Dr John R and Mrs Victoria Allan 9 Low Dalby Pickering N Yorks. YO18 7LY

17thg April 2018

Dear Ms Saunders,

Objection to revised planning application NYM/2018/0094/FL

We wish to lodge a formal objection to the revised planning application NYM/2018/0094/FL on the following grounds:

General

The revised planning application and subsequent clarification/correction dated 17th April have addressed some of the concerns raised in our original objection in that the applicant has relocated the access path to be further from the village houses and has undertaken to block the track that would otherwise lead from the sculpture along the back of nos. 5-10. We welcome this revision, but it fails to address the most serious concerns about additional visitor numbers, car parking and traffic safety, none of which have been properly assessed by the applicant, plus the fact that the applicant has not assessed possible alternative locations for the sculpture which, we contend, is totally out of character with the appearance of the village as it now stands.

Since we submitted our original objection letter, the applicant called an informal consultation meeting with the village residents at which it was promised that the artist would be contacted and asked whether the sculpture could be relocated. Unfortunately we have received a communication from the applicant which states that they have not contacted the artist as they promised to do. The communication from the applicant also states that they will move the Gruffalo sculpture away from the Ellerburn trail and look into the other issues raised by the village residents. The Gruffalo sculpture is no longer the main attraction for visitors on the Ellerburn Trail. The main attraction is now the interactive trail based on other characters from Julia Donaldson and Axel Scheffler books (currently the Highway Rat). The theme of the trail is changed regularly, presumably to maintain visitor numbers, so moving the Gruffalo would have little effect on footfall through the village. Frankly, we have no confidence in the applicant actually carrying out any non-binding commitment that they make in connection with the planning process. When the new visitor centre was constructed the village residents were assured that there would be no further development to the south of the village in order to avoid disturbance. After this the Ellerburn Trail, which is now attracting tens of thousands of visitors through the village was constructed. If the applicant is to offer to mitigate the impact of the application by reducing the footfall through the village by other means we would like to see this as an enforceable

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condition in the planning permission with a clear delivery date as we have no confidence in the applicant actually carrying out any non-binding commitment.

The most recent communication from the applicant corrects a number of errors in the original supporting documentation that we pointed out in our earlier letter of objection. In supporting the case for the proposed location of the sculpture, the applicant now relies on the link between the founding of the Forestry Commission and the end of WW1 and the fact that Nissen Huts were set up to house workers to plant the forests. This is undoubtedly true, but they were not located in Dalby until 1934, as the applicant now admits. It would, therefore, be more appropriate in the context of the link to WW1 for this sculpture to be located elsewhere on the Forestry Estate, where there were actually Nissen Huts set up following WW1. In our view there is no credible rational for choosing Dalby Forest as a site for this sculpture ahead of many other locations which would not impact on the lives of nearby residents.

We can also find no evidence, either in the standard reference work on the area (Dalby Valley of Change by Rushton and Walker) or from extensive searches, that the Nissen huts housed WW2 prisoners of war as claimed by the applicant. Despite the 1940's still being in living memory there is also no local tradition of the Nissen huts housing prisoners of war, which surely would be remembered locally if it had been the case.

The rational for having to locate the sculpture in Dalby Forest or close to Dalby Village as part of the 1914-18 centenary celebration is, therefore, spurious and is shown to be so by the applicant's correction to the errors in the original supporting documentation. We contend that the applicant can, and should, look to locate the sculpture elsewhere, which would also serve to establish a genuine relevance to the 1914-18 celebrations. We raised these issues with the applicant at the recent consultation meeting to make them aware of the errors in their planning submission, hence, we assume, the recent corrections, but they have declined to approach the artist about these issues and have failed to consider possible alternative locations, either within Dalby or elsewhere in the Forestry estate.

The applicant's communication dated 17th April also goes into some length about the track record of the artist commissioned to create the sculpture. We contend that this is not relevant at all to the planning process, other than to suggest that if she is as well regarded as the applicant claims, then the numbers of visitors coming to see the sculpture are likely to be large further increasing the disturbance, traffic problems and loss of privacy in the village.

In the absence of any further communication or credible offers of mitigation from the applicant, we are left with no option other than to sustain our objection on the grounds laid out below.

