

AT

Dawn Paton

From: Planning
Sent: 16 May 2017 19:26
To: Planning
Subject: Comments on NYM/2017/0261/FL - Case Officer Mrs Ailsa Teasdale - Received from Mr Paul Foster at Smithy House Farm, Great Smeaton, Northallerton, North Yorkshire, DL6 2HX

I fully support the Thimbleby Shooting Ground (TSG) planning application for a new shooting lodge.

My name is Paul Foster; I am a farmer from Great Smeaton and have been a keen clay pigeon shooter for four decades. I shoot at a local level i.e. friendly club league and charity shoots, through to national level representing my county of North Yorkshire, the North East of England and culminating in World and European Level representing Great Britain.

Currently I am a member of the Great Britain Shooting Team representing my country in the discipline of Compak.

TSG has involvement with grass root clay pigeon shooters, local shooters, local schools and young people. TSG encourage people of all ages to take part in different clay shooting disciplines and to improve their skills. From a teaching point of view the current lodge is devoid of an indoor area for practical safety, security and gun handling skills as well as teaching shooting theory. Also there are insufficient catering, toilet/ hygiene facilities to meet the needs of the number of people who currently attend events and the provision for disabled people to access and participate in activities is not being met.

There is a shortage of premier plus shooting grounds in the North of England. (premier plus = the top award from the CPSA (Clay Pigeon Shooting Association)). This is given to shooting grounds with facilities of a high standard of which TSG is seriously lacking due to their small and outdated shooting lodge.

This is inhibiting TSG the opportunity to achieve a CPSA premier plus status. TSG has the potential to host prestigious events of national level due to the topography of the countryside within the ground. It is superb for clay pigeon shooting and is easily accessible from a major road network. Attracting people from all areas of GB and abroad to North Yorkshire. Which would in turn secure and create further employment both at TSG and in the surrounding area, hospitality – hotels, B&B, eating establishments and other facilities as well as being able to visit the North Yorkshire Moors National Park.

From a personal point of view I participate and support clay pigeon shooting at all levels and regularly use TSG facilities, I feel the proposed building is well designed and will fit in well with its setting and does not affect the views of neighbouring properties. It will also support the shooting industry in the North Yorkshire Moors. Added to which myself and fellow competitive shooters have to travel long distances to participate in major competitions in the UK. These are held at premier plus grounds all in the south, thus putting North Yorkshire and the North of England shooters at a distinct disadvantage.

I trust that you will seriously consider my support for this application.

NYM/NPA
17 MAY 2017
KW

Comments made by Mr Paul Foster of Smithy House Farm, Great Smeaton, Northallerton, North Yorkshire, DL6 2HX
Preferred Method of Contact is Email