

**HIGH MOOR FARM PARK**  
**SKIPTON ROAD**  
**HARROGATE**  
**NORTH YORKSHIRE**  
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MR Bob Barfoot  
CHAIR OF C.P.R.E  
NORTH DEVON

23<sup>RD</sup> JUNE 2009

Dear Bob,

Further to our conversations I write to confirm the details about the adverse impact on our business after the Knabs Ridge wind farm was fully operational.

- 1.** Knabs Ridge is an 8 turbine wind farm some 430 meters from our park. The first four turbines were operational early 2008 and the final four became operational towards the end of August, 2008. The official opening of the Wind Farm was held 11<sup>th</sup> November, 2008.
- 2.** This park has been in the family ownership for 28 years and throughout that time until the wind farm was operating, the number of vacant pitches each season has been on average eight. (The park has 159 static pitches and 57 touring pitches which are normally let on a season basis).
- 3.** We began dramatically losing customers once the wind farm became operational. (i.e. customers began moving their static and touring vans to other parks). This was most evident from end of season i.e. November 07 At the beginning of this season (April, 2009) we had 40 empty static pitches and 15 empty touring pitches)
- 4.** When customers advised us they were leaving, the message was loud and clear that it was because of the wind farm. (some people on site would not have purchased holiday homes if they had known about the noise and unsightly appearance of them .

5. When potential holiday home buyers come to view the park now they are deterred as soon as they see the Wind Farm.
6. There were no other reasons why we should lose so many customers other than the adverse effects of the wind farm. For example:
- a) Our pitch rental did not increase dramatically.
  - b) Other parks in the vicinity of Harrogate, that were well away from the wind farm have performed well over the last 12 months.
  - c) The rules of the park have not changed.

7. We have lost £91,360.00 in pitch fee income, plus trading, plus caravan sales approx £400,000.00 for the last two seasons we have not sold a new holiday home. !!!!! since the wind farm has been here we normally sell at least ten .

The Inquiry Inspector, in his Report on the Knabs Ridge proposal, assured us all that tourist businesses would be unaffected by the turbines and we are most upset that we have now been left in this position.

Harrogate Council has received many complaints about the noise of the turbines. A noise monitor was erected in an adjacent field, some way from the caravans, and a report was produced that claimed no problem. More work is being commissioned.

I understand that in many other European countries large turbines must be sited at least 2 km away from properties. Had this been the case here, our business would not be suffering as it is now.

Yours sincerely

Jane Kershaw