

## The Planning Inspectorate

### COMMENTS ON CASE (Online Version)

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**Appeal Reference: APP/J9497/C/16/3146597**

#### DETAILS OF THE CASE

Appeal Reference

APP/J9497/C/16/3146597

Appeal By

MR DOUG KING-SMITH

Site Address

The Hillyfield  
Hillyfield Plantation and Tom's Brake, Land Lying South of Harbournford.  
South Brent  
Devon  
Grid Ref Easting: 271877  
Grid Ref Northing: 062264

#### SENDER DETAILS

Name

MISS ELLA SPARKS

Address

112 Queens Road  
Wimbledon, London  
LONDON  
SW19 8LS

#### ABOUT YOUR COMMENTS

In what capacity do you wish to make representations on this case?

- Appellant
- Agent
- Interested Party / Person
- Land Owner
- Rule 6 (6)

What kind of representation are you making?

- Final Comments
- Proof of Evidence
- Statement
- Statement of Common Ground
- Interested Party/Person Correspondence
- Other

**COMMENT DOCUMENTS**

**The documents listed below were uploaded with this form:**

**Relates to Section:** REPRESENTATION .  
**Document Description:** Your comments on the appeal.  
**File name:** Letter to support Hillyfield.doc

**PLEASE ENSURE THAT A COPY OF THIS SHEET IS ENCLOSED WHEN POSTING THE ABOVE DOCUMENTS TO US**

Ella Sparks  
112 Queens road,  
Wimbledon,  
London,  
SW19 8LS

**Appeal Reference number: APP/J9497/C/16/3146596, 3146597, and 3140928**

Address: The Hillyfield, Land Lying South of Harbourneford: Hillyfield Plantation and Tom's Brake, South Brent, Devon.

I support the appellant in appealing against the enforcement notice, and in support for granting the prior notification for two forestry buildings for the drying of timber and storage of machinery.

I spent over two months staying and working at the Hillyfield as a residential seasonal forestry worker (Oct & November 2015, Jan & Feb 2016) and have also volunteered at the monthly volunteer weekends. During my stay as a residential volunteer I stayed in the Yurt and participated daily in a range of forestry work including; assisting tree felling, clearing brash, tackling invasive species in undergrowth, processing firewood and sawmill timber. Before coming to the Hillyfield I had very little forestry experience and came from an urban background. I really wanted the opportunity to spend some time in nature and gain some new skills to help me make a transition to a different employment sector and way of life.

I feel very fortunate to have been able to have been able to experience such a beautiful site whilst gaining experience in sustainable forestry management working alongside Doug. I definitely feel the new skills I gained whilst at the Hillyfield helped me both find paid work on a tree nursery and later gain a place on a practical residency in sustainable horticulture (that I am now undertaking). Doug's support and careful management helped me gain confidence in myself and improve my leadership skills, especially when I was able to help lead the weekend volunteer days. Before coming I knew very little about the importance of regenerating woodland and sustainable forestry management practices (such as maximising wildlife habitats and protecting nesting birds by careful timing of different activities). Inspired by Doug's work I want to become more actively involved in woodland work having since witnessed many unmanged woods and seen the need for woodland regeneration on Dartmoor. I also witnessed how grateful many customers were to be able to buy dry local sustainably sourced firewood, demonstrating a local demand for the work Doug does.

Doug is very hard working dedicating a lot of energy, time and resources to try and protect and maintain the Hillyfield trying to make a marginal livelihood from the essential woodland work. I witnessed the need for lots of people working together on jobs such as tree felling and brash clearing to ensure a tidy job is completed without unnecessary ecosystem damage being done (especially on a steep wooded site).

I can confirm that the work occurs in all weathers (wet, windy, snowy) making a simple 'weather-proof' shelter (the crew tent) invaluable to have breaks/lunch in. Whilst stacking wood in very wet conditions, I appreciated the need to have a wood shelter for the final dry. As a female having a compost toilet made working on site practical, especially at the busier volunteer days with lots of workers on site. A place for the volunteer seasonal forestry workers to stay on the land means a much broader group of people are given the opportunity to come and work. Without the crew tent (kitchen), compost toilet or yurt, I (and not doubt many others too) would not have been able to come to the Hillyfield, a thought which greatly saddens me. For many people the 'live in' volunteering opportunities provided at the Hillyfield could be the only opportunity available to engage with woodland work, whilst witnessing the beauty of Dartmoor. Doug is very clear that you only stay for the length of time you work as a seasonal forestry worker, and I can confirm that there was nobody staying on site during my stays who was not working hard daily in the woods.

It has been beautiful to witness the interactions between volunteers from all walks of life and ages, connecting with nature whilst learning useful skills, helping spread sustainable forestry practices further. I meet many other people volunteering all who had been positively transformed in some way by the woods and the work completed on site. The monthly volunteer days, help make the woods a community asset, enjoyed by many. I really hope the amazing work carried out by Doug can continue and that many other volunteers like myself can continue to be enriched by the site.

Ella Sparks



We live locally, just across the road from the Hillyfield. We have used wood from the Hillyfield for our wood burner and we often walk in the Woods as well when it's possible.

We really value the way the Hillyfield is run with sensitivity to the species in the wood and the control of disease in the trees. The Hillyfield is a wonderful place, a woodland sanctuary for wildlife and trees. We love being able to walk there, and to enjoy the trees as they change through the seasons, and the river. We also enjoy having a working woodland nearby and having access to locally grown wood.

We support the application for a timber drying barn and machinery store. We understand the importance of wood being dry and how that facility will be a huge help to the Hillyfield both as a local source for wood and a working woodland. We feel that DNP have not fully taken on board the importance of a wood drying barn for planks and firewood. We get a great deal of rain in this area and the ground gets very damp and sodden. Having wood unprotected or simply covered with tarpaulins does not dry wood enough for burning or for use as timber, and risks rot and complete waste of a resource.

We are quite appalled that DNP seems to be setting out to destroy a beautiful natural site and how unsupportive they are of a local project to heal the diseased wood and to provide experience for people interested in this work, as well as the opportunity for local people to volunteer and be part of a developing woodland.

We know that Doug King-Smith is deeply committed to looking after this land, sensitively and creatively, and in as green a way as possible. We also know he welcomes local support and interest and is keen on the Hillyfield being more than just an industry but a place which can be managed for the benefit of the whole community. This negative attitude to every plan he proposes will drive this worthy young man and his family bankrupt. Without Doug's presence the Hillyfield will be thrown open to huge contractors, burning masses of diesel and using over sized vehicles on these small roads and destroying the peace of this quiet and beautiful place just inside the borders of the national park.

Please work with Doug King-Smith and not against him to protect this precious piece of woodland.

Dear Sir/Madam

I am a customer of Doug King-Smith and purchase my firewood from the Hillyfield. He offers an excellent service and my firewood is delivered to my house dry and well seasoned. Anyone who heats their home with wood knows that it must be seasoned for six to twelve months before it is suitable to use. I am very happy to be able to buy my supplies from a reliable local sustainable source. Many people are having wood burners fitted in their homes as part of a choice to use more sustainable fuel, and the demand for seasoned logs is growing. This product cannot be provided without suitable dry storage to season the logs.

The 2004 Planning Act states that "the promotion of sustainable development is the main objective of the planning system. In simple terms it is development that helps protect the environmental qualities and the natural resources of an area, maintains social and community vitality and sustains economic opportunities so that these qualities, benefits and opportunities will be available to others in the future".

The Regional Spatial Strategy for the South West states that "development will only be provided for where it would conserve and enhance the natural beauty, wildlife and cultural heritage or promote the understanding and enjoyment of the special qualities of Dartmoor National Park or where it would foster the social or economic well-being of the communities within the National Park and is compatible with the pursuit of National Park purposes".

Doug King-Smith, along with his volunteers, have been working hard for the last 4 years to remove all the diseased larch from the plantation area of the Hillyfield, and to replant native species in its place, greatly enhancing the natural beauty and wildlife not supported by larch plantations. In order to carry out this work, the work must be supported by a viable business which requires the essential buildings under question.

I have been lucky enough to visit the Hillyfield on one of their open days and greatly admire the hard work which has gone into it, the educational opportunities in sustainable land use, and appreciate the opportunity to experience sheer beauty of the place.

I am more than surprised that the National Park Authority seems to be set on sabotaging this small, local, sustainable business. I believe that small sustainable businesses which have a positive impact on the environment should be an increasing part of our rural economies and should be encouraged. I am surprised that the National Park are not actively encouraging such activity, as it seems this is part of its remit, and that instead of their negative stance, they should be setting out to assist those involved in doing work which "helps protect the environmental qualities and the natural resources of an area, maintains social and community vitality and sustains economic opportunities so that these qualities, benefits and opportunities will be available to others in the future".





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#### DETAILS OF THE CASE

Appeal Reference

APP/J9497/C/16/3146597

Appeal By

MR DOUG KING-SMITH

Site Address

The Hillyfield  
Hillyfield Plantation and Tom's Brake, Land Lying South of Harbournford.  
South Brent  
Devon  
Grid Ref Easting: 271877  
Grid Ref Northing: 062264

#### SENDER DETAILS

Name

MRS HARRIET LAKE THOMAS

Address

5 Market Street  
BUCKFASTLEIGH  
TQ11 0BA

#### ABOUT YOUR COMMENTS

In what capacity do you wish to make representations on this case?

- Appellant
- Agent
- Interested Party / Person
- Land Owner
- Rule 6 (6)

What kind of representation are you making?

- Final Comments
- Proof of Evidence
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- Other

## YOUR COMMENTS ON THE CASE

I, Harriet Lake Thomas, of 5 Market Street, TQ110BA, support the appellant in appealing against the enforcement notices in cases 3145596 and 3140928, and against the refusal of prior notification for two forestry buildings for the drying of timber and storage of machinery in case 3146597.

Share if you have personal experience at Hillyfield either working, visiting, or buying product - share it:

Let the inspector know if you believe:

- The Hillyfield is a genuine forestry business serving the local community by actively managing the woods and providing firewood and home-grown timber. This has many benefits for the environment, community, and rural economy.

- State that you think that we should be granted permission for the wood-drying barn and the machinery store which we need to run a small-scale sustainable rural business.

-it's the wood that pays that stays - How can The Hillyfield keep looking after the land if it cannot run a successful business and does not have the infrastructure it needs?

DNPA are enforcing against all the structures at Hillyfield - but surely there is an obvious forestry need for them:

- 1) The temporary wood-stores (needed to dry firewood and planks before sale)
- 2) The tool lorry (needed to keep tools safe and dry)
- 3) The workshop (needed to fix stuff and sharpen saws and work out of the rain)
- 4) The compost loos (needed to... and beneficial for compost for orchard and soft-fruit)
- 5) The caravans and yurt (needed for seasonal forest workers)
- 6) The field kitchen (needed for volunteer days and seasonal forest workers)

-Share what you think about the place:

In no way does it offer a visual intrusion on the park - it can't be seen from anywhere public and the structures are in keeping with the landscape and are built sensitively to make minimal impact.

Share if you have personal experience at Hillyfield either working, visiting, or buying product - share it:

Let the inspector know if you believe:

- The Hillyfield is a genuine forestry business serving the local community by actively managing the woods and providing firewood and home-grown timber. This has many benefits for the environment, community, and rural economy.

- State that you think that we should be granted permission for the wood-drying barn and the machinery store which we need to run a small-scale sustainable rural business.

-it's the wood that pays that stays --How can The Hillyfield keep looking after the land if it cannot run a successful business and does not have the infrastructure it needs?