1 Appropriateness of the development for the local area.

The National Park's Planning Development Policy section 3: Design states *inter alia* that applications may be approved if **The siting, orientation, layout and density preserves or**

enhances views into and out of the site, spaces about and between buildings and other features that contribute to the character and quality of the environment'; and 'The scale, height, massing, proportion, form, size, materials and design features of the proposal are compatible with surrounding buildings'.

We contend that this development, involving the construction of a copy of a grey Nissen Hut approximately 10m long by 3m high, is not consistent with the character of the local area. We can find no reference in the National Park planning guidance concerning sculptures or other works of art, but since this installation is a direct copy of a building in size, shape and colour, we believe that it should be considered as a building in the absence of any other guidance.

Whilst Nissen Huts were obviously a feature of the forest in its early days, they have not been present in the village for many years, and when we purchased our property from the Forestry Commission, we (and all of the other property owners) were required to sign a covenant imposing a variety of restrictions, including the frequency and colour of the painting of our property order to 'preserve the character of the village, which is somewhat unique'. That character, identical white-painted houses clustered around a village green, which we are required to preserve, does not involve Nissen Huts or similar buildings. Were we to apply for permission to erect a 10m long, 3m high grey Nissen Hut in our back garden it would, in all likelihood, be refused because of its impact on the character of the village and inappropriateness of design and materials. We submit that the same standard should be applied to this application and that it should be refused.

2 Unacceptable increase in Disturbance

The National Park Planning Core Policy A: Delivering National Park Purposes and Sustainable Development states inter alia that priority will be given to applications that 'Provide a scale of development and level of activity that will not have an unacceptable impact on the wider landscape or the quiet enjoyment, peace and tranquillity of the National Park, nor detract from the quality of life of local residents or the experience of visitors.'

Development Policy 14: Tourism and Recreation states inter alia that **New tourism** development and the expansion or diversification of existing tourism businesses will be supported where: The development will not generate an increased level of activity, including noise, which would be likely to detract from the experience of visitors and the quality of life of local residents.

The development of the Ellerburn Trail and its subsequent use as a children's attraction using the Gruffalo and other fictional characters to attract more visitors has already had a huge impact on the residents of Dalby Village, especially those in nos. 1,2,7,8,9 and 10 whose properties front onto the access route from the visitor car parks to the start of the trail. Information provided to us by the Forestry Commission shows that around 70,000 people used the Ellerburn trail in the past 12 months. Given that visitors need to pass through the village in both directions to access the trail from the car parks, this equates to a footfall of 140,000 per year. This footfall is not evenly distributed and is heavily biased towards weekends and school holidays when the stream of people passing the front of the

houses in the village can be continuous. The impact of 140,000 people in terms of noise, loose dogs, excited toddlers and general intrusion means that nobody uses their front gardens in the village any more, and the resident's car parks are frequently blocked with visitors cars, despite the signage recently erected by the Forestry Commission. This is already, in our view, an unacceptable level of intrusion that detracts from our quality of life and, indeed, probably detracts from the experience of visitors on crowded days.

The applicants have already stated in meetings with village representatives, and in the supporting documents to their application, that the development they propose will attract more visitors through the village, so the noise, disturbance and intrusion, which is already unacceptable, will only get worse. The new installation will further impact the village in that many of those coming to see it will remain close to the village to admire the sculpture rather than moving on further down the trail as happens at present. We contend that this development will exacerbate and already unacceptable situation and further detract from the quality of life of the village residents and the application should therefore be rejected.

3 Traffic safety

The National Park's Development Policy 3: Design states inter alia that designs are likely to be acceptable if: The design takes account of the safety, security and access needs for all potential users of the development and provides car parking provision in line with the standards adopted by the Authority.

Village residents, Forestry Commission staff, those accessing the fishing lakes near Paper Mill Farm, timber haulage lorries and others with legitimate business in the forest, as well as visitors (who frequently ignore the no-entry signs in attempting to drive through the village to the Ellerburn Trail), all drive along the access road that will lead to the sculpture. In addition, large numbers of cyclists also use this road to access the forest resulting in congestion and confusion when the trail is at its busiest. Residents leaving the designated car parking areas or accessing their garages run a gauntlet of loose toddlers, loose dogs erratic cyclists and inattentive pedestrians on a daily basis. The proposed development will only serve to make this situation worse and there has been no provision made in the application for dealing with the additional footfall and traffic that the new installation would attract if it were permitted. We contend that the design makes no provision for the safety security and access needs of the potential users of the development and should be rejected.

