From: Sebastian Rees, Travel Services []

Sent: 27 July 2012 18:54
To: Planning Service

Subject: Ref: Barn Farm, Barton Hill, Birchover - Planning applications.

Importance: High

From: Seb Rees

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To: Head of Planning Service

The Peak District National Park Authority

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Ref: Barn Farm, Barton Hill, Birchover.

NP/DDD/0612/0579 4930 & NP/DDD/0612/0577 4930

I am writing in support of the planning applications which affect Barn Farm, Barton Hill, Birchover.

As one of the largest Duke of Edinburgh's Award groups in Essex, we have used Barn Farm campsite facilities every year for over 20 years to accommodate our educational groups of up to 50 teenage participants whilst on their Silver

Qualifying Expeditions in the Peak National Park.

The reason we use Barn Farm is for its good location, but also for the high quality of facilities and safe operating environment provided for our groups. I believe that Gilbert Heathcote and Mark Cooper run a very professional operation which I cannot recommend highly enough. The ability to find such sites for educational projects with high quality, clean and safe facilities across the UK is always a challenge.

I understand that it is possible that if planning consents are not successful as applied for that this campsite may be at risk of closure in the near future which would be a great pity and loss to educational projects such as ours.

I believe that Mr Heathcote and Mr Cooper are aiming to provide a full service camping / accommodation package on this site, which whilst diversifying from traditional agricultural activities to some degree I do not feel adversely impacts on the locale - rather enhances it through improved facilities to support the local tourist trade and employment (including the local village).

Please consider this endorsement of the wishes of Mr Heathcote and Mr Cooper to continue improvements at Barn Farm when considering these planning applications.

Many thanks & best regards

Seb Rees

Managing Partner

Tel: Extension:

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