

Date: 26 October 2021
Our ref: 372137
Your ref: NYM/2021/0187/FL



Mrs Helen Stephenson
North York Moors National Park Authority

Hornbeam House
Crewe Business Park
Electra Way
Crewe
Cheshire
CW1 6GJ

BY EMAIL ONLY

Dear Mrs Stephenson

Planning consultation: Application for creation of fenced and surfaced enclosure for livestock
Location: Chapel Farm, Harwood Dale

Thank you for your consultation on the above dated 15 October 2021 which was received by Natural England on 15 October 2021

Natural England is a non-departmental public body. Our statutory purpose is to ensure that the natural environment is conserved, enhanced, and managed for the benefit of present and future generations, thereby contributing to sustainable development.

SUMMARY OF NATURAL ENGLAND'S ADVICE

NO OBJECTION

Based on the plans submitted, Natural England considers that the proposed development will not have significant adverse impacts on statutorily protected nature conservation sites.

Natural England's generic advice on other natural environment issues is set out at Annex A.

Sites of Special Scientific Interest Impact Risk Zones

The Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2015 requires local planning authorities to consult Natural England on "Development in or likely to affect a Site of Special Scientific Interest" (Schedule 4, w). Our SSSI Impact Risk Zones are a GIS dataset designed to be used during the planning application validation process to help local planning authorities decide when to consult Natural England on developments likely to affect a SSSI. The dataset and user guidance can be accessed from the data.gov.uk website

Further general advice on the consideration of protected species and other natural environment issues is provided at Annex A.

We would be happy to comment further should the need arise but if in the meantime you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact us.

For any queries regarding this letter, for new consultations, or to provide further information on this consultation please send your correspondences to consultations@naturalengland.org.uk.

Yours sincerely

Jacqui Salt
Consultations Team

Annex A – Additional advice

Natural England offers the following additional advice:

Landscape

Paragraph 174 of the [National Planning Policy Framework](#) (NPPF) highlights the need to protect and enhance valued landscapes through the planning system. This application may present opportunities to protect and enhance locally valued landscapes, including any local landscape designations. You may want to consider whether any local landscape features or characteristics (such as ponds, woodland, or dry-stone walls) could be incorporated into the development to respond to and enhance local landscape character and distinctiveness, in line with any local landscape character assessments. Where the impacts of development are likely to be significant, a Landscape & Visual Impact Assessment should be provided with the proposal to inform decision making. We refer you to the [Landscape Institute](#) Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment for further guidance.

Best and most versatile agricultural land and soils

Local planning authorities are responsible for ensuring that they have sufficient detailed agricultural land classification (ALC) information to apply NPPF policies (Paragraphs 174 and 175). This is the case regardless of whether the proposed development is sufficiently large to consult Natural England. Further information is contained in [GOV.UK guidance](#). Agricultural Land Classification information is available on the [Magic](#) website on the [Data.Gov.uk](#) website. If you consider the proposal has significant implications for further loss of 'best and most versatile' agricultural land, we would be pleased to discuss the matter further.

Guidance on soil protection is available in the Defra [*Construction Code of Practice for the Sustainable Use of Soils on Construction Sites*](#), and we recommend its use in the design and construction of development, including any planning conditions. Should the development proceed, we advise that the developer uses an appropriately experienced soil specialist to advise on, and supervise soil handling, including identifying when soils are dry enough to be handled and how to make the best use of soils on site.

Protected Species

Natural England has produced [standing advice](#)¹ to help planning authorities understand the impact of particular developments on protected species. We advise you to refer to this advice. Natural England will only provide bespoke advice on protected species where they form part of a Site of Special Scientific Interest or in exceptional circumstances.

Local sites and priority habitats and species

You should consider the impacts of the proposed development on any local wildlife or geodiversity sites, in line with paragraphs 175 and 179 of the NPPF and any relevant development plan policy. There may also be opportunities to enhance local sites and improve their connectivity. Natural England does not hold locally specific information on local sites and recommends further information is obtained from appropriate bodies such as the local records centre, wildlife trust, geoconservation groups or recording societies.

Priority habitats and Species are of particular importance for nature conservation and included in the England Biodiversity List published under section 41 of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006. Most priority habitats will be mapped either as Sites of Special Scientific Interest, on the Magic website or as Local Wildlife Sites. List of priority habitats and species can be found [here](#)². Natural England does not routinely hold species data, such data should be collected when impacts on priority habitats or species are considered likely. Consideration should also be given to the potential environmental value of brownfield sites, often found in urban areas and former industrial land, further information including links to the open mosaic habitats inventory can be found [here](#).

