

[REDACTED]

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 13 January 2023 20:43  
**To:** Planning  
**Subject:** Planning application 3/2022/1129 for the attention of Mr D Kilmartin

**Categories:** xRedact & Upload

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Dear Mr Kilmartin,

I am [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] of [REDACTED], since our inception in July 2019. We work to improve the built and natural environment of Read and Simonstone, including increasing biodiversity. We have had good relations with [REDACTED] the applicant for retrospective planning permission in this instance, having [REDACTED] that borders Whalley Road.

However, we were greatly dismayed by the destruction of trees and other vegetation along the old railway track, which started in 2020, and the continued barring of what used to be an often-used route over the Martholme Viaduct towards Great Harwood, not only with the large metal barrier but also with the new ditch and bund. We are supportive of the objections put forward already by [REDACTED]

I feel very strongly that by applying retrospectively for planning permission, the applicant is presenting a wholly inaccurate picture of the situation by answering questions on the application form as though there was no vegetation to start with, ie under 'Trees and Hedges' the applicant states that there are no trees or hedges on the proposed site or on land adjacent to the site. Of course there are none now, they were all - or most (a few are still there) - taken out long before the planning application was submitted. But it was well wooded right up to the viaduct.

As regards Biodiversity and Geological Conservation, it is likely that there were numerous nests of both bats and birds, and it would have been rich in small mammals and insects. So the application is incorrect and misleading. The large metal barrier by the viaduct has prevented the passage of large mammals to and from the Great Harwood side.

In these days of climate emergency we all should be doing what we can to improve things for nature in our own area, not tearing it down.

Please acknowledge receipt of this objection to this retrospective planning application.

Yours faithfully,