Yours Sincerely,

Dr John R. and Mrs V. Allan

CHOICE OF ELECTION CANDIDATE

Socialists and Hemsworth.

From Our Own Correspondent.

HEMSWORTH, Saturday.

CONFERENCE CONVENED.

Steps to Check Municipal Corruption.

"Lady for a Day."



May Robson and Jean Parker in "Lady for a Day" at the Tower Picture House, Leeds, this week.

Milk for Schools: Suggested Precautions.

From Our London Staff

CANVASSER'S DEATH.

THREE MEN TO APPEAR ON A CHARGE OF MANSLAUGHTER.

WHITBY RURAL RATE.

HARROGATE STARTS ITS CELEBRATIONS.

Freedom Ceremony To-day.

From Our Own Correspondent.

HARROGATE, Sunday.

To-MORROW, on the fiftieth anniversary of the first meeting of its Town Council, Harrogate will start on a series of celebrations lasting throughout the summer, to mark the jubilee of its incorporation as a borough.

ANOTHER DINNER.

FLOWER SHOW PLANS.

BUSY AT BLACKPOOL.

HOLIDAY CROWDS ENJOY A DAY OF BRILLIANT SUNSHINE.

From Our Own Correspondent,
BLACKPOOL, Sunday,
The sight of jugs of tea and viands proted for trippers to Blackpool sands this
ternoon gave the resort a hollday air

Gifts for the Old Folk.



Presents for two of the guests at the Eccleshill (Bradford) Old Folk's treat. Mrs. Cecil Barnett (wife of Councillor Burnett) is presenting a gift to Miss D. Bibby, aged 87. Mr. W. Jones is handing Mr. F. Carter, aged 91, his gift. Also in this picture is Mr. Harry Wain,

VOLUNTEERS FOR NEW YORKSHIRE CENTRE.

ANXIOUS WORKLESS

TRAINING.

By Joe Illingworth. THORNTON-LE-DALE, Saturday.

"SILENT" EXPLOSION SHAKES TOWN.

MEN INJURED BY BURSTING OF AIR CYLINDER,

wontus' hard labour for falling to report while a convict under licence.

The man, George Turner, ship's cook, no fixed abode, said his licence would be forfeited if sent to prison.

The Chairman (Captain T. L. Wickham-Boynton): We are advised that any sentence imposed will not carry with it the forfeiture of the licence.

STOKESLEY RURAL COUNCIL.

Major R. B. Turton, Kildale Hall, was re-elected chairman of Stokesley Rural Council, on Saturday. A vote of thanks was passed to Sir William Fawcett, Stainton Grange, who is relinquishing the position of Clerk for his services to the Council over a period of 14 years. Sir William said there were only three members left, including the chairman, who were on the Council 14 years 450.

SAILOR SAVES DROWNING BOY.

PENNIES FOR MINSTER MUSIC.

"We Live in an Ugly Age."

From Our Own Correspondent.

YORK, Saturday.

The inadequacy of the financial supportiven to the Dean and Chapter of York, in

AN "UGLY AGE."

Boy of Fourteen Flies Solo.

BULLET HITS GIRL. Bridlington Police Making Search In Strange Case. A LEYBURN WEDDING MAN FROM DARTMOOR.





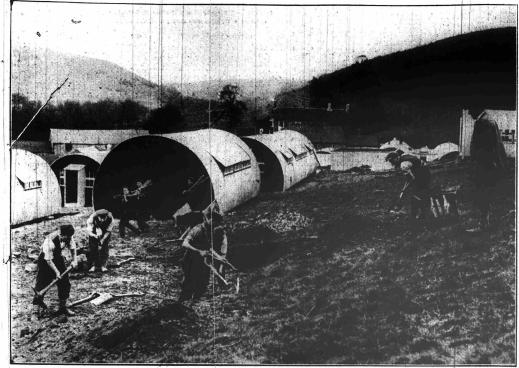
THERE are many definite reasons why delicious 'Ovaltine' is without equal for giving and maintaining robust health and abundant energy. 'Ovaltine' is an original product, scientifically prepared by exclusive processes from the highest qualities of malt, milk and eggs. These ingredients are combined in the proportions necessary to form a perfectly balanced food, complete in the nutritive elements required for creating rich reserves of nervous vitality, and for maintaining a high standard of physical fitness.

For quality and value 'Ovaltine' stands in a class by itself. Although imitations are made to *look* like 'Ovaltine,' there are extremely important differences.

