NYP REF 28/5

DESIGN AND ACCESS STATEMENT FOR PROPOSED ACCESS DRIVE ALTERATIONS, RAMPED AND STEPPED PEDESTRIAN ACCES AND VIEWING AREA AND EXTENSION TO STAINBOROUGH CRICKET CLUB, STAINBOROUGH

Introduction

This design and access statement has been prepared to support the full planning application by Stainborough Cricket Club for the above proposals.

The proposed access drive alterations have been discussed with the Heritage Curator of the Wentworth Castle and Stainborough Park Heritage Trust, prior to this application.

Context

Previous planning approvals have been granted for a new pavilion and extending the area of the pitch.

The cricket ground is located in a predominantly rural area to the south of residential development along Lowe Lane and north of Wentworth Castle and Stainborough Park. Access to the cricket ground is from Park Drive and through the car park of Strafford Arms Hotel.

In recent years a new public access way with car parking facilities from Park Drive has been constructed to serve Wentworth Castle.

The Site

A gravel surfaced access leads from the south of Strafford Arms Hotel to a vehicular manoeuvring and parking area to the east of the Cricket Pavilion which is in an elevated position overlooking the cricket ground and housing on Lowe Lane.

Proposals

It is proposed to construct a new access drive which would serve the Cricket Ground directly of the new Wentworth Castle drive. These proposals would avoid traffic flows and possible congestion within the grounds of Strafford Arms Hotel.

The construction of the new access has been carefully chosen to avoid damaging tree roots and will have timber edging and decorative gravel surfacing to blend in with the rural setting.

The Pavilion has been built on sloping ground at the top of an embankment overlooking the cricket pitch. A concrete terrace provides viewing over the cricket pitch.

It is proposed to carry out alterations which would include improvements for disabled persons.

A level paved area would provide access to an extension with unisex wheelchair accessible toilet and small store for the club.

A new ramped and stepped approach would allow access for wheelchair and ambulant disabled persons to the clubhouse and viewing area. Guarding protection would be provided as required by Building Regulations.

The existing terrace is not sufficient for the club's needs and can only be accessed via a steeply sloping path and steps. The terraces slope towards the cricket pitch making disabled access and viewing very difficult.

The proposed terrace would be constructed upon raised ground reinforced with geotextile fabric and the exposed embankments grassed to minimise the impact upon the cricket ground and surrounding area.

Conclusion

The proposals seek to enhance the character of the site and provide improvements to the vehicular access and access for the disabled. We trust the Planning Department will support our application.