



# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In March 2017, following pre-application consultation with the local community, English Heritage launched its first planning application for the Marble Hill Revived Project. Part of the project included:

Refurbishing the existing Stable Block café in order to relocate the retail space from the House to the Stable Block and to create a catering kiosk. Constructing an L-shaped new-build café extension to the rear of the Stable Block adjacent to the boundary wall with South End House. Creating external seating in the space between the new-build café and the Stable Block, the East and South elevations of the Stable Block.

The Stable Block proposals were the focus of significant public concern and sustained opposition. The main areas of concern were:

1. Design (size and massing)
2. Potential harm/significance in heritage terms
3. Party wall
4. Pollution (noise/odour)

Whilst English Heritage's view was that the Stable Block proposals were compliant in policy terms, minimised harm to the historic fabric and would serve the needs of the park, English Heritage does recognise that many people living locally disliked our original proposal for the café extension to the rear of the Stable Block. This was one of the reasons that English Heritage took the decision to withdraw the planning application in February 2018 in order to re-consult and to re-evaluate the feedback which local people subsequently provided for the Marble Hill Project as a whole.

English Heritage commenced a re-consultation process in March 2018 until August 2018, which culminated in the current design described in this document.

The design for the Stable Block will provide many public benefits to the local community. Benefits include; new employment opportunities such as Catering Manager, Chef, Porter, and Catering Assistants and new training opportunities (Catering/Hospitality apprenticeships) recruited from the local colleges (Richmond Upon Thames College, West Thames College and Capel Manor College).

The design integrates noise and odour mitigation strategies (even though the expanded café is further away from the neighbours).

The expanded café is the fundamental mechanism through

which the project will reduce the annual operational deficit for the House and Park.

The proposal seeks to maximise the utility of an existing heritage asset more than before, whilst making minimal changes. The new cafe design incorporated a flexible space which outside of periods of peak cafe usage, can be booked for daytime use by sports and other community groups. This community/sports group amenity space was something which was called for by a significant proportion of the local community,

The landscape design allows the Stable Block to open out into the park, and the revised seating arrangement makes the most of the views that the park and the River Thames have to offer. The revised seating arrangement has the added advantage of minimising sound leakage to the residential properties behind the Stable Block.

We believe this design delivers the requirements of our brief and address the neighbours concerns.