may not be to scale and may be subject to distortions. All maps and grid references are for identification purposes only and must be read in conjunction with other information in the record.

List Entry NGR: SU 89008 21718

Map Scale: 1:10000

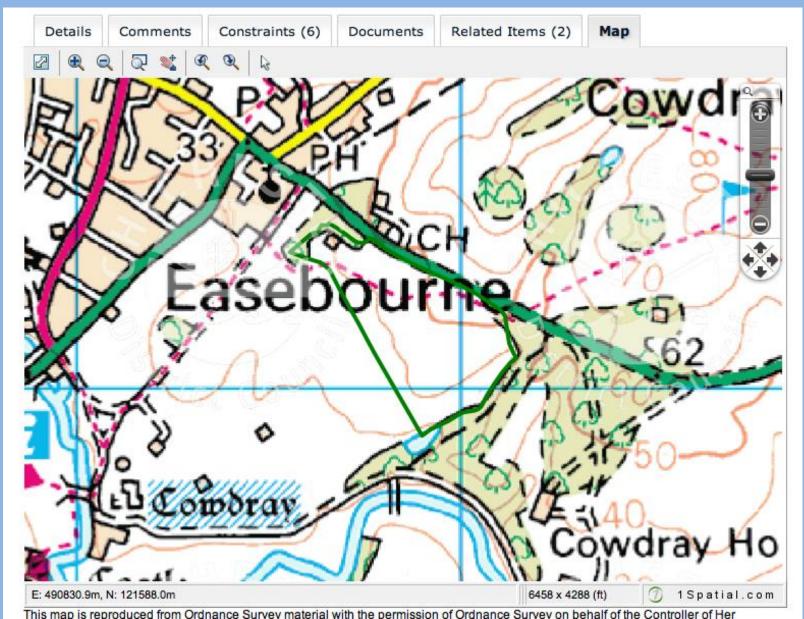
Print Date: 11 March 2017

This is an A4 sized map and should be printed full size at A4 with no page scaling set.

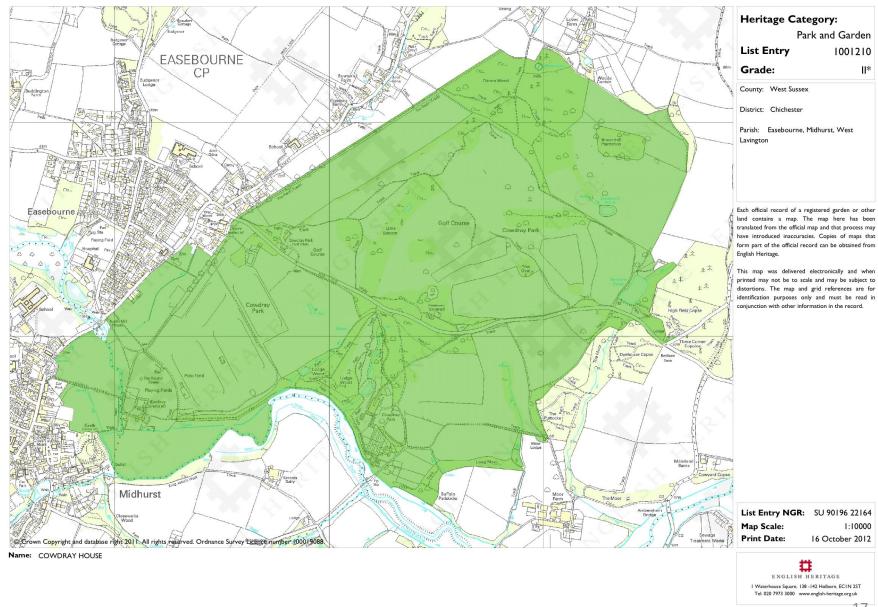
Name: Cowdray: a fortified medieval house and part of its landscaped grounds



Site Plan from Application



From HE Website – National Heritage List – Cowdray House Registered Park & Garden



COWDRAY HOUSE - EXTRACT FROM HE REGISTER ENTRY

List Entry Summary

Grade: II

List Entry Description

Details

Remnants of the layout and built features of C16 and early C17 formal gardens surrounding the ruins of a Tudor house, altered and extended by Lancelot Brown in the late C18 and set within a C16 park, also improved by Brown, which contains, at c 1.5km from the ruins, a Victorian house with associated formal and woodland gardens of early C19 origin.

