



RESTORATION AND CONSERVATION FOR LIFE

registered charity no. 1152750

The Chairman, Low Mill House, Low Mill Lane, North Cave, Brough, East Yorkshire HU15 2NR

Planning Department
North York Moors National Park Authority
The Old Vicarage
Bondgate
Helmsley
York
YO62 5BP

NYM
17 MAR 2014

Date: 17 March 2014

Dear Sirs

Fishing Shelter at Old Scrap Yard, Grosmont Bridge, Grosmont - Your Ref: NYM/2014/51/FL

The Yorkshire Esk Rivers Trust was formed in 2013 as a Registered Charity. The charitable objectives are:

1. To conserve, protect and improve the rivers, streams, watercourses and water impoundments of the catchment, comprising of the Yorkshire Esk, including adjacent estuarine and coastal streams to the north and south (**map attached**) of Whitby, for the advancement of environmental protection or improvement for the benefit of the public.
2. To advance the education of the public or any association, voluntary organisation, company, local authority, government agency or public body in:
 - (a) the understanding of rivers, river corridors and river catchments, including their fauna, flora, biodiversity, economic or social activity and the importance of river catchment management.
 - (b) the need for and the benefits of, conservation, protection and improvement of aquatic environments.

The trust's aim are to conserve, protect and improve the streams, watercourses, water impoundments in the Yorkshire Esk catchment (much of which lies within The North York Moors National Park) and adjacent coastal areas, and also to advance the education and the understanding of the public and other bodies of the benefits of pursuing strategies that will lead towards social engagement and economic activity within the Esk Valley and surrounding areas.

This will be achieved by-

1. Environmental river catchment management - the trust will work to protect and restore the River Esk and streams within the catchment area that have suffered or where habitats are threatened. The focus will be on remote streams and headwaters within the catchment. Reducing ingress levels of siltation throughout the catchment area is seen as crucial in improving biodiversity, improving spawning grounds and for example, re-introducing fresh water pearl mussels.
2. Fisheries management at a catchment scale - the trust will pursue actions that will aid the recovery of the Yorkshire Esk partly as a Salmon and Sea Trout river, but also for other species such as the endangered European Eel. This will be achieved through a series of measures including the installation of fish passes, improvements to redds and spawning grounds and establishing effective measurements of both upward and downward migration of adult and juvenile migratory fish so that over a period of time, trends can be determined.

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Yorkshire Esk Rivers Trust Office Holders

President- Simon Foster, Chairman- Angus Oughtred, Vice Chairman- Stephen Till, Secretary- Oliver Foster, Treasurer- Stewart Bates

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3. Education - the trust working in conjunction with North Yorkshire National Park Authority, will work in schools and with other local groups and organisations so as to advance the public's understanding as to value and importance of effective water management for environmental and biodiversity benefits.

The trust will use its website as an effective means of engagement with the local community.

4. Partnership working - the nature of the trust's work is such that a partnership approach and engagement with North York Moors National Park Authority is essential for effective delivery.

Relationships with other rivers trust, particularly those in the Yorkshire region is seen as important, to gain learnings in 'best practice' as will be the relationship with the environment agency.

5. Fund raising- the trust aims to seek funding from grants made available through government and European sources and the water framework directive. The trust will also seek to secure funding from local business that already do, or will in future gain economic benefit from the improvements within the catchment area.

(1) Conservation and restoration in the Yorkshire Esk catchment and coastal and estuarine areas.

The Yorkshire Esk Rivers Trust will serve to influence and direct the activities of the trust for the future.

The Yorkshire Esk flows through the heart of the North York Moors National Park which benefits from public access through its network of public bridleways and footpaths along its rivers, streams and impoundments. It is expected that the public at large will benefit, in years to come, from the improved habitat enrichment as a direct result of the trust's habitat restoration projects. It is hoped this will encourage the public to interact with the trust's work in order to maintain, protect and improve the habitat for generations to come.

The Yorkshire Esk is also classed as a bap priority river habitat (biodiversity action plan), due to the presence of a number of classified species including the fresh water pearl mussel, Atlantic Salmon, Brook Lamprey and the Otter. We believe the trust's work will raise the profile of the Yorkshire Esk as a destination of choice and will ultimately encourage more public visitors to the area to experience and have a greater understanding of the Yorkshire Esk, the trust and the ecosystems that live within it.

The trust work will be both practical, bringing about physical improvements to the Yorkshire Esk and adjacent coastal streams and by pursuing a range of initiatives that will lead towards a greater understanding of the benefits of clean water from catchment restoration, integrated ecosystems, preservation of endangered species and the importance of conserving the environment. To this end, the trust will reach out and engage with the public, voluntary organisations, companies and government agencies to maintain, protect and improve the Yorkshire Esk habitat for future generations to experience and learn from.

