

Emma Heron [via email]

Planning Team

Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority

30 January 2023

**Objection to Planning Application: R/51/25L Aysgarth Falls Hotel, Aysgarth, DL8 3SR  
Full planning permission for 15 hotel lodges and facilities, alongside refurbishment of and  
extension to existing hotel**

Dear Ms Heron

Friends of the Dales **objects** to this application for the following reasons.

Despite some degree of landscaping efforts made to try and minimise the significant impact of this proposal, the development is, taken as a whole, inappropriate and detrimental to the area which is next to one of the major tourist spots in the Dales. The proposed lodges are out of character with the surrounding buildings and landscape. The fact that they are sited on a slope down to the Falls with the Church on the other side of the road makes this development particularly inappropriate.

Adding fifteen lodges in this area must be considered an overdevelopment of the site. Despite efforts to address the lighting – but there will still be by far too much – and the proposed planting, the sheer size of the development will increase pressures. It will add to the traffic issues in the area and to the pressures at a key biodiversity area as well as tourist attraction. There is a complete lack of genuine biodiversity enhancement, instead adding to pressures on local biodiversity.

The fifteen lodges as well as the massing of the proposed extension will create an inappropriate visual impact. The large amount of glass proposed for the extension can only add to light pollution.

It is also important to note that a public footpath (part of the Herriot Way) runs through the site. If the current application were to be approved, despite strong reservations, it would be important to ensure that the right of way remains open and unblocked at all times, during the construction period and afterwards in perpetuity.

**For the reasons listed above we object to this application.**

Yours sincerely

Signed by 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.*



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