¹ <https://www.gov.uk/protected-species-and-sites-how-to-review-planning-proposals>

² <http://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/20140711133551/http://www.naturalengland.org.uk/ourwork/conservation/biodiversity/protectandmanage/habsandspeciesimportance.aspx>

Ancient woodland, ancient and veteran trees

You should consider any impacts on ancient woodland and ancient and veteran trees in line with paragraph 180 of the NPPF. Natural England maintains the Ancient Woodland [Inventory](#) which can help identify ancient woodland. Natural England and the Forestry Commission have produced [standing advice](#) for planning authorities in relation to ancient woodland and ancient and veteran trees. It should be taken into account by planning authorities when determining relevant planning applications. Natural England will only provide bespoke advice on ancient woodland, ancient and veteran trees where they form part of a Site of Special Scientific Interest or in exceptional circumstances.

Environmental gains

Development should provide net gains for biodiversity in line with the NPPF paragraphs 174(d), 179 and 180. Development also provides opportunities to secure wider environmental gains, as outlined in the NPPF (paragraphs 8, 73, 104, 120, 174, 175 and 180). We advise you to follow the mitigation hierarchy as set out in paragraph 180 of the NPPF and firstly consider what existing environmental features on and around the site can be retained or enhanced or what new features could be incorporated into the development proposal. Where onsite measures are not possible, you should consider off site measures. Opportunities for enhancement might include:

- Providing a new footpath through the new development to link into existing rights of way.
- Restoring a neglected hedgerow.
- Creating a new pond as an attractive feature on the site.
- Planting trees characteristic to the local area to make a positive contribution to the local landscape.
- Using native plants in landscaping schemes for better nectar and seed sources for bees and birds.
- Incorporating swift boxes or bat boxes into the design of new buildings.
- Designing lighting to encourage wildlife.
- Adding a green roof to new buildings.

Natural England's [Biodiversity Metric 3.0](#) may be used to calculate biodiversity losses and gains for terrestrial and intertidal habitats and can be used to inform any development project. For small development sites the [Small Sites Metric](#) may be used. This is a simplified version of [Biodiversity Metric 3.0](#) and is designed for use where certain criteria are met. It is available as a beta test version.

You could also consider how the proposed development can contribute to the wider environment and help implement elements of any Landscape, Green Infrastructure or Biodiversity Strategy in place in your area. For example:

- Links to existing greenspace and/or opportunities to enhance and improve access.
- Identifying opportunities for new greenspace and managing existing (and new) public spaces to be more wildlife friendly (e.g. by sowing wild flower strips)
- Planting additional street trees.
- Identifying any improvements to the existing public right of way network or using the opportunity of new development to extend the network to create missing links.
- Restoring neglected environmental features (e.g. coppicing a prominent hedge that is in poor condition or clearing away an eyesore).

Natural England's [Environmental Benefits from Nature tool](#) may be used to identify opportunities to enhance wider benefits from nature and to avoid and minimise any negative impacts. It is designed to work alongside [Biodiversity Metric 3.0](#) and is available as a beta test version.

Access and Recreation

Natural England encourages any proposal to incorporate measures to help improve people's access to the natural environment. Measures such as reinstating existing footpaths together with the creation of new footpaths and bridleways should be considered. Links to other green networks and, where appropriate, urban fringe areas should also be explored to help promote the creation of wider green infrastructure. Relevant aspects of local authority green infrastructure strategies should be delivered where appropriate.

Rights of Way, Access land, Coastal access and National Trails

Paragraphs 100 and 174 of the NPPF highlight the important of public rights of way and access. Development should consider potential impacts on access land, common land, rights of way and coastal access routes in the vicinity of the development. Consideration should also be given to the potential impacts on the any nearby National Trails. The National Trails website www.nationaltrail.co.uk provides information including contact details for the National Trail Officer. Appropriate mitigation measures should be incorporated for any adverse impacts.

Biodiversity duty

Your authority has a [duty](#) to have regard to conserving biodiversity as part of your decision making. Conserving biodiversity can also include restoration or enhancement to a population or habitat. Further information is available [here](#).

**NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
BUSINESS and ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES**



**LOCAL HIGHWAY AUTHORITY
CONSIDERATIONS and RECOMMENDATION**

Application No: **NYM21/0187/FL**
Proposed Development: Application for creation of fenced and surfaced enclosure for livestock
Location: Chapel Farm, Harwood Dale
Applicant: Mr Mark Pashley

CH Ref: **Case Officer:** Kay Aitchison
Area Ref: 4/26/75 **Tel:**
County Road No: **E-mail:**

To: North York Moors National Park
Authority
The Old Vicarage
Bondgate
Helmsley
YO62 5BP **Date:** 30 April 2021
FAO: Helen Webster **Copies to:**

There are **no local highway authority objections** to the proposed menage/livestock enclosure

Signed:

Kay Aitchison

For Corporate Director for Business and Environmental Services

Issued by:

Whitby Highways Office
Discovery Way
Whitby
North Yorkshire
YO22 4PZ

e-mail:

From:

Subject: NYM/2021/0187/FL - Chapel Farm, Harwood Dale
Date: 26 April 2021 14:11:01

Dear Helen

This appears a slightly unusual application as, if I understand it correctly, a drained and surfaced menage – typically used for exercising and training horses – would also be used for occasionally holding and feeding livestock (sheep and horses) in the winter months – presumably by providing with hay forage during this time.

