

For the attention Frazer MacLeod
Development Management,
Argyll & Bute Council,
Kilmory Castle,
Lochgilphead. Argyll. PA31 8RT.
Your reference. 20/00971/PP
18th.June 2020

Dear Mr.MacLeod,

PLANNING APPLICATION Erection of storage building, entrance gates and 1.8m fence on land north east of Darleith Lodge, Darleith Road, Cardross .

I am writing on behalf of Cardross Community Council to express strong concerns with regard to this planning application. The application was discussed at the meeting of Cardross Community Council on 15th.June which was attended by 21 people. Several members of the council and many members of the public in attendance were vociferous in their opposition to the proposal. Nobody expressed any support for the application.

The main objections to the application expressed at the meeting were as follows. The stated purpose is for a yard to store Agricultural Plant and Machinery. There was a strong suspicion the use of the term agricultural was a device designed to ensure a smooth passing of the application as the applicant is a local building contractor running a company CRC Joiners and Builders. According to the company Facebook page the company undertakes all joinery, building and ground works ranging from new kitchens, bathrooms and driveways to new build houses. Were the application approved there was a widespread belief that the facility would become essentially a builder's yard which would be wholly inappropriate in this quiet rural area. A number of residential properties nearby would be adversely affected by noise and disruption.

The land in question, some two miles from the village centre, is accessed via Darleith Road, which is single track, has few passing places with no pavements, and has very narrow grass verges. The road is used for leisure purposes by many villagers and visitors mainly walking, running ,cycling and horse riding. It is the access route to the John Muir Way and to Balloch via Stoneymullen. The road is particularly unsuitable as a regular access route for heavy plant and machinery from a safety point for pedestrians, cyclists and horses but in addition the convenience of local residents. The area is designated Green Belt and the immediate surroundings of the site a haven for wildlife with a wide range of birds. As such the imposition of an industrial site would be totally inappropriate. A great deal of resentment was expressed at the meeting, and at the previous May meeting, as the applicant had already felled many trees at the site during the nesting season for birds. This had been noted to have had an adverse effect on wildlife in the area with distressed woodpeckers immediately after the tree felling, and it was presumed that the applicant had the expectation of a successful outcome to his planning application.

I hope that the concerns expressed at the Community Council meeting will be taken into account when considering this application.

Yours sincerely,

Dr.P.M.Trust. Convenor Cardross Community Council.

