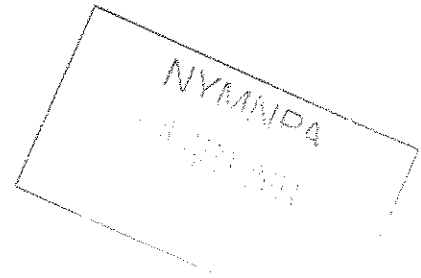


# ARBORICULTURAL ASSESSMENT

**Proposed development  
comprising the provision of twelve  
camping Pods at the Falcon Inn  
Whitby Road, Cloughton,  
Scarborough**

**PRE- APPLICATION**

**for  
Mr Ray Owen**



**Prepared by  
Messrs Lawson Harper in  
association with  
Architectural Design**

**January & November 2010  
Updated June 2013**

## Reason For the Report

Lawson Harper was asked to assess the condition and long-term viability of the plantation along with its suitability for change of use incorporating chalet type holiday accommodation. From the initial briefing to date Lawson Harper have maintained a consultancy role advising on the management of the woodland.

## Timing and Extent Survey

A report is based on initial visual and photographic survey was completed on 9th February 2005.

The survey was intended to gauge the scope of any subsequent assessment and management plan which may be needed to secure a long-term future for the site, prior to any consideration of change of use.

The initial assessment was extended to include a detailed Arboricultural assessment completed in January 2010 detailing the location, species, approximate age, spread height and condition of each tree. The report identified any remedial work required and identified those trees which needed to be removed on Arboricultural grounds.

This report was revised in November 2010 following works to remove the stumps and uprooted trees from the 2004 wind damage.

The survey did not include a detailed survey of ground flora. It was noticed that the woodland had experienced significant natural regeneration in the intervening period and that management rather than replanting should be the basis of any restocking

Approval for the erection of three Camping Pods along with the associated access and landscaping works ancillary to the Falcon Inn was approved on 7th February 2013.

During preliminary site work for the three pods, a watching brief identified additional trees whose stability could not be guaranteed. These trees have been removed in the interest of safety.

Work commenced on the implementation of the approved pods from March 2013. Trees were felled and cleared in accordance with the agreed felling programme. In accordance with the agreed management plan, those trees which had become potential unstable, following the planned felling, were also removed on safety grounds.

A number of springs were discovered which required additional drainage. A small amount of scrub and understory was also cleared to allow for the remedial work.

A revised survey was completed in June 2013; this forms the basis of the site as existing for this application.

## Woodland Management Considerations

The Pods will be screened from the existing roads and surrounding areas by the existing woodland/vegetation and are sited so as to ensure they are effectively screened from public vantage points.

Privacy between pods is provided by woodland sub-story which will be established through management of the rapid re-growth experienced in previously cleared areas of the woodland. This is predominantly birch but will be managed and where appropriate planted/seeded with the birch acting as initial screen and nurse crop for the permanent planting.

As discussed with the Case Officer and referred to by letter dated 27 June 2013: ref. ENQ /9419, the existing planting is to be retained on the eastern boundary. This will be managed to encourage regeneration and where appropriate, to the management regime, augmented with additional planting.

## Conclusion

The woodland was planted entirely for commercial use and was designed to be clear felled around the year 2000.

The new exposure to wind damage had resulted in the loss of most of the central portion of the site. Although now stable the plantation is no longer viable for timber production other than by clear felling the remaining perimeter specimens.

This plantation appears to have stabilised between 2005 and 2010 with no further losses to windthrow. The adjacent plantation has been restocked and is growing strongly providing some protection from wind.

Fallen trees and stump have been removed and the site can now be considered safe for the reintroduction introduction of any access, including the proposed chalet development.

Trees identified in this report as requiring removal on Arboricultural grounds should be removed.

The rejuvenation of the woodland will be by careful management of the existing with some minor introduction of climax species and hardwoods through seeding or targeted planting.

The woodland is capable of absorbing the development, which will remain screened from highway and public vantage points and will not result in any change in character to the area.

Lawson Harper  
July 2013

