

## THE PROPOSED LEISURE USE AT SPAUNTON QUARRY PLANNING APPLICATION: NYM/2018/0791/FL

17th April 2018: Further to the communication from Mark Hill this morning stating that the officer recommendation will be changed from **approval** to refusal because there is disagreement about retaining the existing building at the site and re-using it for ancillary functions to the leisure use, we would like to offer the following comments:

- It is clear that the NYMPA are happy in principle with the new, small-scale leisure use which is being proposed.
- The position of Mark Hill is that the existing building has to be removed because that is what it says in the Master Restoration Plan. We have not had the opportunity to discuss how its character and appearance can be altered to make it appropriate.
- We firmly believe that the environmental benefits of the retention of this building outweigh its destruction and the erection of a timber structure. To insist on its removal makes no practical sense.
- We will continue to seek to resolve the situation and hope that we are able to have dialogue and be able to work on the detail of the building together.

Meanwhile please note that the Spaunton Estate has nearly finished implementing the Master Restoration Plan for the quarry.

We carried out a presentation in 2017 about the development of a much larger leisure scheme in the quarry which based on the Langdale Estate in the Lake District National Park.

We listened to the feedback received from the NYMPA and significantly reduced the scale of the proposed leisure development to that contained in this current application.

Other ongoing matters include:

- The submission of a planning application for the retention of two existing buildings to facilitate the agricultural use of the quarry.
- An application is being made to alter the boundaries of the common land.
- An application for minor modification of the Master Restoration Plan (to be submitted by Cemex following a site visit by Mark Hill in 2018).
- The submission of representations to the Local Plan (on-going process).

Bearing in mind the above, it is considered appropriate for Members to have a site visit to the former quarry to fully understand the issues under discussion.

---