

Design and Access Statement

Woodland Fairy Trail, Buttercrambe Moor Wood, Buttercrambe, York, YO41 1AP

Creation of an off grid, eco, fairy trail through the woods, incorporating rustic fairy and goblin houses, both on stumps and in trees. Natural focal points along the way, such as a giant birds nest, Elven chair and willow wall maze, are complemented by a low impact café / reception, toilets, storytelling and "fairy museum"(fairy and woodland creature artefacts from the collection of an imagined Victorian professor, e.g. clothing and shoes from leaves, jewellery....).

The proposed trail is buried deep within the Buttercrambe Moor Wood, (not visible from outside the wood) a mixed woodland, with a low economic yield, which already contains a glamping site, designed by the applicants, Mr and Mrs Van Outersterp, and run by Jollydays Camping. This award-winning glamping site was the first of its kind in the UK and has attracted affluent, environmentally aware visitors from all over the country as well as abroad. Family activities at the campsite have always been simple and natural, den building, willow weaving, foraging etc.

The proposed fairy trail will enhance this rustic offering, shunning electronica and modern technology and instead offering children the opportunity to develop their imaginations with fairy-tale stories and inspire them with exquisite visual displays of fairy structures and natural sculptural elements. A gentle, educational aspect will also enlighten visitors about the woodland environment and encourage understanding of the precious nature of this eco system. This year-round trail will also respond to the changing seasons and rhythm of nature.

Over the 10 years running the camp, the applicants have consulted widely with their existing visitors about the benefits of natural, all weather, outside play for children. They have taken on board ideas and suggestions and observed the way young children interact with the woodland. Fairies and mythological creatures have always been at the heart of this play, with children often building their own, remarkable fairy houses from leaves and twigs.

In designing this proposed trail, the applicants have been informed by Ryedale's local plan and it will "respond sensitively to the beauty of the landscape and to the environment". The scale is modest and site location positioned so it cannot be seen from outside of the wood. It will create minimal disturbance to the tree canopy, which will also be enhanced with further tree planting – the protection of the woodland is essential to the concept. Paths and tracks are permeable surfaces to allow rainwater to pass through, signage will be handmade and rustic, no bright or jarring colours or materials will be used throughout.

The reception, café, toilets, storytelling space and fairy museum are housed in a simple shed, painted black to blend into the woodland, this is set on a base of permeable terram and stone, so rain runs off into the ground. It is sited in an existing glade, off 2 existing main tracks. The shed is made to blend with the woodland environment by addition of a wraparound veranda, decorated with natural tree trunk pillars, with the bark left on, so visitors still feel part of the woods. Internally the styling will be rustic wood, with tree bark and decorative tree limbs creating the feel of a tree house, even though single storey.

The layout has evolved from the woodland itself, half of the pathways are existing and the additional pathways, buildings and carpark, work with the existing trees, vegetation and glades. The design process has been an organic one – fitting things in where appropriate, with minimal disturbance, rather than imposing a harsh and rigid development.

The development is modest in scale, structures occupy 252 square metres and car parking is for 60 cars, both in existing woodland glades to minimize tree disturbance, allowing for a mix of day visitors and guests from the glamping site. This trail celebrates Yorkshire fairies and will have a real sense of place, the mythology and folklore are unique to Ryedale.

The woodland setting means the trail will be off grid and minimal electricity will be used, this will be generated by renewable methods with solar panels on the south facing section of the shed. As with the existing glamping site all effluent will be dealt with on site with the construction of a reed bed system.

The applicants have been invited to make a submission for a grant to the RDPE Growth Programme, which meets local planning policies, it is low key, sustainable, year-round and sensitively integrated with the landscape.

Access will be available to all users, young, old, disabled and able bodied alike.

The nature of the trail is essentially a long and winding woodland walk and the rustic setting is maintained by stoned paths, which are wide enough for wheel chair users. Visitors not wishing to tackle the long walks, can still experience the woodland location and enjoy the fairy museum and café, which are located close to the vehicle track. There will be disabled parking close to the amenities.

Emergency access – there is plenty of access to the proposed buildings for emergency vehicles, with a stoned track passing right by the café and fairy museum and a large turning area is at the front of the building.

Entrance access is from the existing entrance to the Jollydays glamping site, off the Stamford Bridge – Buttercrambe Road. This flat, straight, section of road has good visibility and was improved when the glamping site was built. The stoned track will split at the entrance to the wood and the new track into the trail will follow an existing gamekeeper's track, into a new, proposed car park.

