

Planning Team, Craven District Council
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7 June 2017

**Comment on Planning Application: 62/2017/18064 – Anley Crag Business Park
Outline application with some matters reserved for an employment led mixed-use development,
comprising the construction of a new Business Park incorporating B1 Business Units, B2 General
Industrial units, a car dealership and residential development**

The Yorkshire Dales Society **objects** to this Application on the following grounds:

The site is in an extremely important location, acting as a key gateway to Settle and Ribblesdale and right on the boundary of the Yorkshire Dales National Park. It is in open countryside, outside the settlement of Settle, and is highly visible from the well-used A65 and A6480. The proposal presented is typical of urban and suburban business parks, and one only has to look at the surrounds of Skipton to see how ugly and unappealing such developments can be. The buildings and layout are out of scale for the area and lack any distinctiveness appropriate to its unique location. A landmark building of the sort proposed is not what is wanted in such a high quality rural environment.

Whilst the need to generate economic activity is acknowledged, the main economic activity in this area is tourism, and this development would undoubtedly detract from the quality of the local environment. Simply proposing a planting scheme to screen such buildings is not an appropriate response. Furthermore, the A65 is already a very busy road, and this proposal would generate yet more traffic on it.

The Yorkshire Dales Society believes that the harm to the environment that would arise from this development would outweigh any economic benefits, and the application should be refused. Should the Council decide to permit the development of the site, then it must be to a plan of the highest standard, with more subtlety and imagination, incorporating measures to enhance wildlife and the landscape.”

Yours sincerely

Dr K.M. Petyt, Vice President and Chair of Policy Committee

The Yorkshire Dales Society was founded in 1981 and is a registered charity and company limited by guarantee. The Society 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 also 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. The Society has a membership of around 1,200 individuals, families, businesses and organisations.