'Ovaltine' does not contain any Household Sugar. Furthermore, it does not contain Starch. Nor does it contain Chocolate, or a large percentage of Cocoa.

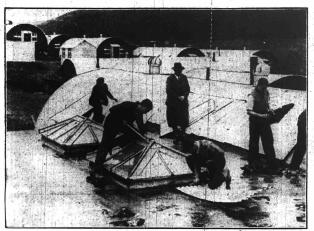
Because of its supreme health-giving properties, 'Ovaltine' is the most widely used food beverage in the world. Quality always tells—insist on 'Ovaltine.' Prices in Gt. Britain and Northern Ireland, 1/1, 1/10 and 3/3

INSTRUCTIONAL UNEMPLOYED FOR YORKSHIRE **CAMP**



TRAINING CAMP NEAR PICKERING.—A view of the Ministry of Labour's Allerston Instructional Centre at Low Dalby, Thornton-le-Dale, where some 200 unemployed men between the ages of 18 and 35 are to be trained with a view to permanent employment in some industry.

MEET AT ROBIN HOOD'S BAY.—The pack proceeding along the shore to the Staintondale Hunt meet at Robin Hood's Bay



PREPARING THEIR TRAINING CENTRE.—Some of the first men at the Allerston Instructional Centre erecting huts in the camp, to be officially opened shortly



THE R.A. SELECTION COMMITTEE judging paintings submitted for this year's Royal Academy Exhibition. From the left are Mr. W. R. M. Lamb (secretary), Mr. A. K. Lawrence, A.R.A., Mr. H. Macbeth Raeburn, A.R.A., Mr. W. Curtis Green, R.A., Mr. S. Lee, R.A., Sir Williams, Llewellyn, President of the Royal Academy, Sir H Hughes-Stanton, RiA., Mr. W. Russell Flint, R.A., Mr. T. Williams, R.A., Mr. A. J. Davis, A.R.A., Mr. W. McMillan, R.A., Mr. C. Wheeler, A.R.A.



HARROGATE VISITOR.—Baron de Cartier de Marchienne, the Belgian Ambassador in taking the waters at Harrogate.



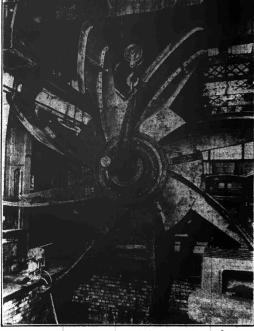
WEDDING OF MR. REGINALD McKENNA'S SON.—Mr. David McKenna, son of the Rt. Hon. Reginald McKenna, P.C., Chairman of the Midland Bank, and his bride, the Hon. Cecilia Keppel, daughter of Viscount Bury, after their wedding at St. Margaert s, Westminster.



GRIMSBY M.P.'S DAUGHTER.—Miss Dorothy Womersley, daughter of Mr. W. J. Womersley, M.P. for Grimsby, and Mr. Cyril H. Moseley, after their wedding at Grimsby.



READY FOR THE SHOW — Seven West Highland terriers to



MERSEY TUNNEL VENTILATING FAN.—A huge fan being installed as part of the ventilating system of the new Mersey Tunnel, to be



AT MONTE CARLO MOTOR RACE.—Ex-King Alfonso and the King of Sweden attending the Grand Prix de Monaco motor race at Monte Carlo,



THE YORKSHIRE PUBLIC SCHOOLS TEAM which played a trial match against Yorkshire Wanderers at Kirkstall yesterday. L. to R., back. J. Woodcock (Goole S.S.), P. N. Baines (St. Peter's, York), M. R. Stephens (Oundle), P. A. Giovetti (Pocklington), J. Whalley (St. Peter's, York), J. F. Bodgener (Ashville), J. H. Gilbey (Ampletorth), W. N. Moussey (Sectbergh), and the Rev. A. E. C. Morgan (Yorkshire R.U.), referee. Front: H. S. Hyland (Bradford G.S.), A. I. Abbott (Sedbergh), M. Rochlord (Ampletorth), M. E. Golding (Ampleforth), J. Lockhart (Sedbergh), E. H. Grieve (Ampletorth), and K. G. Broadbent (Sedbergh),



RUGBY UNION TRIAL AT KIRKSTALL.—A Yorkshire Wanderers player taking a pass during the Rugby Union trial match against Yorkshire Public Schoolboys at Kirkstall. The Public Schools team won by 41 points to 3.