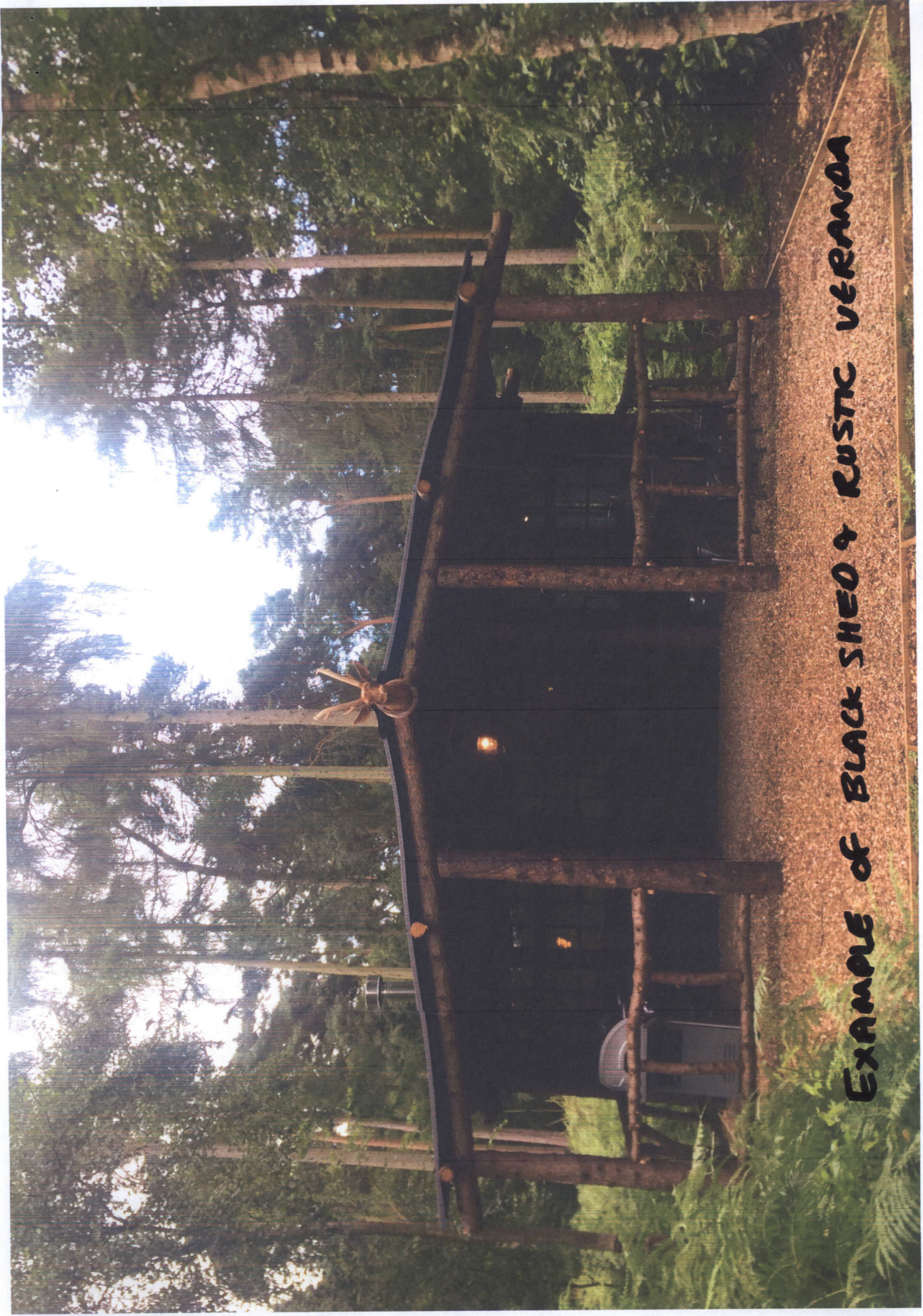
The building is simple in style, on one level with lots of circulation space, french doors allow visitors to enjoy woodland views and bring a level of elegance to a simple structure. They also provide a means of escape in case of emergency. Toilets are provided both inside and outside of the building.



