
2023/0724

Ms K Buttery on behalf of BMBC

Erection of 9 sculptures - 7no. 2m high sculptures and 2no. 4m high sculptures to form a sculpture trail in grounds of Cannon Hall

Cannon Hall Museum, Bark House Lane, Cawthorne, Barnsley, S75 4AT

Site Location and Description

Cannon Hall Museum sits in 70 acres of historic parkland looking towards the village of Cawthorne, to the west of Barnsley and within the Green Belt. Cannon Hall is a Grade II* Listed Building and the majority of the hall in its current form dates to the early eighteenth-century and has an association with two eminent architects of the time, John Etty and John Carr of York. It is listed at Grade II* in recognition of the high level of architectural and historic interest it possesses.

Cannon Hall Museum shares its immediate setting with Cannon Hall Farm, and Cannon Hall Garden Centre, both of which are privately owned businesses. The park itself comprises of a mixture of formal landscapes, parkland, and structures that include a Grade II listed Walled Garden, a Grade II listed Deer Shelter as well as a series of cascading lakes and a number of important undesignated heritage assets. The park boundaries comprise of mature trees to the northwest and south-west. The eastern boundary separates the park from Cannon Hall Farm and the southern boundary consists of meadow and small groups of mature trees. The main car park and cafe is set to the south-western boundary, adjacent to the Garden Centre.

To the south of the Hall, beyond the parkland, there is a series of lakes and cascades. The lake narrows and the water cascades into an elongated serpentine lake with an island, at this point a path leads across the lake to the southern side, which leads through a group of mature trees on the southern side of the lake.



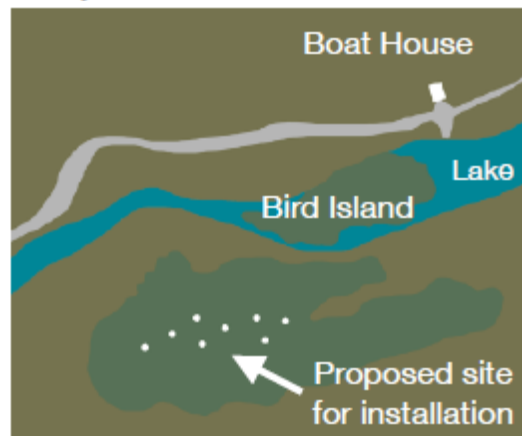
Proposed Development

The applicant seeks permission for the installation of 9no sculptures; 2no. 4m high and 7no. 2m high sculptures within the grounds of Cannon Hall. The 2no 4m high sculptures are to provide a 'gateway' to the sculpture trail of the 7no 2m high statues. The sculptures are to be erected on wooden poles encased in an octagonal painted sleeves and installed on the southern side of Daking Brook and Bird Island. It is proposed that the sculptures would be in situ for a minimum of 6 months but up to 6 years providing they remain in good condition.

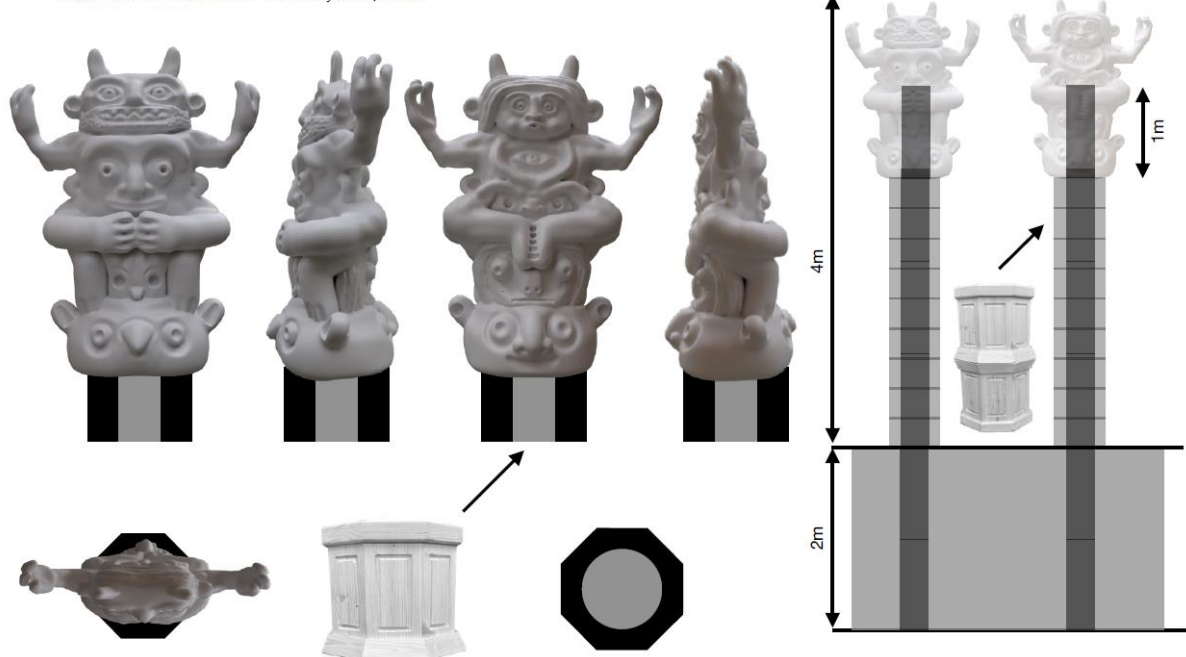
Gateway Sculptures



Story Sculptures



Guardians of Bird Island - Gateway Sculptures





Policy Context

Planning decisions should be made in accordance with the development plan unless material considerations indicate otherwise and the NPPF does not change the statutory status of the development plan as the starting point for decision making. The Local Plan was adopted in January 2019 and is also now accompanied by seven masterplan frameworks which apply to the largest site allocations (housing, employment, and mixed-use sites). In addition, the Council has adopted a series of Supplementary Planning Documents and Neighbourhood Plans which provide supporting guidance and specific local policies and are a material consideration in the decision-making process.