DNPA are enforcing against all the structures at Hillyfield - but surely there is an obvious forestry need for them:

- 1) The temporary wood-stores (needed to dry firewood and planks before sale)
- 2) The tool lorry (needed to keep tools safe and dry)
- 3) The workshop (needed to fix stuff and sharpen saws and work out of the rain)
- 4) The compost loos (needed to... and beneficial for compost for orchard and soft-fruit)

- 5) The caravans and yurt (needed for seasonal forest workers)
- 6) The field kitchen (needed for volunteer days and seasonal forest workers)

-Share what you think about the place:

In no way does it offer a visual intrusion on the park - it can't be seen from anywhere public and the structures are in keeping with the landscape and are built sensitively to make minimal impact.

After Spending time with Doug and his family and seeing what he doing with his land I can see how much respect he has for the forest and the pride he takes in the local economy and community. The Hillyfield is a genuine forestry business serving the local community by actively managing the woods and providing firewood and home-grown timber. This has many benefits for the environment, community, and rural economy. Therefore, they should be granted permission for the wood-drying barn and the machinery store which we need to run a small-scale sustainable rural business. If Doug doesn't receive permission the how can The Hillyfield keep looking after the land if it cannot run a successful business and does not have the infrastructure it needs? In no way does it offer a visual intrusion on the park - it can't be seen from anywhere public and the structures are in keeping with the landscape and are built sensitively to make minimal impact.

To put this much stress on his business and family is unfair when he is well within the park rules. I hope you can see how the community and economy need people like Doug and what he's doing with his land is inspirational.

Kind Regards,  
Harriet Lake Thomas



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**Appeal Reference: APP/J9497/C/16/3146597**

#### DETAILS OF THE CASE

Appeal Reference: **APP/J9497/C/16/3146597**

Appeal By: **MR DOUG KING-SMITH**

Site Address: **The Hillyfield  
Hillyfield Plantation and Tom's Brake, Land Lying South of Harbournford,  
South Brent  
Devon  
Grid Ref Easting: 271877  
Grid Ref Northing: 062264**

#### SENDER DETAILS

Name: **MS KATE GREEN**

Address: **Studio Flat B  
10 Bank Lane  
TOTNES  
DEVON  
TQ9 5EH**

#### ABOUT YOUR COMMENTS

In what capacity do you wish to make representations on this case?

- Appellant
- Agent
- Interested Party / Person
- Land Owner
- Rule 6 (6)

What kind of representation are you making?

- Final Comments
- Proof of Evidence
- Statement
- Statement of Common Ground
- Interested Party/Person Correspondence



Other

**YOUR COMMENTS ON THE CASE**

Appeal Reference number APP/J9497/C/16/3146597

Re: The Hillyfield, Land Lying South of Harbournford: Hillyfield Plantation and Tom's Brake, South Brent, Devon

I, Kate Green of Studio Flat B, 10 Bank Lane, Totnes, Devon, TQ95EH

support the appellant in appealing against the enforcement notices in cases 3146596 and 3140928, and against the refusal of prior notification for two forestry buildings for the drying of timber and storage of machinery in case 3146597. The Hillyfield is a genuine forestry business serving the local community by actively managing the woods and providing firewood and home-grown timber. This has many benefits for the environment, community, and rural economy. I think that the appellant should be granted permission for the wood-drying barn and the machinery store which they need to run a small-scale sustainable rural business. How can The Hillyfield keep looking after the land if it cannot run a successful business and does not have the infrastructure it needs? Surely there is an obvious forestry need for the following:

- 1) The temporary wood-stores (needed to dry firewood and planks before sale)
- 2) The tool lorry (needed to keep tools safe and dry)
- 3) The workshop (needed to fix stuff and sharpen saws and work out of the rain)
- 4) The compost loos (needed to... and beneficial for compost for orchard and soft-fruit)
- 5) The caravans and yurt (needed for seasonal forest workers)
- 6) The field kitchen (needed for volunteer days and seasonal forest workers)

This would NOT offer a visual intrusion on the park - it can't be seen from anywhere public and the structures are in keeping with the landscape and are built sensitively to make minimal impact.

It is vital that we take care of our woods - without well managed woods we lose biodiversity, we waste resources, and we lose touch with the land which can nourish us so deeply. 45% of all privately owned woodlands are either in neglect or critically under-managed. This is directly linked to a significant loss of biodiversity as woodland management practices changed over the last 50 years. This appeal isn't just about the Hillyfield... it's about setting a positive example to help other people bring woodlands back into active management, engage the community, and help develop a culture of wood on Dartmoor and throughout the UK.

I urge you to re consider and grant Hillyfield the permission they so vitally require.

Yours faithfully, Kate Green

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#### DETAILS OF THE CASE

Appeal Reference

APP/J9497/C/16/3146597

Appeal By

MR DOUG KING-SMITH

Site Address

The Hillyfield  
Hillyfield Plantation and Tom's Brake, Land Lying South of Harbournford.  
South Brent  
Devon  
Grid Ref Easting: 271877  
Grid Ref Northing: 062264

#### SENDER DETAILS

Name

MR PHILIP CHANDLER

Address

High Street  
Totnes  
Devon  
TQ9 5NP

#### ABOUT YOUR COMMENTS

In what capacity do you wish to make representations on this case?

- Appellant
- Agent
- Interested Party / Person
- Land Owner
- Rule 6 (6)

What kind of representation are you making?

- Final Comments
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- Other

**YOUR COMMENTS ON THE CASE**

**Appeal Reference number APP/J9497/C/16/3146596, 3146597, and 3140928**

**The Hillyfield, Land Lying South of Harbournford: Hillyfield Plantation and Tom's Brake, South Brent, Devon**

**I, Philip Chandler, of 31b High Street, Totnes, Devon, support the appellant in appealing against the enforcement notices in cases 3146596 and 3140928, and against the refusal of prior notification for two forestry buildings for the drying of timber and storage of machinery in case 3146597.**

- 1. The appellant's livelihood depends on being able to use temporary structures in order to store and dry timber.**
- 2. Such temporary structures have virtually no environmental impact and only make use of natural and renewable materials.**
- 3. The construction and use of such structures is entirely in keeping with current carbon-neutral, low-impact planning law.**



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## The Planning Inspectorate

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**Appeal Reference: APP/J9497/C/16/3146597**

#### DETAILS OF THE CASE

Appeal Reference	APP/J9497/C/16/3146597
Appeal By	MR DOUG KING-SMITH
Site Address	The Hillyfield Hillyfield Plantation and Tom's Brake, Land Lying South of Harbourneford. South Brent Devon Grid Ref Easting: 271877 Grid Ref Northing: 062264

#### SENDER DETAILS

Name	MR BOB WALLEY
Address	Boat Northern Sky, Ponsharden Boatyard Ponsharden PENRYN TR10 8AB

#### ABOUT YOUR COMMENTS

In what capacity do you wish to make representations on this case?

- Appellant
- Agent
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- Land Owner
- Rule 6 (6)

What kind of representation are you making?

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## YOUR COMMENTS ON THE CASE

The Hillyfield land is a genuine forestry business serving the local community by actively managing the woods and providing firewood and home-grown timber.

This has many benefits for the environment, community, and rural economy.

I think that those at Hillyfield should be granted permission for the wood-drying barn and the machinery store which they need to run a small-scale sustainable rural business.

How can The Hillyfield keep looking after the land if it cannot run a successful business and does not have the infrastructure it needs?

DNPA are enforcing against all the structures at Hillyfield - but surely there is an obvious forestry need for them:

- 1) The temporary wood-stores (needed to dry firewood and planks before sale)
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- 4) The compost loos (needed to... and beneficial for compost for orchard and soft-fruit)
- 5) The caravans and yurt (needed for seasonal forest workers)
- 6) The field kitchen (needed for volunteer days and seasonal forest workers)

In no way does it offer a visual intrusion on the park - it can't be seen from anywhere public and the structures are in keeping with the landscape and are built sensitively to make minimal impact.

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## The Planning Inspectorate

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**Appeal Reference: APP/J9497/C/16/3146597**

#### DETAILS OF THE CASE

Appeal Reference	APP/J9497/C/16/3146597
Appeal By	MR DOUG KING-SMITH
Site Address	The Hillyfield Hillyfield Plantation and Tom's Brake, Land Lying South of Harbournford. South Brent Devon Grid Ref Easting: 271877 Grid Ref Northing: 062264

#### SENDER DETAILS

Name	MR SUNE NIGHTINGALE
Address	Capton Spring Capton DARTMOUTH TQ6 0JE

#### ABOUT YOUR COMMENTS

In what capacity do you wish to make representations on this case?

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- Agent
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- Rule 6 (6)

What kind of representation are you making?

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**YOUR COMMENTS ON THE CASE**

**Appeal Reference number APP/J9497/C/16/3146596, 3146597, and 3140928**

**My comments relate to The Hillyfield, Land Lying South of Harbournford: Hillyfield Plantation and Tom's Brake, South Brent, Devon**

**I, Sune nightingale, of caption spring, tq6 0je, support the appellant in appealing against the enforcement notices in cases 3146596 and 3140928, and against the refusal of prior notification for two forestry buildings for the drying of timber and storage of machinery in case 3146597.**

**Additionally I sourced a great quantity of timber from this woodland for use as flooring and structural timber when building a house. It was of exceptional quality. I plan to source again for my next project but will not be able to do so if this business has its hands tied.**

**I do not understand why this small business is not being encouraged, let alone having obstacles thrown in it's path. Entrepreneurship, woodland regeneration, community cohesion, meeting the woodfuel strategy, production of local renewable building materials are all aspects of this business.**

**Please reconsider and instead of opposing this business actively support it.**

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Appeal By

MR DOUG KING-SMITH

Site Address

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Hillyfield Plantation and Tom's Brake, Land Lying South of Harbourneford.  
South Brent  
Devon  
Grid Ref Easting: 271877  
Grid Ref Northing: 062264

#### SENDER DETAILS

Name

MRS ANNABEL ALLISON

Address

89 Station Road  
OKEHAMPTON  
EX20 1ED

#### ABOUT YOUR COMMENTS

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- Agent
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- Land Owner
- Rule 6 (6)

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- Other

**YOUR COMMENTS ON THE CASE**

Dear Sir/Madam

I support the appellant in appealing against the enforcement notice, and against refusal of prior notification for two forestry buildings for the drying of timber and storage of machinery.

At the top of The Dartmoor National Parks agenda is to bring neglected woodland back into management. Also the DPA is there to protect and encourage employment and livelihood. Hillyfield are ticking both those boxes. I simply cannot understand why you are not supporting them and holding them up as a great example of land management.

I have visited The Hillyfield. I was impressed to see so many volunteers out working the woodland. The extent of the reforestation program is ambitious. Doug and Claire also understand the need for people to have access to the land, a need highlighted by the National Trust's '50 things' campaign. Nature deficit disorder is a growing concern and a recent survey found that some young people spend less time outside than inmates in prison. Doug is ticking so many boxes and doing some joined up thinking; Providing land based opportunities, preserving heritage skills, producing sustainable and local firewood and timber, holding events to raise awareness of land based issues, improving biodiversity, getting people out on the land. None of these things are to make him rich quickly. This is a labour of love that he is trying to turn into a functioning business. Why would you want to stand in his way?

Your sincerely

Annabel Allison



**Eland, Paul**

---

**From:** IRENE DURAN MUÑOZ <irune\_92i@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** 18 May 2016 16:35  
**To:** Team E1

The Hillyfield, Land Lying South of Harbournford: Hillyfield Plantation and Tom's Brake, South Brent, Devon

I, Irene Duran Muñoz , of Mislata-Valencia (Spain), address: Almacil, 5, 12

Support the appellant in appealing against the enforcement notices in cases 3146596 and 3140928, and against the refusal of prior notification for two forestry buildings for the drying of timber and storage of machinery in case 3146597.