MAIN TRACK INTO THE WOODS



HOBGOBLIN HOUSE



EXAMPLE OF BLACK SHEO & RUSTIC VERANDA



FAIRY VILLAGE
HOUSES



**FAIRY VILLAGE
HOUSES**



STUMP HOUSES
WILL ADD CHIMNEYS
STEPS & DOORS



EXAMPLE OF BLACK SHED IN WOODS



EXAMPLE OF ARTEFACTS FROM FAIRY MUSEUM



FAIRY TREEHOUSES



FAIRY DOORS - NOT BRIGHT COLOURS



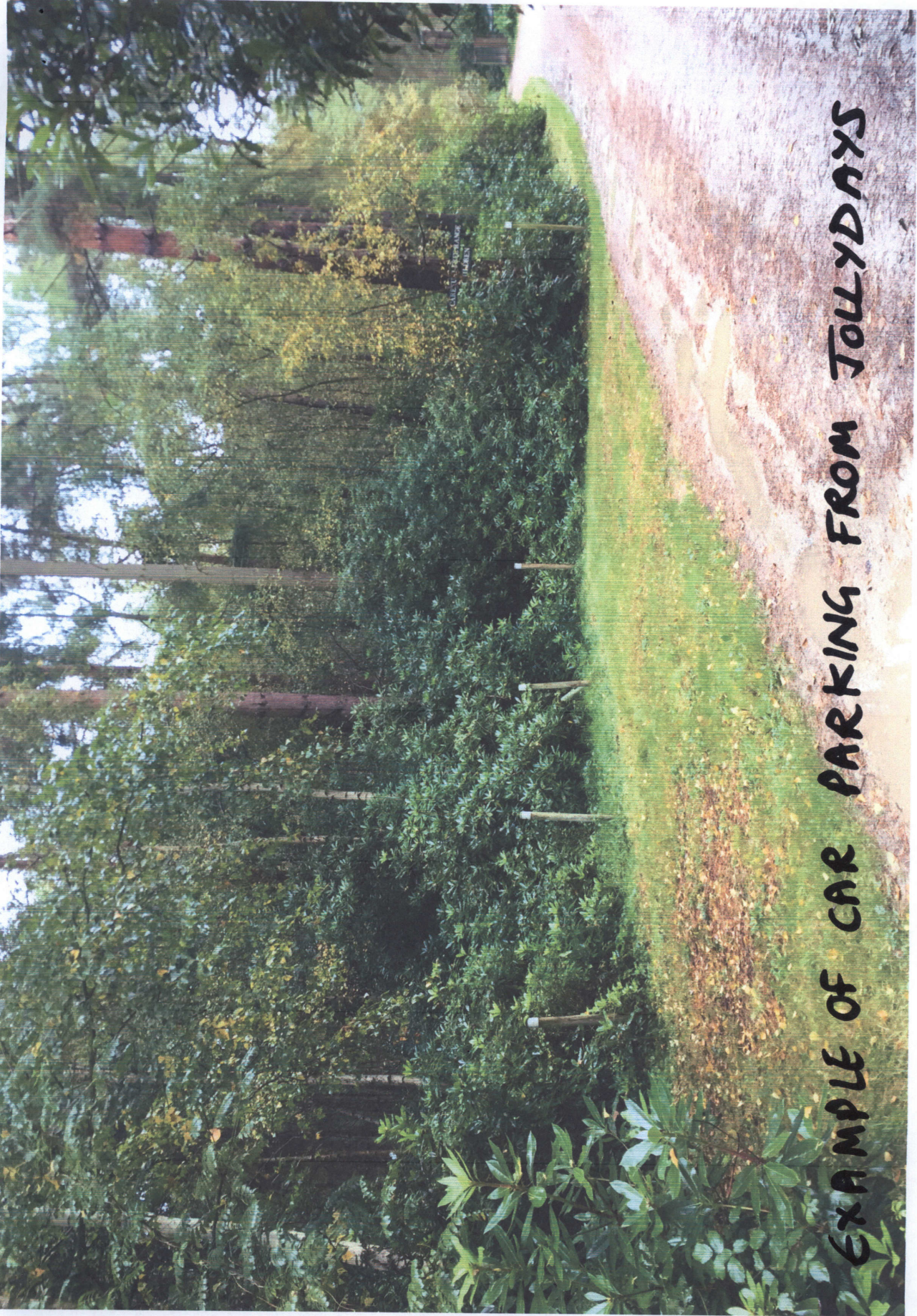
FAIRY DOORS



NATURAL DOORWAY



EXAMPLE OF TIMBER WORK



EXAMPLE OF CAR PARKING FROM JOLLYDAYS



ALL WEATHER STONCO PATH