

Tim Davis – via email

Planning, YDNPA

3 May 2018

**Objection to planning application: R/49/40D: West Shaw Cote Cottage, West Shawcote, Low  
Abbotside: Full planning permission for installation of 35 panel (10kW) ground mounted solar PV  
system within field to north of property**

Dear Mr Davis

While generally in support of schemes to produce renewable energy, Friends of the Dales are concerned about this proposal on two grounds:

**Visual Impact:** the proposed solar array could be detrimental to views within the landscape from various viewpoints within Wensleydale. Permission should not be granted unless it can be demonstrated that this is not the case.

**Potential loss of Biodiversity:** the proposed site may be regarded as “marginal” for agricultural purposes, but such land is often rich in wildlife, providing habitats which are increasingly under threat. In order to function efficiently, the panels have to be angled to capture the maximum amount of sunlight, which places the ground surrounding them permanently in the shade. This is bad for most plants, and without diverse plant life, there cannot be diverse insect life or bird life.

Yours sincerely



Dr Malcolm Petyt, Chair of Policy Committee

*Friends of the Dales is a working (brand) 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 1,200 individuals, families, businesses and organisations.*



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