It is expected that the trust's work directly relating to the coastal streams will have a positive impact on water quality. This will ultimately improve awareness of the trust's objectives and therefore potentially encourage & improve bathing water quality in the coastal streams district for the public to enjoy.

(2) Advancing education and improving the public's understanding.

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The North York Moors And National Park Authority already have visitor centre in Danby, which is in the heart of the Yorkshire Esk Valley. The centre alone, attracts in excess of 90,000 visitors each year and also holds education events for local schools. This facility, which exists as an educational centre, will be an important vehicle through which the trust can best engage with the public.

The trust's aims will be directed towards -

- Education and engagement with the community in the Esk Valley and those who visit it.
- Communicate why the Esk is important for drinking water, aesthetics, recreation and biodiversity.
- Highlight economic benefits of a healthy river to local communities and businesses (hotels/shops/other visitor attractions).

This will be driven through a series of initiatives and mediums -

- The use of the Yorkshire Esk rivers trust website, which will have up to date reports on the trust's activities.
- Salmon in the classroom- facilitating the education of children in the life cycle of salmon.
- The trust attendance at local village shows.
- Organising river walks to educate the public on the importance of water quality in order to maintain, protect and improve the river's diverse and delicate ecology.
- Attendance at open farm events to demonstrate the benefits of catchment management.

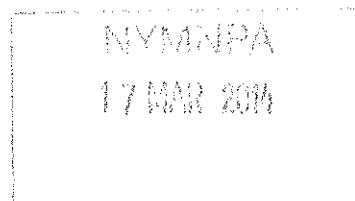
Encouraging, the already well established volunteer force with the National Park to work in conjunction with the Yorkshire Esk rivers trust in the delivery of on the ground projects.

It is the Trusts intention as it develops over time to increase its educational activities to enable not just school children but also adults to be shown the river and to have simple characteristics and features explained to them including wildlife, both in and around it. This work is pursued in many other Rivers Trusts to a high standard and as one of the last Rivers Trusts to be formed in England we hope over time to develop in a similar way. In order to achieve this, a number of things need to happen but one of the most important is to have practical facilities to be able to accommodate significant groups of people on the river bank, in an outdoor classroom scenario. This facility which is provided by the Grosmont Estate, gives us much opportunity to pursue our objectives. The location of it, being close to the National Park car park (with coach facilities) and the public toilets in Grosmont Village, as well as the pub and shop in Grosmont Village make it an especially valuable and unique for our needs.

Also key to the success is its size. It measures approximately 6m x 4m and anything smaller would compromise our ability to host substantial groups of people, particularly school parties. It is not only important that they can all shelter under it if it is raining etc, but also they can hide within it, sitting comfortably and quietly, yet out of sight and out of the elements to give them maximum opportunity to observe the wildlife without disturbing the wildlife. Its size makes it particularly well suited to its function as a wildlife hide. Were it to be made any smaller then it would be less useful both as a wildlife hide and as an outdoor classroom.

The Yorkshire Esk Rivers Trust supports this facility accordingly and very much welcomes the initiative by the Grosmont Estate to provide it and make it available for our use accordingly.

Yours faithfully



Angus Oughtred
Chairman – Yorkshire Esk Rivers Trust

ESK FISHERY
ASSOCIATION

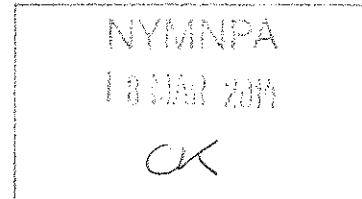
Est. 1864



Secretary: Mrs Lorraine Laycock
Burrow Nook, Ryton, Malton, North Yorkshire, YO17 6XU

15th March 2014

Planning Department
North York Moors National Park Authority
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Dear Sirs

Fishing Shelter at Old Scrap Yard, Grosmont Bridge, Grosmont
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The Esk Fishery Association leases fishing from the Grosmont Estate which includes the use of the fishing shelter in the above application. It is considered to be an important facility not only for use by fishermen but also by the river keeper who uses the shelter during his year round work in managing the river and monitoring it for poachers etc. Members of the club and other volunteers assist him in this work too.

We support the aspirations of the Yorkshire Esk Rivers Trust to develop its educational purposes so that it can make use of this facility to host large groups of people including school children to show them the river and its many special qualities and to explain its management and importance. If the structure was any smaller it would compromise its ability to act as an outdoor classroom in this sense and also to be used as a wildlife hide.

The EFA supports the application for the structure in its present form and size accordingly.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Lorraine Laycock
Secretary, EFA