My cousin Adolfo has been working as a wwoofer with Doug at The Hillyfield and he always talked me about the wonderful and really strong dynamic asset to the landscape and indeed to the biodiversity of the site. Unfortunately, my dearest cousin died on February and because of that all the family have recently visited the beautiful place of The Hillyfield that he had talked so much about. We support The Hillyfield because it has been a wonderful opportunity to work and support such a good project for my cousin and for other people and because it's a genuine forestry business serving the local community by actively managing the woods and providing firewood and home-grown timber. This has many benefits for the environment, community, and rural economy.

Yours respectfully,

Irene Duran Muñoz

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#### DETAILS OF THE CASE

Appeal Reference

APP/J9497/W/15/3140928

Appeal By

MR DOUG KING-SMITH

Site Address

Land lying south of Harbournford  
Hillyfield Plantation & Tom's Brake  
SOUTH BRENT  
Devon  
TQ10 9DT  
Grid Ref Easting: 271920  
Grid Ref Northing: 062289

#### SENDER DETAILS

Name

MR ALEX TEMPEST

Address

2 Broom Park  
Dartington  
Totnes  
Devon  
TQ9 6JR

Company/Group/Organisation Name

The Woodlands Present CIC

#### ABOUT YOUR COMMENTS

In what capacity do you wish to make representations on this case?

- Appellant
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- Interested Party / Person
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#### YOUR COMMENTS ON THE CASE

As a local organisation promoting active management of Devon's woodlands it is most disturbing to see the stance taken by the Dartmoor National Park authority in this case.

Over 45% of privately owned woodlands in Devon are 'undermanaged', I do hope you realise the seriousness of this situation. Essentially, this means, less jobs, less wildlife, less rural culture, less ecological resilience, and less bio-diversity in our county. The Hillyfield is clearly doing exemplary work to buck this trend, and generate ecological and economic benefit to the area and build on its historic culture of woodmanship. Instead of supporting this crucial work, you instead choose to deny means to make its forestry work viable.

Networks of small woodland timber producers who process timber on site are perhaps Britain's only hope of re-generating a national industry that has declined at a rate beyond comparison. The DNP has a massive responsibility to promote such sustainable forestry practice in its district, and increase forest cover. Denying a timber producer a barn is like denying a cheese-maker a fridge. Timber needs to dry before it is saleable at accrued value, there is no alternative means of doing so than by having a consistently dry space, big enough to store the timber in. This is not a case of a small business making a greedy request, it is an integral and required element to any small woodland wishing to use the trees it cuts down. The fact that the current felling happening at the Hillyfield is in efforts to prevent disease spreading further into the moor should be reason enough to warrant the controlled storage of timber alone.

Please be aware that this decision is not just 'an isolated case', it is representative of the Dartmoor National Park's attitude towards forestry and woodland enterprise. It is deeply concerning that the DNP is actively stopping the care of trees and forest eco-systems in this case. An integrated processing-chain from tree to product, is the only viable means to run this enterprise which is equally committed to the ecological stewardship of the land. It is a total miscalculation to deliberately intervene in the success of such activity when the benefits so massively outweigh the costs and impact.

This decision is not supported by our organization or by ourselves as community members and customers of the Hillyfield. Furthermore it does not seem to fit with the stated objectives of the DNP authority. We strongly request an immediate overturn of this decision.

For official use only (date received): 12/03/2016 07:50:54

## The Planning Inspectorate

### COMMENTS ON CASE (Online Version)

Please note that comments about this case need to be made within the timetable. This can be found in the notification letter sent by the local planning authority or the start date letter. Comments submitted after the deadline may be considered invalid and returned to sender.

**Appeal Reference: APP/J9497/W/15/3140928**

#### DETAILS OF THE CASE

Appeal Reference

APP/J9497/W/15/3140928

Appeal By

MR DOUG KING-SMITH

Site Address

Land lying south of Harbournford  
Hillyfield Plantation & Tom's Brake  
SOUTH BRENT  
Devon  
TQ10 9DT  
Grid Ref Easting: 271920  
Grid Ref Northing: 062289

#### SENDER DETAILS

Name

MISS LYNSEY TIPLADY

Address

37 Smithfields  
TOTNES  
TQ9 5LR

#### ABOUT YOUR COMMENTS

In what capacity do you wish to make representations on this case?

- Appellant
- Agent
- Interested Party / Person
- Land Owner
- Rule 6 (6)

What kind of representation are you making?

- Final Comments
- Proof of Evidence
- Statement
- Statement of Common Ground
- Interested Party/Person Correspondence
- Other

**YOUR COMMENTS ON THE CASE**

Sorry this is late but please consider this . I feel very confused by the decision that has been made . When people manage woodland and in the case of the hilly field have to cut down so many trees the wood is rendered totally useless without shelter . In previous years I have had wet wood from Doug and much as I have wanted to support this amazing woodland it's not been good wood . This year it was dry , what a joy that this wood can now be put to good use . The hillyfield affects nobody down a long track the barns are not seen by anyone and serve a really needed function .surely this can be seen,. The barns are needed to support the people who are managing these lands otherwise who else will look after and chop down all those trees

For official use only (date received): 19/03/2016 16:38:22

## The Planning Inspectorate

### COMMENTS ON CASE (Online Version)

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**Appeal Reference: APP/J9497/W/15/3140928**

#### DETAILS OF THE CASE

Appeal Reference: APP/J9497/W/15/3140928

Appeal By: MR DOUG KING-SMITH

Site Address:  
Land lying south of Harbourneford  
Hillyfield Plantation & Tom's Brake  
SOUTH BRENT  
Devon  
TQ10 9DT  
Grid Ref Easting: 271920  
Grid Ref Northing: 062289

#### SENDER DETAILS

Name: MR ADRIAN LEAMAN

Address:  
2 churchfield cottages  
churchfield road  
stroud  
GL5 1EL

Company/Group/Organisation Name: wholewoods

#### ABOUT YOUR COMMENTS

In what capacity do you wish to make representations on this case?

- Appellant
- Agent
- Interested Party / Person
- Land Owner
- Rule 6 (6)

What kind of representation are you making?

- Final Comments
- Proof of Evidence
- Statement

- Statement of Common Ground
- Interested Party/Person Correspondence
- Other

**YOUR COMMENTS ON THE CASE**

Wholewoods build and install outdoor classrooms in the Devon. We are often in need of milled larch for these building projects. In the past we have purchased these from Hill Field Forestry. However These products are sometimes in less than perfect condition due to having been stored outside. If producer where able to store the processed wood properly undercover we would be much happier continuing to trade with them. I fully support this producer being able to have covered storage and milling area as a requirement of normal forestry opperations which I would expect any reputable trader needs in order to be competative and supply quality products. Yours Adrian Leaman



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## The Planning Inspectorate

### COMMENTS ON CASE (Online Version)

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**Appeal Reference: APP/J9497/W/15/3140928**

#### DETAILS OF THE CASE

Appeal Reference

APP/J9497/W/15/3140928

Appeal By

MR DOUG KING-SMITH

Site Address

Land lying south of Harbournford  
Hillyfield Plantation & Tom's Brake  
SOUTH BRENT  
Devon  
TQ10 9DT  
Grid Ref Easting: 271920  
Grid Ref Northing: 062289

#### SENDER DETAILS

Name

MR ADRIAN ANTRUM

Address

Sandhya  
Rattery  
SOUTH BRENT  
TQ10 9LF

#### ABOUT YOUR COMMENTS

In what capacity do you wish to make representations on this case?

- Appellant
- Agent
- Interested Party / Person
- Land Owner
- Rule 6 (6)

What kind of representation are you making?

- Final Comments
- Proof of Evidence
- Statement
- Statement of Common Ground
- Interested Party/Person Correspondence

Other

**YOUR COMMENTS ON THE CASE**

I am deeply concerned to learn of the rejection of Hillyfields application for a drying barn and machinery store as an essential part of their forestry business. Hillyfield is an outstanding example of a group of volunteers who care deeply about the ecology of our woodlands and actively encourage the education of it's importance engaging the local community in it's work. To continue with this Community service and the care and replenishment of Hillyfield land, the logging and sale of firewood is essential to Hillyfields sustainability. I urge you to reconsider this decision to support this community of volunteers

but also it will remove any criticism of Dartmoor National Trust as insensitive and autocratic towards life enhancing projects.

Yours sincerely, Mr Adrian Antrum & Mrs Daphne Antrum.



For official use only (date received): 07/03/2016 16:33:07

## The Planning Inspectorate

### COMMENTS ON CASE (Online Version)

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**Appeal Reference: APP/J9497/W/15/3140928**

#### DETAILS OF THE CASE

Appeal Reference	APP/J9497/W/15/3140928
Appeal By	MR DOUG KING-SMITH
Site Address	Land lying south of Harbournford Hillyfield Plantation & Tom's Brake SOUTH BRENT Devon TQ10 9DT Grid Ref Easting: 271920 Grid Ref Northing: 062289

#### SENDER DETAILS

Name	MISS KAREN EVANS
Address	6 Punchards Down TOTNES TQ9 5FB

#### ABOUT YOUR COMMENTS

In what capacity do you wish to make representations on this case?

- Appellant
- Agent
- Interested Party / Person
- Land Owner
- Rule 6 (6)

What kind of representation are you making?

- Final Comments
- Proof of Evidence
- Statement
- Statement of Common Ground
- Interested Party/Person Correspondence
- Other

**YOUR COMMENTS ON THE CASE**

I am writing in support of the planning application for a wood drying barn. I have been buying wood from Hillyfield for a number of years. It is really important for me to know that the wood I am buying is from a carefully managed sustainable source. It is important for us all that sustainability and community projects are supported and encouraged. It is also EXTREMELY important that wood is well seasoned and DRY. I would say that a drying barn is essential to their work and encourage you to approve the application. Thank you

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## The Planning Inspectorate

### COMMENTS ON CASE (Online Version)

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**Appeal Reference: APP/J9497/W/15/3140928**

#### DETAILS OF THE CASE

Appeal Reference

APP/J9497/W/15/3140928

Appeal By

MR DOUG KING-SMITH

Site Address

Land lying south of Harbourneford  
Hillyfield Plantation & Tom's Brake  
SOUTH BRENT  
Devon  
TQ10 9DT  
Grid Ref Easting: 271920  
Grid Ref Northing: 062289

#### SENDER DETAILS

Name

MR DAVID WOODFORD

Address

Delamore  
Cornwood  
Ivybridge  
Devon  
PL21 9QT

#### ABOUT YOUR COMMENTS

In what capacity do you wish to make representations on this case?

- Appellant
- Agent
- Interested Party / Person
- Land Owner
- Rule 6 (6)

What kind of representation are you making?

