

No objection - concerns raised.

GH

DATE  
28/11/16

## Claxton & Sand Hutton Parish Council

The Byre  
Field House Farm  
Thornton-le-Clay  
YORK  
YO60 7QA



Fiona Hill  
Parish Clerk

Peter Stott  
Chairman

Caroline Hall  
Vice Chairman

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25/11/16

Ryedale District Council  
Ryedale House  
Malton  
YO17 7HH

Dear Karen Hood

**Re: Application no :** 16/01820/MFUL

**Description :** Construction of an Edge-of-Field Waterbody Safety (E-FloWS) Assessment Facility

**Location :** Food and Environment Research Agency, Sand Hutton, Malton YO41 1LZ

Thank you for providing the above application for our consideration.

### **Important observation :**

We note that on the supplied Tree Preservation Plan (FER-CAP-00-VES-DR-A-0001) there is a reference to Japanese Knotweed. Is this an experimental area on which work is in progress?

There are several references throughout this application to the menace of Himalayan Balsam and Rhododendron Ponticum – especially the former. Treatment of these plants is made explicit e.g. necessity to clean machinery to avoid spreading seeds etc. Nowhere can we find such reference to Japanese Knotweed which presents a far greater hazard to agriculture and horticulture. We find this rather alarming and feel the matter should be raised with the site owners and pursued further.

It cannot be assumed that the Japanese Knotweed is sufficiently far away from the proposed development site for it not to be a problem. Whilst Himalayan Balsam is quite easily dealt with, Japanese Knotweed is extremely difficult to eradicate and easily spread. Herbicides such as glyphosate struggle to do anything but keep it at a minimum and only then with unrelenting attention.

We would encourage Ryedale Council to take note of our concerns and to ensure this does not become a more widespread issue.

Otherwise we do not have any specific objections to this application.

Yours sincerely

Peter Stott (Chair)