From Design and Access Statement:

- 1 What bounds the site AONB
- 2 Current use arable farm land 'Learning centre destination' adds to list of different uses of estate
- 3 Consultation 'no real objection against principle'
- 4 Site will remain in agricultural use
- 5 Improve and alter current layout Smaller fields and paddocks Footpaths and fencing to match existing
- 6 Toilet block no great impact as other buildings in same materials. F
- 8 Scale of works 'minimal'
- 9 No trees are affected No effect on AONB or on adjacent parkland
- 10 Appearance will change only slightly
- 11 Refurbish existing menage

BUT what's missing?

8 Steps

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Adapted from CPRE – How to Respond to Planning Applications

2. Visit the site of the proposed development

- If possible!
- Prepare: check CGT research, known texts, P&GDS etc
- Use maps submitted and check
- How will the proposed development fit in? Blend/dominate/contrast
- Crucial for historic landscapes: what are the areas of significance for the site and does this impact on them?



2. Visit the site of the proposed development: Cowdray Park from GoogleEarth



From GoogleEarth – photo point



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3. Decide on your stance

- You can focus on the impact on historic designed landscape think SIGNIFICANCE
- Does it enhance the scene?
- Use CGT research / expertise, local knowledge
- Think long term individual development, cumulative and patterns emerging
- Is there a principle at stake eg greenfield site vs brownfield, fundamental damage to historic environment
- Does it set a precedent? Or follow one?
- Look for ways to improve the proposal

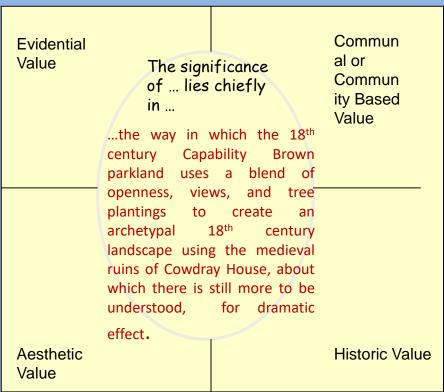


What might be significant about the site? What, if anything, about the park might the development affect?

Significance: Heritage Values

Has ruins and archaeology of 15th century mansion, which can reveal more about medieval fortified houses. Also has good archives, recorded in Grimm's views, and in Brown account books so there is the ability to learn more if these are coupled with site assessments.

Undulating 16th and 18th century open parkland with panoramic views, particularly over the South Downs, is framed by wooded slopes to the south west, contrasted with 19th century formal and woodland gardens, and given dramatic focus by the ruins of medieval Cowdray House.



