

Andrew Bishop [via email]

Planning, Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority

9 June 2021

Objection to Planning Application: R/56/185J Thorney Mire Barn, Appersett: Siting of two huts within Ancient Semi-Natural Woodland for short-stay self-catering accommodation.

Dear Mr Bishop

Whilst the proposed development of two huts is relatively minor, they are to be located within an Ancient Semi-Natural Woodland, a priority habitat for conservation, and particularly significant within the Dales where the extent of such woodlands is so limited. Over centuries these woodlands have developed rich and complex plant and animal communities that cannot easily be replicated.

The application includes proposals for tree planting, but it will be the management of the woodland that will be critical to its long term survival. However there is no ecological survey of the shrub layers or ground flora, and no indication of how the impacts of construction, including provision of services, will be controlled to avoid damage. Nor is there any information about how this priority habitat will be protected and managed, and how the use of the land around the huts by visitors will be managed to avoid damage to the ecology.

Friends of the Dales therefore wishes to object to this application, as it will impact adversely on an important, scarce and vulnerable priority habitat.

Yours sincerely

Dr Malcolm Petyt, Chair, Policy and Planning Committee

Friends of the Dales is a working name of the Yorkshire Dales Society which was founded in 1981 and is a registered charity and company limited by guarantee. Friends of the Dales is free of political and financial affiliations. We work to ensure that the Government, the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority, and other relevant agencies deliver their obligations to care for the special qualities of the Yorkshire Dales, an internationally important area. We do this by considering major planning applications and policy development affecting the Yorkshire Dales and adjacent areas. We offer a year round programme of walks and talks so that everyone can enjoy and learn more about this beautiful area and why it needs protection. We have a membership of around 1,300 individuals, families, businesses and organisations.

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