

North York Moors National Park Authority

District/Borough: Ryedale District
Parish: Thornton Le Dale

Application No. NYM/2019/0483/AGRP

Proposal: Proposed forwarder track for forestry purposes

Location: Land west of Dalby Forest Drive opposite the entrance to Swair Dale

Decision Date: 30 August 2019

Consultations

Site Notice Expiry Date – 20 August 2019

Director of Planning's Recommendation

Approve



Application Number: NYM/2019/0483/AGRP

Background

Dalby Forest is located in the southern area of the National Park, and comprises an expanse of coniferous woodland to the north of the village of Thornton le Dale. The main access to the forestry is off the road between Thornton le Dale and Lockton, via the toll road at Pexton Moor. This route is a fairly narrow tarmac road leading through the forestry to Broxa and Langdale End.

This Prior Notification seeks the Authority's approval for the formation of a 170 metres long forwarder access track from the main Dalby Forest Drive opposite Swair Dale car park north of the visitor centre. The track will initially follow the route of an existing unsurfaced track, will be surfaced with 300mm of local limestone rubble from Newbridge Quarry and will be 4 metres wide. A temporary bridge will be required over the beck. The applicant advises that the track is required to facilitate the felling of 'Holme Wood' block of timber in accordance with the approved forest design plan by enabling the extraction of felled timber across Dalby Beck to a stacking area in Swair Dale.

Main Issues

Officers have considered the proposal and assessed the likely landscape impact. Although the works would be visible in the immediate setting and from the forest drive, the wider impact on the landscape of the National Park is minimal. Officers are of the opinion that the proposal would not compromise the special qualities of this part of the National Park and therefore no objections to the development are offered.

No objections or comments have been offered by the Authority's Ecologist or Woodland Officer and it is considered that the proposed forwarder track would not adversely affect the ancient woodland.