

Comment on a planning application

Application Details

Application: 18/2977/FUL

Address: Marble Hill HouseMarble Hill ParkRichmond RoadTwickenhamTW1 2NL

Proposal: 1. Marble Hill House: External decoration and repair work (if a window is substantially rotten, partial or full replacement of joinery) and replacement rooflight. 2. Stable Block: External alterations, installation of mechanical plant, timber plant enclosure to the rear and front landscaping (creating an outdoor seating area) to facilitate the refurbishment of the existing café.3. Service Yard: new pedestrian access and associated refuse storage facilities.4. Landscaping: new soft and hard landscaping including restoration of gardens, upgrade of sports pitches and facilities, replacement of seating and new play areas.5. Sports Centre: External ramp for improved access.

Comments Made By

Name: Mrs Jill Jones

Address: 20 Montpelier Row Twickenham TW1 2NQ

Comments

Type of comment: Make a general observation

Comment: English Heritage have admitted to neglecting Marble Hill Park for over 15 years, so it is to be welcomed that they have now submitted plans which have taken into account the views of those of us who have known and loved the park for many years.

The refurbishment and opening of the House is necessary and long overdue. Hopefully' this will be tied, as it always used to be under the GLC, to educational and historical projects to further understanding both of the architecture and history of the house and the Arcadian area.

The revised plans for the café are now much more sensible, and will provide a much more attractive aspect to visitors.

The plans for the garden are dubious, and would appear to be both labour intensive and expensive to maintain. The amount of trees proposed for the vista down to the river is far too dense. . Contemporary prints of 1749 show a much more open aspect - at that time most visitors arrived by river and walked up the grassy slope to the house. In relation to the quarters. English Heritage finally acknowledged the diversity of the wildlife, including the protected species, badgers, and it is important that these are protected.

The dog free area for small children is important and, now, thankfully will remain. Another play area with equipment is proposed - I wonder if this is necessary together with the trails round the edge of the park as well. Experience of the park is that most children like to run free and kick a ball about. There is an excellent well equipped play park in Orleans Gardens next door...Why try to compete?

Looking at the schedule for the works the main entrance by White Lodge is to be shut off and construction traffic will be turning off the Richmond Road and bumping along the road parallel to Montpelier Row. From experience of events over previous years' this has caused considerable noise and traffic problems, but has been confined to a few weeks. This project will take months, if not years. It is essential that this is managed properly.

This needs signage to ensure that lorries do not mistake Montpelier Row for the entrance to the park. The bottom end of the Row is a cul-de-sac and drivers glued to their satnavs ignore the signs, then are unable to turn when they get to South End House.

Richmond Road is already a busy route which gets very congested . The problems and tail-backs due to the construction of the Lidl supermarket in East Twickenham have already caused traffic chaos

Hours of work must be defined and adhered to.