

The Ramblers

40 Copandale Road

Beverley

HU17 7BW

30th July 2012

APPLICATION FOR THE PROPOSED ABLE MARINE ENERGY PARK ON THE SOUTH BANK OF THE RIVER HUMBER AT IMMINGHAM, NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE

PLANNING INSPECTORATE REFERENCE NUMBER: TR030001

Planning Inspectorate

Bristol

1.1 The East Yorkshire and Derwent Area of the Ramblers **object** to the application for the **"Alteration to the local network at Cherry Cobb Sands"** as proposed by Able UK.

1.2 Able UK wrote to us on the 4th May 2011 with an "indicative" proposal to divert Paull Footpath No.6 from the top of the existing flood bank to the base of a new flood bank. At present walkers have long views over 360 degree from the whole of the footpath, whilst Able's proposals would greatly restrict the long views for the path users.

1.3 We responded with a number of questions, which the developer responded to on the 22nd September., and included Drawing No. AME - 02060, and information from Natural England and the RSPB.

1.4 According to the paper on **Advice from Natural England and RSPB on suitable buffers for SPA and Ramsar waterbird mitigation areas within the South Humber Gateway**. Which in its conclusion states; **We believe that the proposed buffer of 150m is the minimum that should be considered in a situation where the adjacent land use is unsecured.**

1.5 We forwarded to Able a modified plan, which taken with the following shows the compensation site will provide winter feeding far in excess of the present 55ha on the south bank and that the footpath could easily be provided on the flood bank top as it is at Paul Holme Stray..

2.1) On your map I have drawn a 150m buffer strip between the top of the bank and the river. This leaves 67 ha. Outside the buffer zone, which is more than you are taking on the south bank.

2.2) The plan does not show which areas are to be "mudbanks" and which are to be "saltmarsh"

2.3) The closure of the existing footpath (Paull 6) will give an additional 30 ha to the site from which the public and dogs will not be disturbing birds.

2.4) A large section of the 55 ha site south of the river, is at present unavailable to birds as a) it is below low tide, b) there is a footpath along the river bank which needs a 150m strip removing from the measurements.

2.5) Therefore the Ramblers propose that the footpath should be diverted around the top of the flood Defence wall.

2.6) The above calculations are based on the footpath south of the 250m breach in the flood Defence wall being kept open.

2.7) As there are no measurements on the plan, I have scaled them to the best of my ability.

3.1) In the documents deposited with the East Riding, Volume 2 35.8.27 states " much closer to cherry cob sands road.....birds feeding and roosting on the site may therefore be more readily disturbed by passing traffic along the road or during activities to maintain the new embankment (including grass cutting for example). However it is likely that birds utilising the site are accustomed to noise from agricultural operations and people using the public right of way along the existing embankment..... the impact of operational noise upon birds is therefore considered to be negligible.

3.2) At 35.9.6 three bird hides are proposed to be located on top of the realigned embankment, which will mitigate impacts of anthropogenic disturbance caused by bird watching activities.

3.3 3.27.2 curlew

3.4) File 14 show a peak count of 1703 curlews feeding on the low tide at this site, foreshore with the footpath in view This represents 40 % of Humber population. This shows that the problems caused by the footpath are exaggerated

4.1 As Able UK have not responded to our proposal, or East Riding of Yorkshire Council's request for a sight meeting, we hereby object to the above planning application

