

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 22 January 2021 10:02
To: localplan
Subject: Local Biodiversity Sites

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Dear Sir and Madam

Local Biodiversity Site - Redpath Moss - Grid reference: NT599366

It is with frustration and sadness that I raise a number of significant challenges to the proposal as presented by The Wildlife Information Centre and Scottish Borders Council. As a Borderer, farmer, businessman and keen environmentalist I am disappointed that our homes and businesses have been treated with such disregard. I feel passionately that this is not the way forward and would ask for a complete change of approach. I would suggest that the Borders moves to a new model where the foundations are partnership, support, encouragement and reward. Working together positively is the best way to achieve success in such areas, something that the farming community has been doing for a number of years. The following link, although not directly related the Local Development plan, shows in a video the benefits of The Park Farm in such partnerships - [Land-based - DYW - Borders](#). I strongly believe that the approach of TWIC and SBC directly undermines the goodwill, support and investment of a business like The Park Farm.

As the farmer at [REDACTED], I therefore raise a number of significant issues with the proposal as presented by The Wildlife Information Centre and Scottish Borders Council; most of these are relevant to all farmers affected by the proposal, as well as our own individual situation:

1. The proposal for adoption has no legal standing
2. The proposal for adoption was presented without any consultation
3. The proposal for adoption has significant Health and Safety issues associated with it
4. The proposal for adoption was without consideration for the rights of the farmer
5. The proposal for adoption is based on SNH guidance that is over 15 years old
6. The proposal for adoption is not based on accurate information
7. The proposal for adoption demonstrates a lack of understanding of the whole effort required to ensure the long term environmental success of the proposed site, it is part of a larger ecosystem
8. The proposal for adoption does not demonstrate any financial model that would enable such a proposal to be of benefit to Park Farm
9. The proposal for adoption undermines, and puts at significant risk, the positive environmental partnerships that already exists
10. The proposal for adoption has already created significant cost and stress for the farmer
11. The proposal for adoption shows no understanding of the emerging carbon economy and as such could result in future claims for loss against Scottish Borders Council
12. The proposal for adoption does not support farmers who have developed, invested and protected biodiversity
13. The Proposal for adoption has no consideration for the farming business

The above is not an exhaustive list of the issues but I hope it highlights some of the concerns that exist in the farming and rural business community. I hope that we can put this proposal behind us and work to ensure positive engagement for the benefit of the environment, nature and jobs.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you would like to discuss this in more detail and I would be delighted to assist being this to a satisfactory conclusion.

Yours faithfully

[Redacted signature]

Partner of Barlow Farming Company, a family run farm based in the Scottish Borders.

Anthony Barlow is passionate about the Borders and has worked extremely hard to benefit the local economy. He is the owner or founder of six companies in the South of Scotland, with a skilled workforce of over 100 people. In addition, to his business commitments he is involved in the following initiatives: Borders Regional STEM Hub Steering Group; South of Scotland Digital Skills Hub; DYW Borders Board (EX Chair) and National Advisory Group - Developing the Young Workforce.

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