
From: OVastar, Martin [
Sent: 04 June 2021 09:11
To: Megan O'Mara
Subject: RE: NYM/2021/0277/AGRP - lane from Crooks Plantation to Sneaton Forest

Dear Megan

Thank you for reply.

The majority of the gorse has been removed as it was in poor condition, with much being dead and it was blocking the bridleway completely in places, causing users to divert onto the adjoining fields to negotiate. The old hedgerow trees have been left as a screen. There are very few flushes on the line of the track, they are mainly in the field. But they are prominent near the watering trough towards the bottom of the lane. This area will be avoided as its too wet and close to the trough. At this point we enter the field to the east which is all improved pasture.

The method of construction will involve the removal and storage of the topsoil layer. This will then be used as part of the reinstatement process to cover the stone from the track. This will green up very quickly removing the visual impact.

There is little evidence on site of hedgerows bracketing the lane on both sides – with just the few remnant trees to the north on the eastern side of the old track. Which we intend to leave. The western edge is stock fenced from the water trough

The felling operation associated with this track, is to remove the conifer from the Crooks Plantation and return to native broadleaf which will have a very positive ecological impact on the local landscape.

Thanks
Martin O'Vastar

From: Megan O'Mara
Sent: 28 May 2021 14:35
To: OVastar, Martin
Subject: NYM/2021/0277/AGRP - lane from Crooks Plantation to Sneaton Forest

This Message originated outside your organisation.

Dear Mr O'Vastar

Thank you for the submission of the above application.

I have now received comments from the Authority's Ecology team. Their comments are as follows:

Looking at the site photos provided, it appears that the existing track is unsurfaced (or has completely vegetated over) and has an established mix of improved pasture, gorse scrub, rush pasture and old hedgerow trees. The removal of these habitats to create the proposed 4m wide forestry track – particularly the gorse scrub, rush and hedgerow trees – will remove potentially valuable habitat for wildlife leading to a net biodiversity loss. The removal of such screening vegetation will also result in a potentially significant landscape impact as the new track would seem to be highly visible from the wider area. No information has been provided with the application regarding how much if any of the established shrub and hedgerow tree habitat will be possible to retain and what removed to facilitate insertion of the surfaced track, and this should be provided to give a better understanding of the potential loss.

The historic lane/track was originally bracketed by hedgerows either side and it is possible that reinstatement of either or both hedge lines may compensate for the anticipated biodiversity loss caused by the development as well as reducing its landscape impact.

I therefore look forward to receiving clarification of the above. If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards

Megan

Megan O'Mara
Planning Officer, Development Management

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Normal Working Hours:
Mon to Fri - 9:00am to 5pm

Following the Government's announcement of new national restrictions (4 January 2021) the office in Helmsley will remain closed however reception staff will be available to answer telephone calls remotely during normal office hours and will periodically visit the office to collect mail. We will continue to provide an effective planning service; however Officers will be unable to meet directly to offer advice, although site visits for applications and enforcement purposes will still be undertaken, with safeguards in place.



North York Moors
National Park

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