I am satisfied that despite the proximity of the SSSI, the risk of any impact on air pollution is minimal as the only change would be for externally grazed sheep and horses to be fed externally in an enclosed yard, and a SCAIL would not be helpful as present modelling software does not account for sheep or horses as they are thought to have lower impacts on ammonia production than other stock.

I am however a little concerned about the drainage situation. Where you have stock fed within an enclosed area for any length of time you will inevitably get a concentration of manure and urine. The design of the menage includes perforated pipes within 100m of free draining gravel under a layer of silica sand which will encourage much more rapid draining from the site than a typical field with standard field drains, with the outflow from the drains to be directed directly to watercourse. This has the potential therefore to discharge pollutants from animal urine, and washed through pollutants from manure, straight into the nearby watercourse, impacting on water quality.

Ideally the drainage for the menage site would discharge to a drainage field rather than watercourse to enable any effluents present to percolate into the soil as a natural fertiliser. If this is not possible for practical reasons, then a way forward may be to limit the number/length of time of animals being enclosed within the menage combined with regular mucking out of the area to remove all solid manure from the area (thereby reducing pollutants to simply that from urine).

I assume that no new lighting is proposed as a result of this development?

Many thanks

Elspeth

Elspeth Ingleby MA_{Cantab} ACIEEM

Ecologist

North York Moors National Park Authority

The Old Vicarage, Bondgate, Helmsley, York YO62 5BP

From:
To: [Planning](#)
Subject: Comments on NYM/2021/0187/NEW
Date: 25 April 2021 10:35:10

Create fenced and surfaced enclosure for livestock at Chapel Farm, Harwood Dale

In exercise of my delegated powers I would confirm councillors have been consulted in this application and no objections are offered.

One councillor did have an issue with the terminology used to describe the application and wished their comments of concern to be placed on record. "First it was referred to as an all weather feeding area, for loading sheep from. Then as a menage, but won't be used for livery as it is too small". This raised the question in their mind "What will it be used for"?

--

J Marley (Mrs) CiLCA
Clerk to Hackness and Harwood Dale Group Parish Council
(comprising the parishes of Broxa cum Troutsdale, Darncombe cum Langdale End, Hackness, Harwood Dale, Silpho, and Suffield cum Everley).

Annan,
41 Scalby Road,
Burniston,
Scarborough

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may be asked to leave a message
or give your name before your call is accepted.)

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Any opinions expressed are those of the author and not necessarily the view of the Council.

Date: 12 April 2021
Our ref: 349347
Your ref: NYM/2021/0187/FL



Miss Helen Webster
North York Moors National Park Authority

Customer Services
Hornbeam House
Crewe Business Park
Electra Way
Crewe
Cheshire
CW1 6GJ

BY EMAIL ONLY

Dear Miss Webster,

Planning consultation: Application for creation of fenced and surfaced enclosure for livestock

Location: Chapel Farm, Harwood Dale

Thank you for your consultation on the above dated 08 April 2021 which was received by Natural England on 08 April 2021.

Natural England is a non-departmental public body. Our statutory purpose is to ensure that the natural environment is conserved, enhanced, and managed for the benefit of present and future generations, thereby contributing to sustainable development.

NOT ABLE TO PROVIDE DETAILED ADVICE

Natural England is not able to fully assess the potential impacts of this proposal on statutory nature conservation sites or protected landscapes or, provide detailed advice on the application. If you consider there are significant risks to statutory nature conservation sites or protected landscapes, please set out the specific areas on which you require advice.

The lack of detailed advice from Natural England does not imply that there are no impacts on the natural environment. It is for the local planning authority to determine whether or not the proposal is consistent with national and local environmental policies. Other bodies and individuals may provide information and advice on the environmental value of this site and the impacts of the proposal on the natural environment to assist the decision making process.

Generic advice is provided in the Annex attached.

Yours sincerely

Clare Foster

Consultations Team

Annex - Generic advice on natural environment impacts and opportunities

Air quality impacts on SSSIs

The interest features of affected designated sites may be sensitive to impacts from aerial pollutants, To determine any likely air quality impacts arising from this proposal, an initial screening for air quality impacts should be completed. Simple screening tools are available via the internet, such as the Simple Calculation of Atmospheric Impact Limits (SCAIL) model: <http://www.scail.ceh.ac.uk/>. The results of this screening should inform the need for any further, more detailed assessment which may be required to fully assess the impacts of the proposal.