- Final Comments
- Proof of Evidence
- Statement
- Statement of Common Ground

Interested Party/Person Correspondence

Other

#### YOUR COMMENTS ON THE CASE

I strongly support the need for barns to support forestry business as proposed in the original application. Aside from any expert opinion for or against the matter, practical experience of working on Dartmoor shows that a Drying Barn is essential. The owner of Brimpts Farm/ Dartmoor Woodfuel Coop has stated that his business would not have survived without his drying barn given the exceptional rainfall experienced on Dartmoor. Furthermore I recently attended a briefing hosted by Sir Harry Studholm examining how to improve the return from woodland. It was clear from this that in order to make forestry viable for landowners value must be added early in the supply chain, i.e. some sort of processing at the earliest opportunity rather than selling standing wood at minimum value. The Government is supposedly keen to improve access to the countryside, improve the environment and bring woodland back into proper management, yet there appears to be little practical help for landowners to achieve this, indeed the harsh financial reality means that they are generally deterred from doing so. On the continent agriculture and silviculture are considered alongside each other leading to a far more harmonious land management approach yet in the UK proper consideration to the needs of forestry management is largely ignored. Mr King-Smith has taken on a significant responsibility by purchasing the woodland. Whilst he may derive a modest income from this investment, his contribution to the local community and to the improvement of the woodland is extremely significant as his personal contribution and cost. He has organised a number of fund raising events, volunteer days and training activities for woodland workers and is a shining example of how woodland management can be effective, yet he is being prevented from achieving full potential by what appears to be petty bureaucracy, poor planning advice and mind changing by the LPA. I note that objection to the Barns by the Parish Council was due to lack of suitable access. I believe this is a red herring. Suitable access i.e. for movement of forestry products, already exists. The requirement for access to the Hillyfield does not change as a result of the erection of a drying or machinery storage Barn. I am astonished that the LPA does not consider the drying barn necessary and can only assume that it never rains at Parke.

## The Planning Inspectorate

### COMMENTS ON CASE (Online Version)

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**Appeal Reference: APP/J9497/W/15/3140928**

#### DETAILS OF THE CASE

Appeal Reference

APP/J9497/W/15/3140928

Appeal By

MR DOUG KING-SMITH

Site Address

Land lying south of Harbournford  
Hillyfield Plantation & Tom's Brake  
SOUTH BRENT  
Devon  
TQ10 9DT  
Grid Ref Easting: 271920  
Grid Ref Northing: 062289

#### SENDER DETAILS

Name

MR JAY TOMPT

Address

7 somerset place  
totnes  
TQ9 5AX

#### ABOUT YOUR COMMENTS

In what capacity do you wish to make representations on this case?

- Appellant
- Agent
- Interested Party / Person
- Land Owner
- Rule 6 (6)

What kind of representation are you making?

- Final Comments
- Proof of Evidence
- Statement
- Statement of Common Ground
- Interested Party/Person Correspondence
- Other

**YOUR COMMENTS ON THE CASE**

The Hillyfield is actively restoring and regenerating the ancient woodland located there. A drying shed is absolutely essential for these efforts to be financially sustainable. But more than that, the importance of the operation there as a regenerative force for the woodland, the park, and the local economy, if they are able to develop their woodland business - with drying shed and associated machinery. This type of enterprise - one that is focused on developing woodland livelihoods, spreading adoption of sustainable woodland management practices, regenerating the land - is absolutely essential for the long term ecological health of Dartmoor. As a part of this local economic ecosystem myself, and having been to The Hillyfield on several occasions, I am convinced that their plans for a drying shed would be a net positive Dartmoor. Please grant their appeal.



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## The Planning Inspectorate

### COMMENTS ON CASE (Online Version)

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**Appeal Reference: APP/J9497/W/15/3140928**

#### DETAILS OF THE CASE

Appeal Reference **APP/J9497/W/15/3140928**

Appeal By **MR DOUG KING-SMITH**

Site Address  
**Land lying south of Harbourneford  
Hillyfield Plantation & Tom's Brake  
SOUTH BRENT  
Devon  
TQ10 9DT  
Grid Ref Easting: 271920  
Grid Ref Northing: 062289**

#### SENDER DETAILS

Name **MR NICK LEGG**

Address  
**Mill Cottage  
Harbourneford  
SOUTH BRENT  
TQ10 9DT**

#### ABOUT YOUR COMMENTS

In what capacity do you wish to make representations on this case?

- Appellant
- Agent
- Interested Party / Person
- Land Owner
- Rule 6 (6)

What kind of representation are you making?

- Final Comments
- Proof of Evidence
- Statement
- Statement of Common Ground
- Interested Party/Person Correspondence

Other

**YOUR COMMENTS ON THE CASE**

**We have lived in Harbourneford for more than 20 years.**

**We were greatly relieved when mr smith bought the woodlands and was intending to run it as a small sustainable enterprise involving the local residents.**

**We tried in the beginning to buy logs from the woodland but found due to there high water content ,had to stop, but mr smith approached us again saying that they now have a temporary drying facility and this was no longer a problem.**

**I gave it another go and the wood is now fantastic and all cut up to a sensible size for domestic use. Without these facilities the woodland is not viable and we would potentially lose a fantastic asset to out community.**

**I cannot understand why the park wishes to endanger such a positive enterprise**

**Previously the woodland was a sad and univiting place where private signs and unfriendly absent owners were the rule,**

**And a badly monaged woodland only partially used for pheasant shooting**

**Please reconsider this decision to save our woodland from that previous fate**

**Yours sincerely**

**Nick Legg**



For official use only (date received): 10/03/2016 02:21:17

## The Planning Inspectorate

### COMMENTS ON CASE (Online Version)

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**Appeal Reference: APP/J9497/W/15/3140928**

#### DETAILS OF THE CASE

Appeal Reference

Appeal By

Site Address

#### SENDER DETAILS

Name

Address

Company/Group/Organisation Name

#### ABOUT YOUR COMMENTS

In what capacity do you wish to make representations on this case?

- Appellant
- Agent
- Interested Party / Person
- Land Owner
- Rule 6 (6)

What kind of representation are you making?

- Final Comments
- Proof of Evidence
- Statement

- Statement of Common Ground
- Interested Party/Person Correspondence
- Other

**YOUR COMMENTS ON THE CASE**

ref APP/J9497/W/15/3140928

**As a local business, we bought exceptionally good quality timber from the Hillyfield to outfit our cafe in Newton Abbot. The service was unrivalled as this is a business that clearly cares a great deal about its impact on the local area and community. To obstruct the growth of such an exemplary small business is a crying shame.**

**Gianni Colace, Il vulcano**

## The Planning Inspectorate

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**Appeal Reference: APP/J9497/W/15/3140928**

#### DETAILS OF THE CASE

Appeal Reference

APP/J9497/W/15/3140928

Appeal By

MR DOUG KING-SMITH

Site Address

Land lying south of Harbournford  
Hillyfield Plantation & Tom's Brake  
SOUTH BRENT  
Devon  
TQ10 9DT  
Grid Ref Easting: 271920  
Grid Ref Northing: 062289

#### SENDER DETAILS

Name

MR DAVID BOLLAND

Address

9 Tamar Terrace  
SALTASH  
PL12 4EW

#### ABOUT YOUR COMMENTS

In what capacity do you wish to make representations on this case?

- Appellant
- Agent
- Interested Party / Person
- Land Owner
- Rule 6 (6)

What kind of representation are you making?

- Final Comments
- Proof of Evidence
- Statement
- Statement of Common Ground
- Interested Party/Person Correspondence
- Other

#### YOUR COMMENTS ON THE CASE

I have volunteered at hillyfield this winter to help fell the diseased larch. This woodland project is a joy to be part of. I run my own countryside contracting business ([dbcountrysideservices.com](http://dbcountrysideservices.com)) but choose to give up some days to help doug in his woodland. It is a shining example of how woodlands should be managed in a more sustainable and holistic manner. Not only does he manage his woodland in an environmentally sensitive way but he encourages the community to be involved whether through volunteer days or events.

Dartmoor National Park should be embracing this project and supporting its ethos. The mind boggles how a national park who claim promote conservation and sustainability should be refusing these essential structures to a woodland project who promote conservation and sustainability and much more.

For the business to be viable it needs to sell firewood and timber to fund the ongoing management. Locally sourced timber needs to be promoted to reduce the amount of timber imported into the country.

I have worked in the past for many conservation charities, the national trust being one. I have never seen a woodland managed so sensitively as this one at hillyfield.

With climate change and the vulnerability of the world economy projects like these will become a necessity for future generations.

Please support this project

regards

David Bolland

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## The Planning Inspectorate

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**Appeal Reference: APP/J9497/W/15/3140928**

#### DETAILS OF THE CASE

Appeal Reference	APP/J9497/W/15/3140928
Appeal By	MR DOUG KING-SMITH
Site Address	Land lying south of Harbournford Hillyfield Plantation & Tom's Brake SOUTH BRENT Devon TQ10 9DT Grid Ref Easting: 271920 Grid Ref Northing: 062289

#### SENDER DETAILS

Name	MR ANDREW LEITH
Address	3 Hood Cottages Dartington TOTNES TQ9 6AB

#### ABOUT YOUR COMMENTS

In what capacity do you wish to make representations on this case?

- Appellant
- Agent
- Interested Party / Person
- Land Owner
- Rule 6 (6)

What kind of representation are you making?

- Final Comments
- Proof of Evidence
- Statement
- Statement of Common Ground
- Interested Party/Person Correspondence

Other

**YOUR COMMENTS ON THE CASE**

**I have been a volunteer worker at Hillyfield and fully support their work and ethos. I support the application for a wood drying barn and machinery store. In my view, it is the job of DNPA to support an enterprise like this, which is committed to such a positive approach towards local ecology and community.**



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## The Planning Inspectorate

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**Appeal Reference: APP/J9497/W/15/3140928**

#### DETAILS OF THE CASE

Appeal Reference

APP/J9497/W/15/3140928

Appeal By

MR DOUG KING-SMITH

Site Address

Land lying south of Harbournford  
Hillyfield Plantation & Tom's Brake  
SOUTH BRENT  
Devon  
TQ10 9DT  
Grid Ref Easting: 271920  
Grid Ref Northing: 062289

#### SENDER DETAILS

Name

MR DAVID SPERO

Address

Flat B  
26 The Avenue  
London  
NW6 7YD

#### ABOUT YOUR COMMENTS

In what capacity do you wish to make representations on this case?

- Appellant
- Agent
- Interested Party / Person
- Land Owner
- Rule 6 (6)

What kind of representation are you making?

- Final Comments
- Proof of Evidence
- Statement
- Statement of Common Ground
- Interested Party/Person Correspondence



Other

**YOUR COMMENTS ON THE CASE**

I would like to register my support for this application for a wood drying barn+machinery store at Hillyfield and ask the DNP to do the same and give planning permission .

The sensitive and sustainable woodland forestry management practiced at Hillyfield, and the ability to make and supply dry wood locally is a prime example of ecological sustainability which deserves the support and prioritisation that is called for ' sustainable development' in National Planning Policy Framework.

By giving permission the DNP would also be helping support a instead of undermining a local community supported and integrated local business.

Yours Sincerely

David Spero

## The Planning Inspectorate

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**Appeal Reference: APP/J9497/W/15/3140928**

#### DETAILS OF THE CASE

Appeal Reference	APP/J9497/W/15/3140928
Appeal By	MR DOUG KING-SMITH
Site Address	Land lying south of Harbourneford Hillyfield Plantation & Tom's Brake SOUTH BRENT Devon TQ10 9DT Grid Ref Easting: 271920 Grid Ref Northing: 062289

#### SENDER DETAILS

Name	MR BEN BRYANT
Address	19 Station Road TOTNES TQ9 5JG

#### ABOUT YOUR COMMENTS

In what capacity do you wish to make representations on this case?

- Appellant
- Agent
- Interested Party / Person
- Land Owner
- Rule 6 (6)

What kind of representation are you making?

- Final Comments
- Proof of Evidence
- Statement
- Statement of Common Ground
- Interested Party/Person Correspondence
- Other

## YOUR COMMENTS ON THE CASE

Dear DNP

I am very disappointed to hear of your decision to deny the Hillyfield Woodland restoration project the planning consent to build a wood drying barn on the site. this facility is essential to make this excellent project sustainable so it can thrive and continue to be an exemplar and beacon in sustainable woodland management.. This project engages locally community with a passion and offers an excellent firewood service very beneficial to local people. It also offers learning and local community training opportunity in woodland management and is a hugely positively project for raising awareness of sustainable land use and woodland improvement.

