In my view, it is impossible to imagine that the impact of multiple wells on multiple sites to facilitate a new fossil fuel hydraulic fracturing (fracking) industry, will be any other than devastating and permanently damaging to Ryedale’s rural tourism economy.

Fracking is incompatible with rural tourism.

An industry that has the potential to threaten clean water, land and air and to interrupt the tranquillity on which rural tourism depends, should not be countenanced. Indeed, it would be irresponsible to do so.

There can be no guarantees accidents will not happen and it is absolutely certain that insurance against such risk will not be sufficient, or, probably, available. Once water is contaminated, air polluted, land undermined and tranquillity interrupted, Ryedale’s rural economy, on which so many livelihoods depend, could be fatally damaged.

WHY TAKE THE RISK?

Reputations, so hard won through the investment of time, patience, money, passionate interest and love of the countryside, are too easily lost through careless and irresponsible decisions. Rural growth is best advanced by the people who know, who care and who are prepared to work hard to invest in their future for the long term. Fracking is a short term industry that will, if allowed, arrive, interrupt, spoil and disappear, leaving the local community to pick up the pieces.

‘NO’ to fracking.

‘YES’ to the maintenance of the character of the local community.

August 2016