

**Section '3' – Applications recommended for PERMISSION, APPROVAL or CONSENT**

**Application No :** 15/02847/LBC

**Ward:**  
Crystal Palace

**Address :** Crystal Palace Park Thicket Road Penge  
London SE20 8DT

**OS Grid Ref:** E: 534475 N: 170872

**Applicant :** Ms Lydia Coelho

**Objections :** NO

**Description of Development:**

Conservation works to dinosaur sculptures, to include cleaning, repair and associated works.

Key designations:

Conservation Area: Crystal Palace Park

Areas of Archeological Significance

Biggin Hill Safeguarding Birds

Biggin Hill Safeguarding Area

London City Airport Safeguarding

London City Airport Safeguarding Birds

London Distributor Roads

Major Development Sites

Metropolitan Open Land

Proposal Sites

Sites of Interest for Nat. Conservation

Smoke Control SCA 6

Smoke Control SCA 25

**Proposal**

Conservation works to dinosaur sculptures, to include cleaning, repair and associated works. The sculptures are located in a landscaped area to the south-eastern end of the park.

**Consultations**

Historic England raise no objections subject to suggested conditions.  
No other representations were received.

**Planning Considerations**

The application falls to be determined in accordance with S.7 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 which requires work to a listed building that would affect its special architectural or historic interest to be

authorised by the relevant planning authority. The following policies of the Unitary Development Plan and NPPF are further considerations:

## BE8 Statutory Listed Buildings Chapter 12 NPPF

The area is within Metropolitan Open Land but this is not relevant to a Listed Building Consent application and Planning Permission is not required for these works.

### **Conclusions**

The main issue is the impact on the special interest, integrity and survival of the Grade 1 listed structures. The statues were constructed by The Crystal Palace Company between 1851 and 1855. They were first attempt to accurately re-construct the three dinosaur species known to the scientific world by the 1850s within their geological environment. The sculptures and associated geological strata form a unique display of the state of palaeological understanding in the 1850s, opened five years before the publication of Darwin's "Origin of Species". They are of exceptional historic interest in a national, and probably international context. The statues themselves are constructed of reinforced concrete with some replacement sections in fibreglass.

A comprehensive report by a conservation engineer has been submitted with the application which identifies specific defects such as cracks and general weathering, but also some more major issues relating to subsidence and failure of footings on some of the larger statues such as the Iguanodon. A specification of repairs include for raking out and repointing of cracks, underpinning using micropiles and repainting based on paint analysis. The head from one of the statues, the Palaeotherium was taken off by vandals but was found and will be replaced, as will other smaller features on the other sculptures.

The repairs are specified to an appropriate standard subject to approval of materials by condition. The proposal represents best conservation practice and will preserve the sculptures into the future.

### **RECOMMENDATION: GRANT LISTED BUILDING CONSENT**

**subject to the following conditions:**

- 1 The works hereby granted consent shall be commenced within 5 years of the date of this decision notice.**

**Reason: Section 18, Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990.**

- 2 Sample panels of the proposed facing repairs to the dinosaur sculptures shall be provided on site and the specification approved in writing by the Council as local planning authority, in consultation**

with Historic England, before the relevant parts of the works are begun. The relevant parts of the work shall be carried out in accordance with such approved sample panels. The approved sample panels shall be retained on site until the work is completed and has been approved. The extent and number of sample panels shall be agreed with the local planning authority, in consultation with Historic England, prior the sample panels being provided on site.

**Reason:**In order to comply with Policy BE8 of the Unitary Development Plan and to protect the fabric of the Listed Building.

- 3** Details in respect of the proposed painting of the dinosaur sculptures shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Council as local planning authority in consultation with Historic England before the relevant work is begun. The relevant work shall be carried out in accordance with such approved details.

**Reason:**In order to comply with Policy BE8 of the Unitary Development Plan and to protect the fabric of the Listed Building.