As a supporter of the Hillyfield I can vouch for the immense benefits being brought about by this project but it cannot survive without support from local agencies and DNP. It merely proposes to be self sufficient and sustainable and a little consideration in your planning process towards this end would benefit DNP, its reputation and the wider community. This planning decision seems unfair to me and does not take into account the community and environmental benefit that is being garnered by a considerable amount of voluntary contribution and good will. This is not a profit making enterprise; it seeks to work with DNP for the greater good.

Thanks in anticipation of reconsidering this decision not to grant planning consent for the dry wood and machinery store at the Hillyfield.

Yours sincerely  
Ben Bryant

## The Planning Inspectorate

### COMMENTS ON CASE (Online Version)

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**Appeal Reference: APP/J9497/W/15/3140928**

#### DETAILS OF THE CASE

Appeal Reference

APP/J9497/W/15/3140928

Appeal By

MR DOUG KING-SMITH

Site Address

Land lying south of Harbourneford  
Hillyfield Plantation & Tom's Brake  
SOUTH BRENT  
Devon  
TQ10 9DT  
Grid Ref Easting: 271920  
Grid Ref Northing: 062289

#### SENDER DETAILS

Name

MR ORLANDO BUCKLAND

Address

17 Osney Avenue  
PAIGNTON  
TQ4 5HA

#### ABOUT YOUR COMMENTS

In what capacity do you wish to make representations on this case?

- Appellant
- Agent
- Interested Party / Person
- Land Owner
- Rule 6 (6)

What kind of representation are you making?

- Final Comments
- Proof of Evidence
- Statement
- Statement of Common Ground
- Interested Party/Person Correspondence
- Other

**YOUR COMMENTS ON THE CASE**

Hillfields has provided opportunities for education, community and provides sustainable firewood and a level of ecological care and understanding of the land and woods.

The need for a small building and machinery to process the wood from tree which have to be felled due to the disease and through no control of the land owners, would seem to be obvious and the blocking of this planning can only be viewed as not only illogical but as active sabotage upon the the success and happiness of the land owners and the many members of the local community who have gained and learnt skills and experiences upon the land. Not to mention using the wood as fuel. I really ask the members of the planning committee to think about the numbers of commercial building projects which go ahead causing massive disruption and a permanent effect upon the land whilst this small and useful application is being refused on very unclear grounds.

For official use only (date received): 07/03/2016 11:35:25

## The Planning Inspectorate

### COMMENTS ON CASE (Online Version)

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**Appeal Reference: APP/J9497/W/15/3140928**

#### DETAILS OF THE CASE

Appeal Reference

APP/J9497/W/15/3140928

Appeal By

MR DOUG KING-SMITH

Site Address

Land lying south of Harbournford  
Hillyfield Plantation & Tom's Brake  
SOUTH BRENT  
Devon  
TQ10 9DT  
Grid Ref Easting: 271920  
Grid Ref Northing: 062289

#### SENDER DETAILS

Name

MR JEM FRIAR

Address

Avalon 81 East Street  
Ashburton  
NEWTON ABBOT  
TQ13 7AL

#### ABOUT YOUR COMMENTS

In what capacity do you wish to make representations on this case?

- Appellant
- Agent
- Interested Party / Person
- Land Owner
- Rule 6 (6)

What kind of representation are you making?

- Final Comments
- Proof of Evidence
- Statement
- Statement of Common Ground
- Interested Party/Person Correspondence

Other

**YOUR COMMENTS ON THE CASE**

As a purchaser of good quality, reasonably priced firewood from the Hilly Fields I am very upset to hear that the site will be unable to provide this service in the future due to the Dartmoor National Park planning refusal for the wood drying shed there. This is a serious shame, as it is hard to get good quality wood around here & my impression from visiting the site was that they were doing an exceptional job of managing the woodland in a sustainable & sensible way.

I would recommend that you reverse your decision & allow them to continue managing this site in an excellent manner & to keep providing wood for the local community.



## The Planning Inspectorate

### COMMENTS ON CASE (Online Version)

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**Appeal Reference: APP/J9497/W/15/3140928**

#### DETAILS OF THE CASE

Appeal Reference	APP/J9497/W/15/3140928
Appeal By	MR DOUG KING-SMITH
Site Address	Land lying south of Harbourneford Hillyfield Plantation & Tom's Brake SOUTH BRENT Devon TQ10 9DT Grid Ref Easting: 271920 Grid Ref Northing: 062289

#### SENDER DETAILS

Name	MR RICHARD SPURGEON
Address	Flat 5, Weston House Berry Pomeroy TQ9 6LB Totnes Devon TQ9 6LB

#### ABOUT YOUR COMMENTS

In what capacity do you wish to make representations on this case?

- Appellant
- Agent
- Interested Party / Person
- Land Owner
- Rule 6 (6)

What kind of representation are you making?

- Final Comments
- Proof of Evidence
- Statement

- Statement of Common Ground
- Interested Party/Person Correspondence
- Other

#### YOUR COMMENTS ON THE CASE

I have been involved in volunteering at Hillyfields over the years in aspects of the woodland management and am astonished at Dartmoor National Parks recent decisions in relation to planning issues at the site. Doug King-Smith and the many volunteers are doing a tremendous job managing the woodlands at the site and should be receiving active support and encouragement from the park authorities. Their ecologically-sensitive approach to woodland regeneration and community involvement is precisely the attitude that is needed to benefit the woodland habitat and wildlife at the site, as well as in promoting wider environmental issues.

I cannot understand how two barns that are essential for the woodland management and business could possibly be problematic in terms of planning guidelines. The decisions of the National Park planning department taken so far make me wonder what is going on. Surely there is a need to support this small sustainable business in carrying on its work which ensures the ongoing maintenance of this piece of woodland?

I wholeheartedly support the planning application for a machinery store and wood-drying barn on the Hillyfields site and feel very strongly that Dartmoor National Park should be supporting Mr King-Smith in his excellent woodland management and restoration work on this site.

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**Appeal Reference: APP/J9497/W/15/3140928**

#### DETAILS OF THE CASE

Appeal Reference

APP/J9497/W/15/3140928

Appeal By

MR DOUG KING-SMITH

Site Address

Land lying south of Harbournford  
Hillyfield Plantation & Tom's Brake  
SOUTH BRENT  
Devon  
TQ10 9DT  
Grid Ref Easting: 271920  
Grid Ref Northing: 062289

#### SENDER DETAILS

Name

MR SKY WILLIAMS

Address

The Hillyfield  
The Linhay, Old Hazard  
Totnes  
TQ9 7LN

#### ABOUT YOUR COMMENTS

In what capacity do you wish to make representations on this case?

- Appellant
- Agent
- Interested Party / Person
- Land Owner
- Rule 6 (6)

What kind of representation are you making?

- Final Comments
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Other

**YOUR COMMENTS ON THE CASE**

Hello I am writing to you to ask for your support in the planning application that Hillyfield sustainable woodland management are making so that they may build the barns and sheds they need to keep wood dry and to keep tools dry. This support would mean supporting good land management practices and show support for the growing community, which is trying to restore the health of our natural resources for future generations of the community to enjoy. This is vital work from an environmental perspective because of the positive benefits to local bird populations and the increase in biodiversity which helps to protect so many precious species of plants and animals. There needs to be a show of support for the people and businesses doing this vital work in our communities, and this is your opportunity to show solidarity for this growing concern that we all must play our part in not only protecting but also actively managing the local environment in a time honoured traditional way so that life may thrive for us all. We as a country must look to create a future where livelihoods that benefit the environment are greatly encouraged. That is a future of hope and one fit for our children. These are the key moments when we can do something that will secure our future in uncertain economic times, by increasing the wealth provided by the land for the greater community as a whole. Thank you for listening and taking the time to consider your actions in regards to the building of this essential infrastructure. Best wishes to all.

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## The Planning Inspectorate

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**Appeal Reference: APP/J9497/W/15/3140928**

#### DETAILS OF THE CASE

Appeal Reference

APP/J9497/W/15/3140928

Appeal By

MR DOUG KING-SMITH

Site Address

Land lying south of Harbourneford  
Hillyfield Plantation & Tom's Brake  
SOUTH BRENT  
Devon  
TQ10 9DT  
Grid Ref Easting: 271920  
Grid Ref Northing: 062289

#### SENDER DETAILS

Name

MR PETER REAY

Address

Crooked Fir  
Moorland Park  
South Brent  
TQ10 9AS

#### ABOUT YOUR COMMENTS

In what capacity do you wish to make representations on this case?

- Appellant
- Agent
- Interested Party / Person
- Land Owner
- Rule 6 (6)

What kind of representation are you making?

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Other

**YOUR COMMENTS ON THE CASE**

I really cannot understand why a sustainable, community-orientated small business, which produces a product primarily for local people, should be refused this planning consent. The importance of having a properly dry wood product is widely recognised, and while a drying barn is perhaps not essential, it is certainly desirable in the context of what this business is seeking to achieve - in terms of economics, environment and community. I have been very impressed by what Mr King Smith has achieved to date, and I think he should be given every encouragement to develop his plans. The DNPA should provide him with ladders, not snakes, for a change.



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## The Planning Inspectorate

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#### DETAILS OF THE CASE

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APP/J9497/W/15/3140928

Appeal By

MR DOUG KING-SMITH

Site Address

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SOUTH BRENT.  
Devon  
TQ10 9DT  
Grid Ref Easting: 271920  
Grid Ref Northing: 062289

#### SENDER DETAILS

Name

MR PAUL MCFADDEN

Address

The Hurdle House  
SOUTH BRENT  
TQ10 9AQ

#### ABOUT YOUR COMMENTS

In what capacity do you wish to make representations on this case?

- Appellant
- Agent
- Interested Party / Person
- Land Owner
- Rule 6.(6)

What kind of representation are you making?

- Final Comments
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- Statement
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- Interested Party/Person Correspondence
- Other



**YOUR COMMENTS ON THE CASE**

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing to support the applicant's appeal against the refusal of Dartmoor National Park Authority to grant planning permission for a timber drying barn and machinery store.

I write in a personal capacity as a local Dartmoor resident - I live in the nearby village of South Brent - and as someone who has visited the Hillyfield project. However, in my professional life I spend much of my work time visiting rural farm and woodland, and am astonished that the Park Authority has rejected this planning application when the countryside is littered with the unsightly trappings of industrial agriculture, with massive metal barn complexes springing up left, right and centre, apparently unchallenged.

The applicant runs a small woodland business, primarily providing wood fuel for a local market. To ensure the long-term sustainability and financial viability of this business, which provides the basis for the sensitive management and care of the woodland, there needs to be appropriate infrastructure. To my mind, the timber drying barn and machinery store ARE appropriate and necessary infrastructure, and the Park Authority should be supporting small, locally-based businesses like this. The Park Authority's decision gives me no confidence in their support for innovative and sustainable approaches to land management within the Park boundaries. Indeed, given that many of the Authority Councillors will have links to old-style carbon-intensive industrial agricultural and forestry operations, I am concerned that there is a bias within the Authority towards traditional management activities and away from anything that smacks of the new.

I have visited the Hillyfield project with my primary school-aged daughter, and hope to do so in the future. It is fantastic to meet a rural landowner who is focussed on sensitive management that supports the ecology and regeneration of a small woodland, and welcomes the involvement of local community members from all walks of life, providing opportunities for volunteering, education, and healthy outdoor recreation.

