RIPON CIVIC SOCIETY

c/o Workhouse Museum
Allhallowgate
Ripon
HG4 1 LE

info@riponcivicsociety.org.uk
www.riponcivicsociety.org.uk

North Yorkshire Council (Harrogate area)
PO Box 787
Harrogate
HG1 9RW

22nd April 2024

Dear Sirs

APPLICATION REF. NOS: ZC23/02883/FUL - REMODELLING OF AND EXTENSION TO CANAL GATES/STUDLEY TEA-ROOM

APPLICATION REF. NOS: ZC23/02883/FUL - REMODELLING OF AND EXTENSION TO CANAL GATES/STUDLEY TEA-ROOM

APPLICATION REF. NO: ZC23/02903/FUL PARTIAL CHANGE OF USE OF EXISTING BUILDING FROM TOILET BLOCK TO PROVIDE REFRESHMENT KIOSK

Ripon Civic Society wrote to you on the 26th September 2023 and 14th January 2024 to register comments on the above applications.

In these letters we welcomed the proposal for the new facility, considering that, on balance, it would improve on the existing arrangements. We did, however, express concern about the failure of the application to address the need to improve the existing car park, which is a very unsightly feature in the deer park. We also shared the concerns of the Studley Roger residents about increased traffic and parking in the village and suggested consideration should be given to a new access, perhaps at Lindrick Gate or at another suitable option.

We are aware that ICOMOS has submitted comments, stating that they are not able to support this project on the basis of harm to the World Heritage Site. We understand that the Trust is currently awaiting a decision from ICOMOS as to whether this objection will be maintained.

We also note that David Rhodes submitted further representations on 1st April 2024 suggesting, amongst other matters, that the Trust should consider purchasing Studley Royal House, which is for sale at a reduced price, as an alternative location for the current proposals with a new access and car park. This would avoid the harm to the gardens which is the basis of the ICOMOS objection, remove traffic from Studley Roger and relocate the unsightly car park.

The Society is of the view that David Rhodes has made some sensible suggestions that would address the problems arising from the current proposal that we would support in the event that the Trust is able to follow this direction.

We would ask that you take account of these additional comments in considering the application.

Yours faithfully

Rachel Wigginton

Planning Lead
Ripon Civic Society