

Tim Davis [via email]

Planning, Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority

5 January 2022

**Objection to Planning Application: C/01/94
Land to east of Calton Lane, Airton, Skipton**

Full planning permission for construction of equipment and materials store (on top of existing timber deck) for market gardening enterprise and landscape maintenance; retention of composting toilet, hardstanding and drainage with resulting footpath (part retrospective

Dear Mr Davis

Friends of the Dales objects to this application for the following reasons:

The development as proposed is inappropriate for the location. In the Design and Access Statement the applicants point out that they “have recently acquired a 20-acre plot and are establishing a market gardening business there”. Even though the planning application is clearly intended for the construction of “Equipment and materials store for market gardening enterprise and landscape maintenance, and retention of composting toilet, hardstanding, and drainage with resulting footpath.” no details are provided for these future plans which may significantly impact on this unspoiled site.

Leaving aside for the moment that the site is totally inappropriate for market garden cultivation due to its steepness with possible soil erosion and generally poor soil, the development proposed in this application would be particularly harmful on this highly sensitive site in this unspoiled part of the Aire Valley, along which the Pennine Way runs. In addition, there is nothing in the application that tells us about what is anticipated in terms of access to the site for deliveries, traffic generation or any other aspect of running such a land-based activity, should a market garden application come forth.

The square box building that is illustrated in the application is of poor proportions and atypical materials which would have an adverse impact on both the visual quality of the valley and the local landscape character.

Those parts of the application that have already been installed without the benefit of planning approval (the ugly hut, the toilet and the hard standing) should be removed so that the site can return to its previous state as soon as possible. We are also concerned that the access point has been insensitively upgraded to a substantial gate which does not figure in the application.

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Friends of the Dales objects to the proposed development as submitted and to the lack of information that makes it impossible to assess any further potential impacts of the business. The current proposals should be refused and those parts of the application already installed be removed at the earliest opportunity.

Yours sincerely



Wilf Fenten, 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.