The Hillyfield project is a great asset to the local community, providing a range of positive benefits, and it would be a terrible shame to see this project fail because Dartmoor National Park Authority are unable to recognise the advantages it brings. Please overturn the Authority's decision to reject the application, so that the woodland business can thrive and thus support the wider benefits of the project.

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#### DETAILS OF THE CASE

Appeal Reference

APP/J9497/W/15/3140928

Appeal By

MR DOUG KING-SMITH

Site Address

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SOUTH BRENT  
Devon  
TQ10 9DT  
Grid Ref Easting: 271920  
Grid Ref Northing: 062289

#### SENDER DETAILS

Name

MR SUNE NIGHTINGALE

Address

Capton Spring  
Capton  
DARTMOUTH  
TQ6 0JE

#### ABOUT YOUR COMMENTS

In what capacity do you wish to make representations on this case?

- Appellant
- Agent
- Interested Party / Person
- Land Owner
- Rule 6 (6)

What kind of representation are you making?

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**YOUR COMMENTS ON THE CASE**

**I write in strong support of the appeal for timber drying barn and a machinery store at this location.**

**In our recent newbuild project we made use of Hillyfield larch floorboards throughout the first floor - over 100 sq m worth. Even during this time (2013-2014) Hillyfield, a working woodland, had not had permission to erect a drying barn and so this necessitated transporting the timber to our own barn for drying. Much additional value would of course have been added to the timber if it could have been seasoned on site and in addition this would have been much more convenient for ourselves.**

**To state that such drying barns and machinery sheds are not necessary for a forestry business is naive, or perhaps points to limited knowledge when it comes to smaller-scale, sympathetic, woodland management. Industrial management of woodlands carried out by 3rd party contractors with heavy machinery might not need drying barns as the wood tends to be transported off site for industrial uses. Hillfield is in strong contrast to such an approach, and is very obviously a business carried out very sympathetically to the landscape to ensure minimal ecological damage and indeed to ensure enhancement of the landscape. More care is given to the products of the business such as timber for building or firewood for heating. Denying such a business a means in which to add value to its products is counter-productive: one decreases its long term viability which makes it almost certain that the land will be managed in a less sympathetic manner.**

**I would love to make use of Hillyfield larch floorboards again for another project, the quality is fantastic, but would really prefer to be able to source the finished, seasoned, product rather than be put into the very odd position of having to arrange for seasoning myself.**

**Additionally I run a local business, Stovesonline, we are perhaps the largest stove retailer in the UK. Our customers require seasoned firewood to burn in their stoves. This needs to be dried first before it can be sold as firewood, down to 25% moisture or less ideally. That requires a building to air dry the processed firewood - yet another argument in favour of a drying store/barn at Hillyfield. This is in line with the UK-wide Forestry Commission's Woodfuel Strategy which has the aim of bringing more wood fuel to market, and of course wood is a renewable, low CO2, fuel so encouraging production is also in line with the UK's various climate change mitigation commitments.**

**All the best**

**Sune Nightingale**

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**Appeal Reference: APP/J9497/W/15/3140928**

#### DETAILS OF THE CASE

Appeal Reference **APP/J9497/W/15/3140928**

Appeal By **MR DOUG KING-SMITH**

Site Address  
**Land lying south of Harbourneford  
Hillyfield Plantation & Tom's Brake  
SOUTH BRENT  
Devon  
TQ10 9DT  
Grid Ref Easting: 271920  
Grid Ref Northing: 062289**

#### SENDER DETAILS

Name **MR STEVE PARKER**

Address  
**OAKWOOD  
HEATHFIELD ROAD  
DEVON  
TQ12 6ES**

#### ABOUT YOUR COMMENTS

In what capacity do you wish to make representations on this case?

- Appellant
- Agent
- Interested Party / Person
- Land Owner
- Rule 6 (6)

What kind of representation are you making?

- Final Comments
- Proof of Evidence
- Statement
- Statement of Common Ground
- Interested Party/Person Correspondence

Other

**YOUR COMMENTS ON THE CASE**

Dear sir/madam,

Very disappointed to hear this case has been forced into appeal.

Clearly the Dartmoor authority (a heroic term) appear to consider it is their responsibility to ensure what could be a living thriving landscape should in fact be maintained merely as a dead lifeless museum.

The Hillyfield is nothing more than a demonstration of how a landscape can be managed sustainably. Here is an example of a group of folk working together, with the environment creating both meaningful employment and training.

As any visitor to the site will glean... It soon becomes evident that what is enshrined there is a hope... a manifesto, so to speak, one that extends the notion of Kith and Kin. The story is simple, gentle and uncomplicated, and begins with widening notions of place kith, and family kin, in myriad directions to include how, where and with whom we live. Kith, kin, kindred and kindness. Would any of us aspire to anything less?

Clearly the National Park have other ideas, perhaps they resonate more with notions of ownership and control from a previous era. The era of Capability Brown, and Humphrey Repton. As you will know Repton said that landscape was about "appropriation... that charm which only belongs to ownership, the exclusive right of enjoyment, with the power of refusing that others should share our pleasure."

I should like to take this opportunity to remind the National Park Authority that they have a duty of care to nurture an environment that is capable of meeting the needs of future generations. A responsibility that extends further than tired stories of control and exclusion. Simply, within the space of a few decades the way people experience and understand nature has changed radically. Today, many may have an intellectual grasp of global threats to the environment, but their physical contact, their intimacy with nature is fading. The Hillyfield is making a small contribution to address these issues, by helping re-engage children and adults with nature, and each other, healing the broken bond between humans and their environment. Like many others Hillyfield is evolving a narrative that includes nature as partner, supported by themes of low-impact building, climate change, sustainability and social responsibility.

Its 2016... there are a number of issues that require our urgent collective attention, I'm not convinced a couple of sustainably built wooden stores/barns, make the list.

I look forward to hearing the Hillyfield have their appeal granted and are extended all possible co-operation from the Dartmoor Planning Authority in continuing with their endeavors.

Regards.

Steve parker



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## The Planning Inspectorate

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Appeal Reference

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Appeal By

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SOUTH BRENT  
Devon  
TQ10 9DT  
Grid Ref Easting: 271920  
Grid Ref Northing: 062289

#### SENDER DETAILS

Name

MR R SMITH

Address

71 Barn Park  
BUCKFASTLEIGH  
TQ11 0AT

#### ABOUT YOUR COMMENTS

In what capacity do you wish to make representations on this case?

- Appellant
- Agent
- Interested Party / Person
- Land Owner
- Rule 6 (6)

What kind of representation are you making?

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**YOUR COMMENTS ON THE CASE**

**I have known the business for the past 3 years.**

**They have sold me wood products, including green larch beams and planks. They have also sold me larch firewood.**

**I was very pleased to find a local supplier of sustainable timber and as I was only building an outside shed, the fact that the timber was "green" (ie wet) was ok.**

**However the firewood tested at around 30% moisture content and this was very poor. It needs to be below 20% to achieve the British Standard for firewood logs.**

**These people have worked very hard to clear the diseased larch and process it sustainably. They have taught a lot of volunteers very useful practice rural skills and they have also provided paid job for some local people. They really do need a barn to drying timber and a shed for machinery. DNP should be supporting projects like this rather than wasting tax payers money fighting them.**

**DNP are not fit for purpose and I am ashamed that they are our local authority.**

**Yours**

**Mr R Smith**



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Appeal Reference

APP/J9497/W/15/3140928

Appeal By

MR DOUG KING-SMITH

Site Address

Land lying south of Harbourneford  
Hillyfield Plantation & Tom's Brake  
SOUTH BRENT  
Devon  
TQ10 9DT  
Grid Ref Easting: 271920  
Grid Ref Northing: 062289

#### SENDER DETAILS

Name

MR STEPHEN LEES

Address

White Cottage  
Higher Metherell  
CALLINGTON  
PL17 8DB

#### ABOUT YOUR COMMENTS

In what capacity do you wish to make representations on this case?

- Appellant
- Agent
- Interested Party / Person
- Land Owner
- Rule 6 (6)

What kind of representation are you making?

- Final Comments
- Proof of Evidence
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- Interested Party/Person Correspondence

Other

**YOUR COMMENTS ON THE CASE**

Reference: APP/J9497/W/15/3140928

I am writing to support the planning appeal to allow two barns to be erected for forestry purposes. I have been involved in woodland and conservation management for over thirty years, and in the past have undertaken contract work on Dartmoor for the National Park Authority, English Nature and the Duchy of Cornwall. I am a member of the Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management and have a masters degree in conservation. I am submitting this representation as an interested individual, having been a subscriber to the Hillyfields newsletter for some time.

I note that the woodland has a management plan agreed with the Forestry Commission and has been in receipt of grants from the Commission for woodland planning, woodland improvement and woodland regeneration. The plans thus have the approval of the relevant experts and government department. The machinery currently stored under canvas has also received public funding under the Rural Development Programme for England, as part of the Farming and Forestry Improvement Scheme.

The economics of woodland management are complex in the south west, with poor access and distance from markets particular problems. This application seeks to address both issues in different ways. The barns will enable on-site primary processing, adding value to the produce, encourage its local use and reduce transportation costs (both financially and environmentally). Adding value on site, especially by milling with a mobile bandsaw, will increase income and spend in the local economy, based on a sustainable renewable resource. Seasoning firewood on site also increases value and profitability. I would have expected this to be something that the National Park would wish to encourage? Furthermore the applicant has commissioned a short study by John Clegg and Co (not for some reason available on the planning portal), which confirms that the buildings are appropriate in scale to the woodland and its management plan.

I note that the woodland management plan involves a significant change in woodland species away from recent conifer plantings and back towards predominantly native broadleaves, again something which should be supported by the National Park. Although not pertinent to this application the woodland also hosts a range of community, volunteer and educational activities, something which the National Park also promotes and partly funds itself elsewhere.

In summary the applicant is seeking to diversify the local economy by adding value to produce from a woodland managed with a strong emphasis on ecology and sustainability. The case officer has indicated that for a permitted development, the barns should be the minimum required and believes that firewood could be seasoned outdoors, though acknowledging that this is an inferior method. Why the minimum? Why not the optimum?

Hillyfields is delivering against two of the seven headline ambitions set out in the Dartmoor National Park Management Plan

([http://www.dartmoor.gov.uk/\\_\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0006/541068/Man-plan-summary-2014.pdf](http://www.dartmoor.gov.uk/__data/assets/pdf_file/0006/541068/Man-plan-summary-2014.pdf)):

- Land Management – Farming communities and land management practices continue to play a central role in conserving and enhancing Dartmoor’s special qualities and delivering a range of public benefits.
- Natural Resources – Dartmoor’s distinctive and high quality natural resources are managed and enhanced for environmental and public benefits.

The first priority listed in the summary document (page 14, link above) is “supporting sustainable farming and woodland businesses that conserve and enhance the special qualities of Dartmoor”. Hillyfields contributes positively to this priority, and in my opinion this development will help to deliver that outcome. It is also within normal permitted development rights. I am surprised and disappointed that the NPA has not approved the original application.

Stephen Lees



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## The Planning Inspectorate

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**Appeal Reference: APP/J9497/W/15/3140928**

#### DETAILS OF THE CASE

Appeal Reference

APP/J9497/W/15/3140928

Appeal By

MR DOUG KING-SMITH

Site Address

Land lying south of Harbourneford  
Hillyfield Plantation & Tom's Brake  
SOUTH BRENT  
Devon  
TQ10 9DT  
Grid Ref Easting: 271920  
Grid Ref Northing: 062289

#### SENDER DETAILS

Name

MR RICHARD SMITH

Address

27 Crowder Park  
SOUTH BRENT  
TQ10 9DB

#### ABOUT YOUR COMMENTS

In what capacity do you wish to make representations on this case?