Minimal

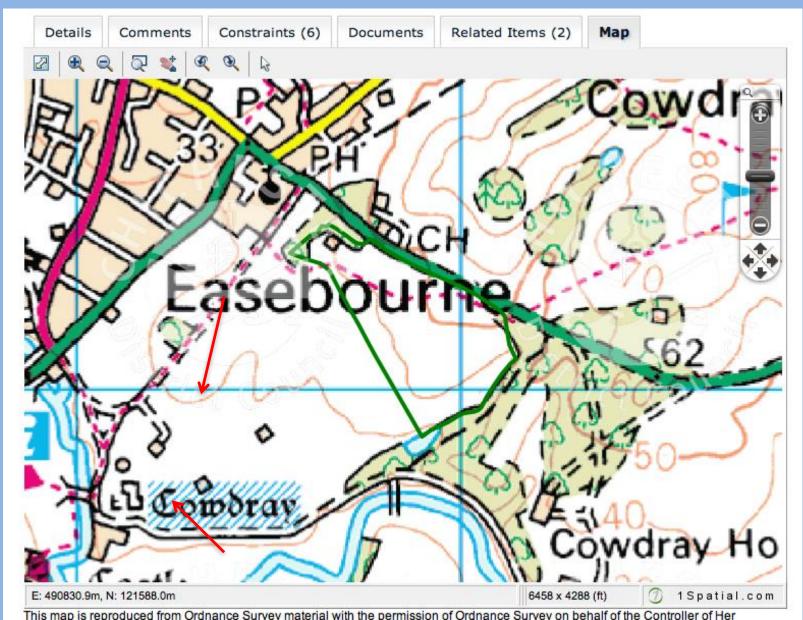
Demonstrates Capability Brown's work, and the way medieval buildings were often incorporated as ornamental features within the open views of 18th century and later parkland.

3. Decide on your stance

On Googling Cowdray, Grimm, and choosing 'images' – north west view



Site Plan from Application



On Googling Cowdray, Grimm, and choosing 'images'



What might be significant about the site? What, if anything, about the park might the development affect?

Summary of the development and what's important about the park:

- Picnic area; toilet block; car park; paths; fences
- Capability Brown landscape developed from Tudor landscape
- Setting for ruins of Tudor house
- Sweep of views from and towards the Ruins
- Open character of parkland
- Within Sussex Downs AONB

What would you object to in the application?
What would you support?
Are there any actions you might suggest in mitigation?

Objections

Part of a series of new uses for the parkland breaking up integrity Breaks into broad sweep of parkland – new areas of development Poor reflection of historic significance/design in application Visual intrusion on the setting of SAM across key vista Affects setting of Registered Park Fencing and paths – visual intrusion Car park is change of use and new materials Toilet block extends area of building Picnic area is visually prominent

Support

Care of the pond

Mitigation

Is there a Conservation Management Plan?
Is there a more appropriate area of the park?
Could the parking be screened? Historically appropriate planting - transient Material for the paths? Grassed?

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4. Examine the Development Plan

- Make sure you are using the plan that has been formally adopted
- Look at supplementary documents
- Make logical use of points in the plans which support your view
- If your view is not supported in the plan, either
 - Say why it is not relevant in this case OR
 - Consider adjusting your view and offer ways in which the application might be improved
- National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) > Local Policy



4. Examine the Development Plan:

Chichester Local Plan

RE28 Any proposals which have a significant detrimental impact on the character or setting of an historic park or garden, as listed in the English Heritage Register of parks and gardens of special interest in England, will be refused.

RE3 In considering development proposals [LPA] will seek opportunities for:

- Improvements to the landscape, including landscaping of existing developed sites...
- Any development permitted will be required to be in sympathy with the landscape and designed and sited so as to enhance visual quality...

BE4 ...high priority on protecting the character and appearance of all buildings of architectural or historic interest.

... special regard to the desirability of preserving listed buildings and their settings.

...presumption in favour of the preservation of... their settings and any features of architectural or historic interest, unless a convincing case can be made for...alteration; development affecting a listed building which would result in the loss of character of an area will similarly be resisted.

Chichester Local Plan - continued

- **T4** Tourist development which has an adverse impact on the specific character of...Sussex Downs areas of outstanding natural beauty will be refused. In particular development will not be permitted which would:
- (1) adversely affect the undeveloped rural character of the surrounding landscape;
- (2) give rise to works required for access or infrastructure which would be obtrusive;
- (3) result in development, the design, bulk and height of which would be inappropriate to its setting;
- (4) have a damaging effect upon long distance views into or within the areas of outstanding natural beauty;
- (5) be detrimental to features of archaeological or ecological importance.
- T5 Proposals for the provision of small-scale picnic sites and parking facilities for visitors will be permitted in appropriate locations...provided that they do not result in any undesirable intrusion into the landscape, damage to the ecological characteristics of the area or to the character of the surrounding natural or built environment.

