**NYMNPA** 

26/05/2021



# **PROPOSAL TO**

Frances Buck Head of Business Development March 2021

Adventure Forest Ltd. t/a Go Ape<sup>TM</sup> Banana HQ, The Drift, Fornham St. Martin, Bury St. Edmunds, Suffolk. IP31 1SL



# **DESIGN AND ACCESS STATEMENT**

#### **BACKGROUND TO GO APE**

Go Ape (www.goape.co.uk) is the multi-award winning provider of high ropes adventure courses. Its courses are designed to enable anyone over 1 metre tall to experience an eco-educational adventure high up in the tree canopy. Go Ape currently operate a high ropes course and Segway hire site within Dalby Forest. This application is for permission to remove conditions of temporary planning permission for the reception and storage facilities located at Dalby Forest Go Ape under planning application NYM/2016/0428/FL

#### LOCATION

Dalby Forest is a popular multi-use forest situated within the North York Moors National Park. Close to the park's southern boundary the forest lies approximately four miles North East of Pickering. The Low Dalby area of the forest is an important recreational hub with the impressive Visitor Centre and associated facilities including parking, toilets and refreshments

### THE RECEPTION CABIN

This application is for the removal or variation of condition of temporary planning consent for the specially adapted container acting as an office for the Go Ape Manager, internal storage and space for staff. A larch clad shipping container is located adjacent to the Go Ape Cabin. The container is clad in larch such that is matches the existing building and blends into its surround.

## **DIMENSIONS**

The internal floor space of the building Go Ape occupies currently measures approximately 33sqm. The container increases the internal floor space by 22.25sqm to 55.25sqm. The height of the extension is 2.6m.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> See "290416\_DalbyContainerPlan&Elevation A3@1to50.pdf"

Dalby Temporary planning Commercially in Confidence Adventure Forest Limited March 2021



#### MATERIALS AND FINISHES

The adapted shipping container is insulated internally and externally is clad with British Larch wood with a natural finish which weathers well.

The scale of this container sits well below the surrounding woodland canopy. The impression given by this addition to site is one of sensitive scale and materials. The accent in design has been to utilise natural wood products to harmonise with the surrounding trees.

#### **WINDOWS**

The windows are by 1000mm x 1000mm, double glazed, and fitted with anti vandal shutters.

#### **DOORS**

Access to the container is directly from the existing decking through a multi locking security personnel door.

#### **SHUTTERS**

For the necessary security of the building the all windows will have anti vandal shutters installed on the outside of the building in order to prevent break-ins.

#### AFFECT ON THE ENVIRONMENT

Dalby Forest is an important site both for recreation and conservation but there have been no negative effects on the environment and ecology of the site from the extension. There are no trees in close proximity so any works for the installation of the container have not caused any ecological damage. As mentioned above all measures have been taken to ensure that the container fits into the surrounding built environment.

The proposed container is situated adjacent to the existing cabin and attached decking. No foundations are needed, only some minor levelling and a base frame of sturdy timber for it to sit on to ensure the floor level matches that of the decking that it is accessed from.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> See attached "030616DalbyContainerCabinBlockPlanPlanA2@1to500.pdf" and "030616DalbyContainerCabinLocationPlanPlanA1@1to1250.pdf"



The location is of low interest from an ecological point of view, this area of Dalby Forest was surveyed in 2013 by the Forestry Commission Ecologist and no protected or significant species were deemed at risk in this area. The site team are activily encouraging wildlife into the area of the cabin and have had an owl nesting this year. The building has been connected to electricity and water using spurs from the existing Go Ape cabin.

We consider the current cabin fit for purpose and believe the most sustainable option is to remove the temporary planning status and retain the cabin in its current location.