- Appellant
- Agent
- Interested Party / Person
- Land Owner
- Rule 6 (6)

What kind of representation are you making?

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## YOUR COMMENTS ON THE CASE

I spent thirty five years of my life working for a major UK Bank (Midland /HSBC Bank PLC in the Thames Valley before coming Devon to start a new life as a Zen Buddhist and to make a difference to wherever i was working /staying.During that time i was trained and operated as a Small Business Advisor helping new businesses develop and participating with government agencies to form a bridge between the Civil Servants and our clients.This is relevant as in this case the applicants have ploughed a lot of money into making the plantation work despite problems with disease leading to massive volunteer projects to fell over 800 trees. I have been a volunteer /participant in events organised by the applicants which have been well supported.

The reason why i am writing to you is a simple one .The question i want you to address is "Is Dartmoor to be the home of the wealthy who can afford to live on Dartmoor without adding one "groat/penny " to the economy of Dartmoor ?.The applicant has made a big difference to my life and those who also support this plantation.How can any business/attempt to restore the land from a worthless plot to a thriving community heart the "powers that be " stop logical development .

The real hypocrisy of the situation to my mind is compounded by a business deal i was involved with which led to a planning application for a multi million office block that was rejected all the way to the Minister's final decision .The Minister was a Conservative MP and he just happened to have gone to the same public school as our client ,knew each other at school.The Minister granted the appeal the "eyesore" was built but the company who wanted the building to be built next to railway in the centre of town pulled out of the agreed deal once the application was approved .

My point ?.The application is essential to the applicants work,just as a cow shed /milking parlour is needed by a dairy farmer.I also lived in the East Riding of Yorkshire amongst the millionaire farmers and went to boarding school in the North Riding of Yorkshire on the moor so understand and knew how the moor community worked,based on mutual support ,tourism but most of all smallholders who practised self sufficiency in the 1960's.

What kind of moor do we want a healthy vibrant community celebrating and introducing people to the alternative self sufficient way of life or a land where the elderly come die .When i lived in Haytor Vale i was amazed at the very large number of big houses but there was never anybody in the gardens or visible as a representation of the community.

Final point -a story known to Buddhists ."The best known outlaw in Japan confronted the Buddha and said "We are the two most well known and influential men in this land and after i kill you i will be the undisputed most famous man" .The Buddha nodded in agreement before replying "True enough but, before you kill me ,humour me,cut down that young sapling " The outlaw cut down the sapling and then the Buddha said "Now restore it to it's former state " The could not do so .The Buddha then said "You see powerful men as we are unable to create life and growth ,only God can do that .We are mere mortals in comparison .The outlaw fell to his knees and begged The Buddha to instruct him in knowledge of the World ,to which the Buddha agreed.Why is this important ?.During my career i saw huge national investment to rebuild areas like the docks in Liverpool and East London achieving great new enterprise zones .However,i also saw many young talented business men frustrated by Civil Servants and the "system of control" abandon good strong businesses.We need people like the applicant to stop dartmoor becoming a museum where you can see how creative men created a community which thrived and prospered before the "system of control" smothered them .I have been for many years a supporter of the applicants venture and admire his determination to use his own money to create something "unique and special -a living moor -not a waiting room for those who await death in lonely houses.

I support the application and from April will be buying logs from applicant ,supporting his fund raisers and applauding a man capable of turning the "tide " to give new life to the moor .I we do not support his application are we not like the outlaw ,someone who can destroy a venture but, could never make the "venture " work because the British Empire was created by people who wanted to "make a difference " .You do not achieve what they achieved by stopping perfectly good ventures because of

"red tape".





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Appeal By

MR DOUG KING-SMITH

Site Address

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Hillyfield Plantation & Tom's Brake  
SOUTH BRENT  
Devon  
TQ10 9DT  
Grid Ref Easting: 271920  
Grid Ref Northing: 062289

#### SENDER DETAILS

Name

MR SHARIF ADAMS

Address

Steward Community Woodland  
Lane to Steward Farm  
MORETONHAMPSTEAD  
TQ13 8SD

#### ABOUT YOUR COMMENTS

In what capacity do you wish to make representations on this case?

- Appellant
- Agent
- Interested Party / Person
- Land Owner
- Rule 6 (6)

What kind of representation are you making?

- Final Comments
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Other

**YOUR COMMENTS ON THE CASE**

**I fully support Hillyfield with there endeavours and feel that every effort should be made to encourage such careful and intelligent management of local woodlands. Please see that you are able to help them continue to be a great example to others and an asset to this area.**

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Hillyfield Plantation & Tom's Brake  
SOUTH BRENT  
Devon  
TQ10 9DT  
Grid Ref Easting: 271920  
Grid Ref Northing: 062289

#### SENDER DETAILS

Name

MRS GEORGINA BELLEM

Address

Penpont Woodland  
Polyphant  
Launceston  
PL15 7PX

#### ABOUT YOUR COMMENTS

In what capacity do you wish to make representations on this case?

- Appellant
- Agent
- Interested Party / Person
- Land Owner
- Rule 6 (6)

What kind of representation are you making?

- Final Comments
- Proof of Evidence
- Statement
- Statement of Common Ground
- Interested Party/Person Correspondence

Other

**YOUR COMMENTS ON THE CASE**

I am a keen nature lover, environmentalist and woodland owner. I have found the work that the Hillyfield do inspirational and hugely valuable to my own management of my woodland. Their dedication and contribution to the management of the environment and to the local and wider community is essential to the continuation of the environment as we know it. I was dismayed that DNP refused their application for a wood store and machinery store, as it is essential that wood for sale as logs is kept dry as it quickly deteriorates when wet. Also machinery used to carry out essential woodland management needs to be stored securely. The Hillyfield needs to run a business in order to support their work which has such benefits for environment and the local and wider community. I totally support the Hillyfield's application which will enable them to continue their work which has such benefits for ALL users of Dartmoor's wonderful natural environment, human and otherwise, business and leisure, visitors and residents, all of us.

For official use only (date received): 06/03/2016 23:11:22

## The Planning Inspectorate

### COMMENTS ON CASE (Online Version)

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**Appeal Reference: APP/J9497/W/15/3140928**

#### DETAILS OF THE CASE

Appeal Reference

APP/J9497/W/15/3140928

Appeal By

MR DOUG KING-SMITH

Site Address

Land lying south of Harbournford  
Hillyfield Plantation & Tom's Brake  
SOUTH BRENT  
Devon  
TQ10 9DT  
Grid Ref Easting: 271920  
Grid Ref Northing: 062289

#### SENDER DETAILS

Name

MS ELEANOR CHANDLER

Address

Landour  
Plymouth Rd  
Totnes  
TQ9 5LH

#### ABOUT YOUR COMMENTS

In what capacity do you wish to make representations on this case?

- Appellant
- Agent
- Interested Party / Person
- Land Owner
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What kind of representation are you making?

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Other

**YOUR COMMENTS ON THE CASE**

These woodlands are being managed in a sensitive and sustainable way with local community involvement. The Hillyfield management is taking a positive approach to woodland regeneration, ecology & the benefits which the woodland provides to the wider community. Much work has gone into dealing with and preventing potential disease in trees.

The only way the land can continue to be cared for and managed sustainably is if it can be supported by a profitable woodland business, and I write to give my strongest support for permission to build a timber drying barn and a machinery store. I cannot see why this should not be permitted in a 45 acre forest which provides dry wood for sale to the local community.



## The Planning Inspectorate

### COMMENTS ON CASE (Online Version)

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**Appeal Reference: APP/J9497/W/15/3140928**

#### DETAILS OF THE CASE

Appeal Reference

APP/J9497/W/15/3140928

Appeal By

MR DOUG KING-SMITH

Site Address

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Hillyfield Plantation & Tom's Brake  
SOUTH BRENT  
Devon  
TQ10 9DT  
Grid Ref Easting: 271920  
Grid Ref Northing: 062289

#### SENDER DETAILS

Name

MRS BARBARA ALBUTT

Address

Plane Tor, Ipplepen Road  
Marldon  
PAIGNTON  
DEVON  
TQ3 1SG

#### ABOUT YOUR COMMENTS

In what capacity do you wish to make representations on this case?

- Appellant
- Agent
- Interested Party / Person
- Land Owner
- Rule 6 (6)

What kind of representation are you making?

- Final Comments
- Proof of Evidence
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- Statement of Common Ground

Interested Party/Person Correspondence

Other

**YOUR COMMENTS ON THE CASE**

I would like Dartmoor National Park to reconsider its decision and allow HILLYFIELD to have a Natural Wooden Barn for the purpose of storing and drying wood totally naturally and for the purpose of storing machinery that they need for the management of the woodland. I feel it is important to permit local sustainable projects and permit people to improve the woodlands, like Hillyfield want to do.

It is important to have a woodland that is "living" and Hillyfield will provide improvements for both people, animals and the natural environment. Improvements of this kind are essential for the survival of our woodlands and for the management of the woodlands.

The intention is to store wood, undercover totally naturally without the use of additional heating. Just stacked and stored for two years. The Barn provides shelter from the rain and enables the wood to dry in the wind.

A Forestry Enterprise like this needs our support to provide much needed timber for local purposes. Please permit Hillyfield to have a Barn to store and dry wood totally naturally.

For official use only (date received): 10/03/2016 17:42:47

## The Planning Inspectorate

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**Appeal Reference: APP/J9497/W/15/3140928**

#### DETAILS OF THE CASE

Appeal Reference

APP/J9497/W/15/3140928

Appeal By

MR DOUG KING-SMITH

Site Address

Land lying south of Harbournford  
Hillyfield Plantation & Tom's Brake  
SOUTH BRENT  
Devon  
TQ10 9DT  
Grid Ref Easting: 271920  
Grid Ref Northing: 062289

#### SENDER DETAILS

Name

MRS ANDIE NESBITT

Address

4 Bridgetown Court  
Bridgetown  
TOTNES  
TQ9 5BU

#### ABOUT YOUR COMMENTS

In what capacity do you wish to make representations on this case?

- Appellant
- Agent
- Interested Party / Person
- Land Owner
- Rule 6 (6)

What kind of representation are you making?

- Final Comments
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Other

**YOUR COMMENTS ON THE CASE**

**I live in the local area and have followed the work at the hillyfield over a number of years, admiring their commitment to the local environment wanting to manage this woodland in a sustainable and inclusive way.**

**I am shortly having a wood burning stove fitted to my home and have earmarked the hillyfield as being the supplier of wood of my choice, being local and sure of its source...and it is ESSENTIAL that the wood is dry.**

**I cannot understand how a drying barn and a machinery barn are not considered necessary to this business and would have expected the park authorities to support this enterprise wholeheartedly.**

## The Planning Inspectorate

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**Appeal Reference: APP/J9497/W/15/3140928**

#### DETAILS OF THE CASE

Appeal Reference

APP/J9497/W/15/3140928

Appeal By

MR DOUG KING-SMITH

Site Address

Land lying south of Harbournford  
Hillyfield Plantation & Tom's Brake  
SOUTH BRENT  
Devon  
TQ10 9DT  
Grid Ref Easting: 271920  
Grid Ref Northing: 062289

#### SENDER DETAILS

Name

MRS SANDRA HAILES

Address

1 Shutwater Hill  
Bishops Hull  
Taunton  
Somerset  
EX1 5EQ

#### ABOUT YOUR COMMENTS

In what capacity do you wish to make representations on this case?