Chichester Local Plan - continued

Environmental Strategy

• **63** Historic Parks and Gardens are an important part of the heritage and environment of Chichester District. They comprise of a variety of features: the open space itself; views in and out; the planting; water features; built features; and archaeological remains. There is a need therefore to protect such sites and their settings from new development which would destroy or harm the historic interest.

NPPF Clauses

- Para 128 Applicant must describe significance of assets and setting affected
- **Para 132** Harm to significance...should require clear and convincing justification
- **Para 134** Weight of less than substantial harm vs public benefit + use
- **Para 137** Look for opportunities to enhance or better reveal the significance, including setting
- **Para 58** respond to local character and history; visually attractive as a result of good architecture and appropriate landscaping
- Para 115 weight given to conserving landscape and natural beauty in in AONB

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5. Decide on your action

- Support the application
 - fully
 - with suggestions
- Impact neutral
 - no action
 - write anyway
- Object with suggestions
- Request refusal where impact cannot be lessened satisfactorily



5. Decide on your action

What would you do about Cowdray Park?

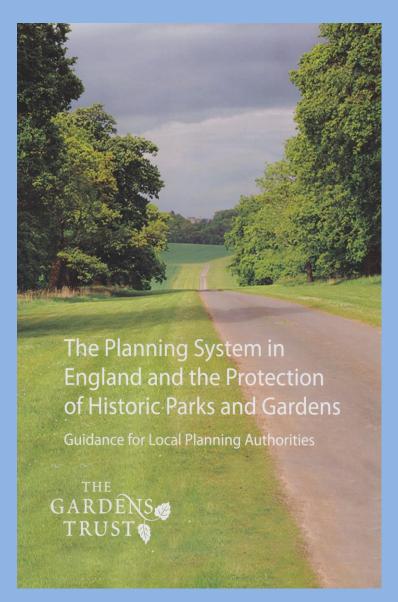
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6. Put your comments in writing

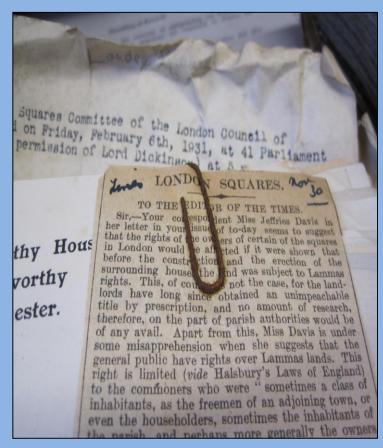
Refer to this for helpful paragraphs

Include pdf when you send response to LPA



6. Put your comments in writing

- Check the process method, timescale
- Consider the public interest impersonal, wider good (usually) – be courteous, concise and factual
- Be within time
- Refer to the development plan be specific – address those points that conflict
- Refer to other considerations that should be taken into account: historic interest, significance
- State if you would like to/be prepared to speak at committee meetings
- COPY IN THE GARDENS TRUST
 CASEWORK MANAGER Alison Allighan consult@thegardenstrust.org



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7. Gather support

- Contact your planning officer
- Check arguments
- Find out who will make the decision
- Approach councillors
- Don't assume they've read your letter
- Make clear extent of community support
- Suggest site visit if helpful
- Legally: get officer's report 5 days before goes to Planning Committee meeting



7. Gather support Who might support you on Cowdray Park?

- 1. Look at application
- 2. Visit the site
- 3. Decide what you think
- 4. Examine the development plan
- 5. Decide what to do
- 6. Put comments in writing
- 7. Gather support
- 8. Speak at committee meetings



8. Speak at committee meetings

- Contact your local planning authority to check procedure
- Give notice
- Get meeting details confirmed
- · Collaborate!



8. Speak at committee meetings

What are the key points you'd make at Committee about Cowdray Park?



The application was withdrawn