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CC: david.butt@ryedale.gov.uk
Date: 08/09/2009 10:50
Subject: 09/00827/FUL; Wildlife pond, Havoc Hall, Oswaldkirk

Further to my comments yesterday, I have subsequently had a conversation with the applicants which has clarified a number of the issues that I raised.

I would therefore be grateful if you could read this response in conjunction with my previous one.

Para 3 - It is anticipated that the water level will be almost to the top of the banks and therefore there will be a shallow marginal shelf. I observed this during my site visit, as it had been newly-created.

Para 4 - I still feel that the AONB Unit would not have funded the creation of this pond, as it sits so high above the natural ground level and is retained by banks that have a steep and unnatural angle.

Para 6 - The applicant has explained that they have no intention of cutting the grass any more frequently than once a year, in line with managing it as a meadow for wildlife. I am therefore more re-assured that this will not end up as a neatly-mown area of 'amenity' grassland, as has happened in other similar situations within the AONB.

Para 7 - I can amend my overall summary to one of **concerns over some of the design aspects**. I believe however that these concerns can be overcome by the application of appropriate Conditions.

Para 8 - Conditions. As per my previous response, with the following amendments.

- A landscaping scheme could include native trees as well as shrubs, in order to provide a more substantial screen and wildlife value to the south and west of the pond.
- Boundary between field and garden. I would still prefer this to be demarcated, as I can remember the field being grazed 6/7 years ago and there was then presumably a stockproof fence. Planting of a new native hedgerow would enhance the wildlife value of the field but I do not consider it to be essential.

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