Yours sincerely

Mike Jackson

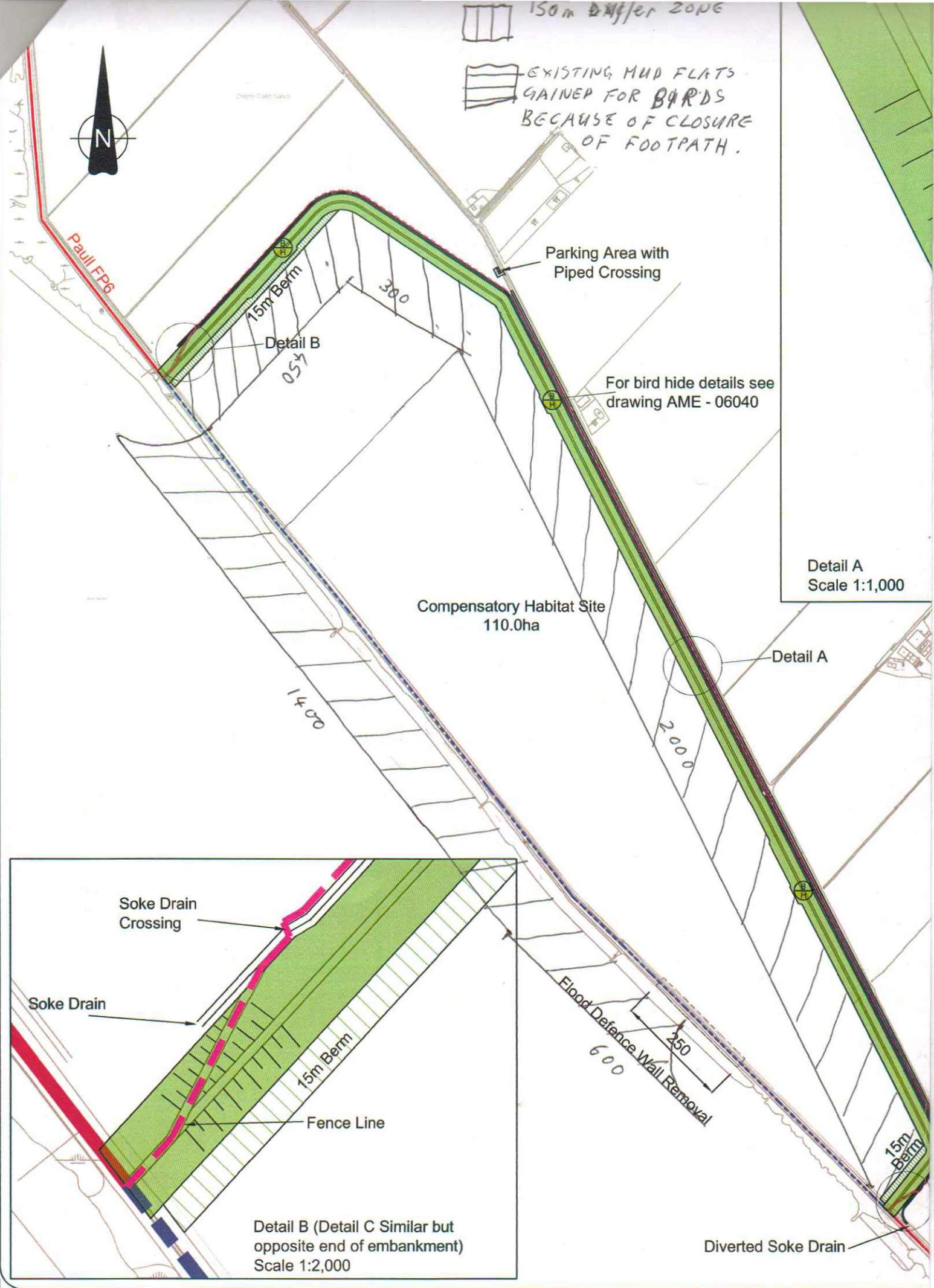
Footpath Sec Hull & Holderness Group of the Ramblers.

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150m Buffer Zone
EXISTING MUD FLATS
GAINED FOR BIRDS
BECAUSE OF CLOSURE
OF FOOTPATH.



Parking Area with
Piped Crossing

For bird hide details see
drawing AME - 06040

Detail A
Scale 1:1,000

Compensatory Habitat Site
110.0ha

Detail A

Soke Drain
Crossing

Soke Drain

15m Berm

Fence Line

Detail B (Detail C Similar but
opposite end of embankment)
Scale 1:2,000

Flood Defence Wall Removal
250
600

Diverted Soke Drain

15m Berm