

Ian Nesbit [via email]

Planning

Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority

20 November 2025

Objection Planning Application: R/06/267 Foxwith Barn, Muker

Full planning permission for conversion and extension of existing barn to create a one-bedroom residential dwelling; realignment of roadside walls to widen existing access; creation of associated curtilage and parking; installation of ground mounted solar array; installation of borehole and water tank and installation of a vertical axis wind turbine to west gable

Dear Mr Nesbit

Friends of the Dales objections to this application for a barn conversion. We support the objection of Muker Parish Council to this application.

The policy on barn conversions is first and foremost a conservation policy, ie. the intention is to conserve the historic interest and fabric of the barn. Whilst the conversion respects the existing openings and outward appearance of the barn, there is no evidence of any particular historic interest other than it being a typical field barn of the area.

If in an isolated location, as this one is, then its impact on the landscape has to be taken into account. The proposal is to add an extension, with timber cladding and corten corrugated roofing. This extension is large in relation to the barn itself, and one of the stated aims of the policy is to achieve conversion that does not involve extending the area of the building.

The extension is of inappropriate materials which will impact both on the integrity of the barn itself and the local landscape in which stone buildings predominate.

Furthermore, this extension is in addition to a parking area, an array of solar panels and a vertical wind turbine on the roof, all of which contribute to a significant cumulative impact of the proposal. We recognise the laudable efforts to integrate renewable energy sources into the proposal but this is undermined by the significant impact that 20 ground mounted solar panels, a roof mounted turbine and a large plant room (including generator) will have on the sensitive landscape.

Unfortunately this is yet another barn conversion in a relatively remote location that will simply add to local traffic and thus not contribute to the reduction of emissions that is the aim of the Authority. Creating another turning on a very narrow and twisty section of lane can only add a further hazard for passing traffic.

Yours sincerely

Chair, Policy and Planning Committee
On behalf of Friends of the Dales



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