

Wendy Strangeway

From: Planning
Sent: 18 March 2018 12:57
To: Planning
Subject: Comments on NYM/2018/0094/FL - Case Officer Mrs H Saunders - Received from Mr Richard Creaser at 6 Low Dalby, YO18 7LT



Dear Sir/Madam

R.E. Planning Application NYM/2018/0094/FL

I wish to object to the proposed art installation south of Low Dalby village on the following grounds.

1. Detraction of the quality of life of the local residents
2. Destruction of habitat of legally protected species
3. Accessibility issues for the old and disabled/wheelchair bound

Objection 1

Core Policy A (Environment) #1 and Development Policy 14 (Tourism and Recreation) #3 of the NYMNP A 2008 Local Development Framework (LDF) both state that a development should not detract from the quality of life of local residents.

DP 14 #3 states "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 Design and Access Statement, produced by the Forestry Commission for this application, states "It (also) aims to increase the number of visitors to Dalby Forest even further, in particular focussing on off peak times and dates for these visits."

Given that the proposed art installation is directly behind the village of Low Dalby I do not see how it cannot be in contravention of the above policies. The installation adjoins a little used track (not a public footpath) that passes above the rear of a number of village houses. The track affords views directly into our upstairs and downstairs windows as well as our gardens. Our levels of privacy will be much reduced by the installation as will the security to our gardens as visitors begin to use this track.

Section 3.15 (Communities) of the LDF aspirations include the following themes. Safe communities; Reducing crime and the fear of crime; Enabling people to engage and participate in decisions that affect them.

Given the amount of objections that have come from such a small community, it must be clear to all that we have grave concerns over this proposed installation concerning our quality of life, our privacy and our security.

Objection 2

Core Policy C (Natural Environment, Biodiversity and Geodiversity) #1 states all developments, projects and activities will be expected to "Provide an appropriate level of protection to legally protected sites and species".

Item 6.4 of the LDF goes on to state "Legally protected species which are prominent in the Park and which could be affected by new developments include, but are not limited to, bats, swallows, house martins, swifts, starlings, sparrows, barn owls, great crested newts and badgers."

Low Dalby has resident badgers seen nightly in our gardens at this time of year as well as foxes and Roe deer. In summer we also see bats and many of the other species mentioned in LDF 6.4. Having a large number of people (many with dogs) walking around this area will no doubt drive the wildlife from the area. Unfortunate, not only for the animals concerned, but also for the people who live here who derive so much enjoyment from seeing such a wealth of wildlife in their gardens.

Objection 3

LDF 7.8 states "The accessibility needs of all potential users including the elderly, wheelchair users and those with children should be carefully considered in any proposed design or layout."

Siting the proposed art installation 15m up a hill seems to me to be a singularly discriminating thing to do. Not only is the installation a full kilometre from the visitor centre but the last 300m have to be negotiated on an approximate 5% slope. The FC state that "The access paths will be constructed in such a way that the sculpture is accessible for wheelchair users using the BT Countryside for All specification." I am sure that they will be (in order to claim funding). However, I do not envisage that many elderly wheelchair users (or wheelchair pushers) would attempt the climb unless they were lucky enough to be in possession of an electric mobility scooter/wheelchair.

Far better to place the proposed installation on the relatively flat site opposite the newly created car park at Seive Dale, close to the facilities of the visitor centre. This would enable everyone to be able to enjoy the work of a prize winning artist, not just the able bodied or those wealthy enough to afford an electric mobility vehicle.

Yours Sincerely

Richard Creaser

6 Low Dalby
YO187LT



Comments made by Mr Richard Creaser of 6 Low Dalby, YO18 7LT
Preferred Method of Contact is Email

Comment Type is Comment