The Local Plan review was approved at the full Council meeting held 24th November 2022. The review determined that the Local Plan remains fit for purpose and is adequately delivering its objectives. This means no updates to the Local Plan, in whole or in part, are to be carried out ahead of a further review. The next review is due to take place in 2027 or earlier if circumstances, require it.

Local Plan

The site is allocated as Urban Fabric within the Adopted Local Plan, which has no specific land allocation and therefore the following policies are relevant:

- Policy GD1 General Development.
- Policy D1 High Quality Design and Place Making.
- Policy GB1 Protection of Green Belt
- Policy HE1 The Historic Environment.
- Policy HE2 Heritage Statements and General application procedures.
- Policy HE4 Development affecting Historic Areas or landscapes.
- Policy E5 Promoting Tourism and encouraging Cultural Provision.
- Policy SD1 Presumption in favour of Sustainable Development.

National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)

The National Planning Policy Framework sets out the Governments planning policies for England and how these are expected to be applied. At the heart is a presumption in favour

of sustainable development. Development proposals that accord with the development plan should be approved unless material considerations indicate otherwise.

Where the development plan is absent, silent, or relevant policies are out-of-date, permission should be granted unless any adverse impacts of doing so would significantly and demonstrably outweigh the benefits, when assessed against the policies in the Framework as a whole; or where specific policies in the Framework indicate development should be restricted or unless material considerations indicate otherwise.

Consultations

Conservation Officer – No objections

Historic England – No objections received.

The Garden Trust – No objections.

Forestry Officer – No objections subject to conditions.

Cawthorne Parish Council – Object on the grounds that the design and style of the sculptures do not fit with the country park setting of Cannon Hall.

Ward Councillors – No objections received.

Representations

Neighbour notification letters have been sent to surrounding properties and the application has been advertised by the way of a site notice and press notice; no representations have been received.

Assessment

Principle of development

The installation of artwork which promotes tourism and encouraging cultural provision is considered acceptable in principle. In view of the location of these sculptures it is also necessary to ensure they would not have a detrimental impact on the landscape character of the area, woodlands, views and vistas of key buildings or landscapes, openness of the Green Belt, or upon the Registered Parkland of Cannon Hall. These are discussed below:

Visual Amenity and Impact on Heritage Assets and the Green Belt

The sculptures take two formats: 2no gateway sculptures and 7no story trail sculptures. The gateway sculptures are of the same design, with the story trail sculptures being of different designs. The designs of both have been developed through project workshops with children and families from Barnsley and the surrounding area.

The sculptures are to be of a painted wooden construction situated on a hardwood wooden pole covered with an octagonal painted sleeve. The comments of Cawthorne Parish Council have been noted and it is recognised not everybody would appreciate the design or obtain pleasure from the sculptures. However, the octagonal sleeves are influenced by heritage elements within the house and grounds of Cannon Hall and the colour palette is derived from items and elements housed within the De Morgan collection at Cannon Hall.

The sculptures are modest in size and appropriately scaled with a height of 4m for the gateway statues and 2m for the story trail, when measured from ground level. The sculptures have been strategically placed so as not to interfere with the view from the hall and to preserve the historic vista. The story trail sculptures will be located within the wooded area to the south of the Hall and Daking Brook and would be screened by the trees and 'Bird Island' when viewed from the house; likewise, the sculptures would be viewed against the backdrop of the trees and 'Bird Island' when taking in views towards the house.

The two gateway statues would be prominent, given they are to be located within an area of open space on the southern side of Daking Brook, particularly from the open parkland to the north, however their location towards the boundary of the pleasure grounds and adjacent to neighbouring agricultural land would not be highly prominent against the setting of the house, nor would it have an impact on the openness of the Green Belt.

The Conservation Officer has been consulted on the application and has raised no objections to the erection of the sculptures within the historic parkland. As such it is considered that the proposed development is in compliance with Local Plan Policy D1: High Quality Design and Place Making, Policy HE1: The Historic Environment and Policy GB1: Protection of Green Belt and as such is acceptable.

Impact on Trees

The chosen positions of the 7no trail sculptures are within a group of trees which are located within the Deffer Wood Woodland Tree Preservation Order, to the south of Daking Brook, and within the rooting area of these trees. The Forestry Officer has been consulted on the application and given the installation method, raises no objection to the proposal subject t a suitable condition that prior to installation the precise location of the sculptures is to be marked out and submitted for approval.

Residential Amenity

The site is located within the grounds of the Registered Park and Garden of Cannon Hall and whilst there are some residential properties within proximity of the site they are sufficient distance away that it is not considered that the sculptures would have an impact on residential amenity and therefore the proposal complies with Local Plan Policies GD1 – General Development and Poll1 – Pollution Control and Protection.

Highways Considerations

The site is located within the grounds of the Registered Park and Garden of Cannon Hall and as such the sculptures would not have an impact on highway safety and are therefore acceptable.

Recommendation

Grant planning permission subject to conditions.