

20/03555/STPLF Objection – Concern over Management of Long Plantation

North Ferriby Parish Council (NFPC) contends that the Woodland Management Plan for the Long Plantation next to North Ferriby dated October 2019 and provided by the Director for Economic Development to our Ward Councillor is not fit for purpose and not a basis for any consideration alongside Application 20/03555/STPLF.

This opinion is based on both practical and ethical grounds, and in the context that this deciduous wood is now the only landscaping between North Ferriby residents and a 25 metre high building 150 metres away from them, due to the latest Wykeland variation to the proposal.

The marketing of the Open Space as a biodiversity corridor next to the Long Plantation cannot be considered as NPPF Clause 97, and confirmed to Ward Councillor by ERYC Legal in 2006, confirms that nothing can be built on the Open Space.

Long Plantation was established approximately 200 years ago, and some trees probably date back to then.

The Aims Section of the supplied Management Plan only mentions planting once, but does not give any further reference to planting being undertaken on a regular basis – **this is essential for maintaining a Plantation**. Rather than considering maintaining the partial landscaping of the proposed building for the residents of Long Plantation and The Triangle, the focus is clearly on cutting down trees, 'leaving for biodiversity'.

The previous agreement with St Modwen **ensured regular planting** which they undertook.

NFPC's most serious concern is that the Long Plantation will, under the guise of biodiversity, be deliberately managed in the style of the Yorkshire Wildlife Trust (YWT) /Wykeland Bridgehead site, which currently resembles a woodyard with no replacement planting evident, as can be seen below.



The Wolds Way goes through the Long Plantation and as such it must be maintained at current standards and not become a “tacky” experience. NFPC understands the Long Plantation is covered by a blanket Tree Preservation Order and ERYC officers must ensure ‘one for one’ appropriate replacement planting, which does not appear to be the case at the Bridgehead site.

The integrity of the YWT/Wykeland relationship are of major concern and have been raised with the overseeing Wildlife Trusts.

It is noted that :

- Wykeland are “SILVER” Corporate Benefactors to YWT, and
- despite the application site being located on the banks of the Humber, with impacts upon the nearby SSSI and Ramsar designations **YWT is silent on these factors**. This is in contrast to other developments of lesser impact on the banks of the Humber where the YWT has participated fully in consultation, highlighting the significant negative impact of development on bird population, examples of which include at Brough (ERYC Planning reference 11/04104/STOUTE), Hedon (17/01673/STOUTE), Paull (18/04071/STPLF) and Newbald (20/01149/PLF) where YWT requested air quality assessments. There will be over 200 vehicle movements a day at the proposed Melton site, yet as stated, **apparently not a factor for YWT on this occasion**.

This could of course be coincidental, but it obviously raises extremely serious concerns of undue influence by Wykeland on the YWT and NFPC wishes to raise these concerns now in order to ensure proper and independent oversight of the woodland management to preserve the woodland for future generations.