

Andrew Tait [via email]

Planning Team

Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority

22 August 2023

Objection to Planning Application: R/53/36, Gilbert Lane, Bishopdale, Richmondshire, North Yorkshire, BD23 5JB

Full planning permission for the installation of a 25m lightweight lattice mast with 3no. radio antennas, 3no. transmission dishes, radio equipment housing, solar array comprising of 36no. solar panels and 2no. ground-based cabinets along with ancillary development and proposed access track (circa 145m) for the purpose of telecoms.

We wish to object strongly to the proposed 30m. mast on Kidstones Fell. This is a wide open stretch of moorland, with no other man-made structures in sight. The proposed location is at a high elevation and very prominent. It will be widely visible from the surrounding extensive open access areas as well as from parts of upper Wharfedale and Gilbert Lane, which is well used by walkers.

The introduction of a tall man-made feature into such an open and agricultural landscape would undoubtedly have a major impact on the local landscape character. The Landscape & Visual Impact Assessment inexplicably manages to downplay this impact.

Then there is the issue of cumulative impact. A mast above Buckden has recently been given planning approval, whilst there is another application on the slopes above Kettlewell. We do not understand why mast sharing is not a requirement.

We do not consider that the applicants clearly demonstrated that there are no other possibilities such as mast sharing or a less prominent location. Nor are we convinced that the extent of improved mobile coverage actually warrants this level of disruption to an open landscape within a national park, where conservation must take priority.

Yours sincerely,

Interim Chair, Policy and Planning Committee

On behalf of Friends of the Dales

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.



CAMPAIGN • PROTECT • ENJOY

