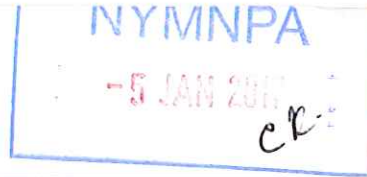


Wendy Strangeway



From: Planning
Sent: 04 January 2017 19:55
To: Planning
Subject: Comments on NYM/2016/0817/FL - Case Officer Mrs H Saunders - Received from Mrs Nicola Wearmouth at 4, Low Dalby, North Yorkshire, YO18 7LT

I am a resident of Dalby Forest with an interest in birding & general wildlife, botany, history & archaeology (particularly in the local vicinity) and walking. I wish to object to the proposed airfield for the following reasons:

1. Birds & general wildlife - I note that the bird survey was carried out outside of the breeding season hence many of the birds that may be affected will have migrated and therefore, I believe that this is an unreliable survey. I regularly see birds of prey (and other uncommon birds) in the area throughout the year and am concerned that they will be adversely affected by the regular noise and pollutants generated by the take off and landing of light aircraft.
2. Archaeology - I have read, with interest, the Archaeological Report. I am familiar with the scheduled and some of the unscheduled monuments it discusses. It is clear that the area is of national historic importance and I have concerns that the building of a runway would damage potentially important sites. It states that the proposal would visually impair some of the monuments. This alone is one reason that I cannot support the application.
3. Runway alignment - I note that the runway alignment is in line with the 'rigg and dale' landscape of Dalby Forest itself. This means that there is a high probability that aircraft will be coming in to land and taking off over the forest which includes the village of Low Dalby. Whilst already on a flight path (international flights at over 30,000 feet mainly), it concerns me that low, descending and ascending aircraft will adversely affect my day to day peace and tranquility as well as my safety. I can see no mention of the contingency plans in place for such an aircraft crashing in the forest. I believe, although am no expert, that take off and landing is the most vulnerable time for an aircraft. Regular low level flights across the forest increase the risk of accidents as well as pollute the air. I feel privileged to live in the forest and in this day and age of eco-friendly living, I am particularly concerned that low level flights will be allowed across the forest.
4. Letters already received - I have read the letters already received and am amazed at the amount of letters received from private pilots from as far away as Devon. I presume that these are friends or acquaintances of the applicant. Many are expressing their wish to travel up for a day trip or to use the B & B. I cannot see this having a useful, broad effect on the local economy. It will bring in visitors only to a specific B & B will very little expenditure in the wider areas. I therefore do not think that an airfield is proportionate or necessary when looked at from a local economy perspective. I am concerned that many locals may not be aware of the proposal so have not been able to comment. It seems odd that so many people from outside the area have supported the proposal when many of the locals I have spoken to, know nothing about it.
5. Has a specific botanical survey been carried out? I could not see one on the documents list. As an amateur botanist, I am aware that interesting and some rare flora such as orchids exist in the area. The area at Deep Dale at the foot of the escarpment where the runway is proposed is a species-rich area (for both flora and fauna) and is currently being conserved for butterflies. I, along with other volunteers from the local branch of the Butterfly Conservation Trust, spent many hours last year clearing the site to create corridors to enable butterflies to freely move and thus assist their breeding. As the runway is directly up the hill from Deep Dale and on the same alignment, I have concerns that the noise and pollution as well as the mere presence created by ascending and descending, low flying aircraft may have an adverse affect on the area and the work already carried out to protect it.

As you can see, I have a great love and respect for the area I live in and would ask that the committee take my comments into consideration. Many thanks.

Comments made by Mrs Nicola Wearmouth of 4, Low Dalby, North Yorkshire, YO18 7LT
Preferred Method of Contact is Email

Comment Type is Comment