- Appellant
- Agent
- Interested Party / Person
- Land Owner
- Rule 6 (6)

What kind of representation are you making?

- Final Comments
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- Interested Party/Person Correspondence  
 Other

**YOUR COMMENTS ON THE CASE**

I am the previous owner of the land know as Hillyfield in Harbournford. Dough King-Smith purchased the land from my husband and I. I can say from personal experience that woodlands need active management and is a labour of love. When we bought the woodland, it had not been managed for years and was overgrown with Japanese Knot-wood, amongst other things. My husband had to hand poisoned each plant as not to harm the eco system. This took over six months and a team of volunteers, including Mr King-Smith, who cared deeply about the regeneration, ecology and preservation of the woodland.

Mr King-Smith, in his ownership, has tirelessly managed the woodland, for example dealing with the disease of the trees. He has also created community events for other's to experience nature and this amazing ancient woodland. The trees in then woodland need to be managed and felled and selling local wood to the local community support the work of the woodland. It would be impossible to do this without a timber drying barn and machinery store.

It is in the interest of the woodland and local community that Mr King-Smith be supported in his efforts to sell dry wood. I can assure you, any profit made, would be poured back into the management of the woodland. It is an endless money pit, but one does it for the passion and love of this amazingly beautiful and historically important woodland.

To object to such a reasonable request for a timber drying barn and machinery store, defies all logic? It is an integral means of maintaing the woodland in a way that support the management of it.

I fully support Mr King-Smith application for a timber drying barn and machinery store.



For official use only (date received): 08/03/2016 16:27:37

## The Planning Inspectorate

### COMMENTS ON CASE (Online Version)

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**Appeal Reference: APP/J9497/W/15/3140928**

#### DETAILS OF THE CASE

Appeal Reference

APP/J9497/W/15/3140928

Appeal By

MR DOUG KING-SMITH

Site Address

Land lying south of Harbournford  
Hillyfield Plantation & Tom's Brake  
SOUTH BRENT  
Devon  
TQ10 9DT  
Grid Ref Easting: 271920  
Grid Ref Northing: 062289

#### SENDER DETAILS

Name

MRS CLAUDIA BENZIES

Address

Myrtle Cottage  
Blackawton  
TOTNES  
TQ9 7BN

#### ABOUT YOUR COMMENTS

In what capacity do you wish to make representations on this case?

- Appellant
- Agent
- Interested Party / Person
- Land Owner
- Rule 6 (6)

What kind of representation are you making?

- Final Comments
- Proof of Evidence
- Statement
- Statement of Common Ground
- Interested Party/Person Correspondence



Other

**YOUR COMMENTS ON THE CASE**

**I HAVE VISITED HILLYFIELD, SEEN THE WORK BEING DONE;**

**-FELLING DISEASED TREES & RE-PLANTING**

**-ENABLING PEOPLE WITH MENTAL ILL-HEALTH & OTHER PROBLEMS TO BENEFIT FROM VOLUNTEERING.**

**-OFFERING AN INCLUSIVE, SUPPORTIVE, ECOLOGICAL COMMUNITY PROJECT**

**-RUN BY HIGHLY MOTIVATED AND SKILLED PEOPLE.**

**-SUSTAINABLE AND RAISES ITS OWN FUNDS.**

**HILLYFIELDS IS CARING FOR OUR COUNTRYSIDE SENSITIVELY, IT IS STRENGTHENS OUR LOCAL RURAL COMMUNITIES BY PROVIDING WORK EXPERIENCE, LEARNING, FUEL AND IS ECOLOGICALLY SOUND.**

**DARTMOOR NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY AND DEVON COUNTY COUNCIL SHOULD BE ENCOURAGING THIS PROJECT.**

**THE BUILDING OF A MACHINE STORE AND WOOD DRYING BARN IS ESSENTIAL TO SUSTAIN THE PROJECT, MAINTAIN EQUIPMENT AND THE WORK, ALREADY BEING DONE.**

For official use only (date received): 08/03/2016 11:27:41

## The Planning Inspectorate

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**Appeal Reference: APP/J9497/W/15/3140928**

#### DETAILS OF THE CASE

Appeal Reference

APP/J9497/W/15/3140928

Appeal By

MR DOUG KING-SMITH

Site Address

Land lying south of Harbourneford  
Hillyfield Plantation & Tom's Brake  
SOUTH BRENT  
Devon  
TQ10 9DT  
Grid Ref Easting: 271920  
Grid Ref Northing: 062289

#### SENDER DETAILS

Name

MS ALEXANDRA BRIDGEMAN

Address

3 Venton Oak Cottages  
Dartington  
TOTNES  
TQ9 6DW

#### ABOUT YOUR COMMENTS

In what capacity do you wish to make representations on this case?

- Appellant
- Agent
- Interested Party / Person
- Land Owner
- Rule 6 (6)

What kind of representation are you making?

- Final Comments
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Other

**YOUR COMMENTS ON THE CASE**

Dear Sir/Madam

I live locally to the Hillyfields, and i have visited there to take part in community tree planting days. I love what they are doing here for the community and the wider environment, creating a sustainable resource, while also creating the space for community building events, where locals who do not normally have access to land or woods can come, of all ages and abilities, bringing their children to help learn the importance and fun and ease of planting trees together, in this way learning to be empowered by taking control of our future resourses and protecting our future environment and finding sustainalbe ways of managing woodland together. I mayself have a wood pellet boiler, because of wanting to find sustainable solutions to heating my hosue, and I know the importance of suporting local enterprises where i can get dry pellets for my boiler, and there are so many others who want to get their dry wood to burn from Hillyfields, and support this local endeavor.

i really hope that they can continue with their project of creating a barn for dry wood for us locals to be able to make use of

with best wishes

Alexandra Bridgeman

For official use only (date received): 08/03/2016 15:43:16

## The Planning Inspectorate

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**Appeal Reference: APP/J9497/W/15/3140928**

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Appeal Reference

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Appeal By

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Site Address

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SOUTH BRENT  
Devon  
TQ10 9DT  
Grid Ref Easting: 271920  
Grid Ref Northing: 062289

#### SENDER DETAILS

Name

MS CHARLOTTE OLIVER

Address

Landmatters, Allaleigh  
Blackawton  
TOTNES  
TQ9 7DL

#### ABOUT YOUR COMMENTS

In what capacity do you wish to make representations on this case?

- Appellant
- Agent
- Interested Party / Person
- Land Owner
- Rule 6 (6)

What kind of representation are you making?

- Final Comments
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- Interested Party/Person Correspondence

Other

**YOUR COMMENTS ON THE CASE**

**Dear Inspector**

I have known The Hillyfield since it was bought by Mr King-Smith. I have discussed with him his plans for it, his ecological management philosophy, his woodland business plans, and his hopes for the future of the land. I have also met a great number of people who have worked with him in the woods as volunteers. I am writing to express my support for his planning application, and with it my dismay at the attitude of Dartmoor National Park planning authority.

I will not repeat the circumstances of the site, which will have been described you already, suffice to say that the felling order issued some years ago has directed the work that has taken place there. Nonetheless, the ecological ethic remains. So does the imperative to earn a living from the original investment. I support the ethos of making a modest income from land while enhancing its flora and fauna, and think that this approach will be one way of rescuing our landscape either from neglect or inappropriate development.

The building of 2 relatively modest barns in order to make a business both possible and successful does not seem a high price to pay, even in a National Park. The site is not prominent, the visual impact minimal, the business is entirely in keeping with the nature of the land, and performs a useful service to the local community in the provision of firewood and timber. Both these products need to be dried and dry-stored, or they are of little use or reliability.

I have heard DNP's verbal and written objections to Mr King-Smith's requests over the years, and been struck by their unwillingness to work with him to achieve a satisfactory outcome. I am unable to discern exactly what they are trying to protect, from whom, and on who's behalf. It seems to me they make demands and write policies that they then prohibit people from fulfilling.

I do appreciate the complexity of maintaining the character of a very special area of the country, and trust that the Inspectorate will give all points of view in this case the scrutiny they deserve. This letter is to add my voice to those who see no harm to a treasured Park in what Mr King-Smith proposes.

Yours faithfully  
Charlotte Oliver

For official use only (date received): 06/03/2016 15:18:53

## The Planning Inspectorate

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**Appeal Reference: APP/J9497/W/15/3140928**

#### DETAILS OF THE CASE

Appeal Reference

APP/J9497/W/15/3140928

Appeal By

MR DOUG KING-SMITH

Site Address

Land lying south of Harbourneford  
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SOUTH BRENT  
Devon  
TQ10 9DT  
Grid Ref Easting: 271920  
Grid Ref Northing: 062289

#### SENDER DETAILS

Name

MS EMMA LANDERS

Address

Dittisham Farm Annexe  
Capton  
Dartmouth  
England  
TQ6 0JE

#### ABOUT YOUR COMMENTS

In what capacity do you wish to make representations on this case?

- Appellant
- Agent
- Interested Party / Person
- Land Owner
- Rule 6 (6)

What kind of representation are you making?

- Final Comments
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Interested Party/Person Correspondence

Other

**YOUR COMMENTS ON THE CASE**

To whom it may concern,

I firmly believe in the right of Mr King-Smith to operate a sustainable forestry business on his land in Harbourneford. He provides local timber to customers who chose to buy from local sources and thereby support a sustainable future, and this, I believe, is to be applauded on many levels. I firmly believe in the integrity of this business on social, environmental and sustainability grounds, and see no reason why such a business should be refused permission to carry out its activities. How should such a business survive without barns for machinery and for drying wood? I would imagine that this would be just the kind of business the National Park would be supporting, even promoting. To refuse would suggest some kind of prejudice against this kind of endeavour, which I would be highly suspicious of!

I trust that permission will be granted with good grace and that this will be to the benefit of the Park's reputation and integrity.

Yours faithfully,

Emma Landers



For official use only (date received): 06/03/2016 15:12:19

## The Planning Inspectorate

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Appeal Reference

APP/J9497/W/15/3140928

Appeal By

MR DOUG KING-SMITH

Site Address

Land lying south of Harbournford  
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SOUTH BRENT  
Devon  
TQ10 9DT  
Grid Ref Easting: 271920  
Grid Ref Northing: 062289

#### SENDER DETAILS

Name

MR THOMAS RICKARD

Address

31 Coombe Vale Road  
TEIGNMOUTH  
TQ14 9EG

#### ABOUT YOUR COMMENTS

In what capacity do you wish to make representations on this case?

- Appellant
- Agent
- Interested Party / Person
- Land Owner
- Rule 6 (6)

What kind of representation are you making?

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**YOUR COMMENTS ON THE CASE**

Dear Planning Inspectorate,

I here make my case that the Hillyfield must be allowed to construct buildings sufficient for the drying of wood in order to operate its local, sustainable business, and thereby continue in its good work not only in supporting volunteers and the public to connect to Dartmoor National Park, but in managing the woodland in response the tree diseases.

Having personally volunteered, I can speak of the opportunity the project gave me to connect and learn about woodlands and the National Park. I have also witnessed families and individuals benefit greatly from the chance to have a constructive sociably time managing the parks woodland. Despite the serious difficulties imposed, the project has kept itself alive in the face of endless requirements to fell trees because of disease. A vital process.

I understand the project needs to have an income to survive, and this for the most part appears in the form of selling firewood, in great demand for the sake of the sustainable heating of homes surrounding the National Park in an affordable way. Dryness of wood is vital for its efficient burning and sale at profit, and a structure is required for this to occur.

The caring community of the Hillyfield, both for trees and wildlife, is an important feature of the Dartmoor park for me and many others. It is important for the sustainable future of both the area itself and those who can avoid using fossil fuels because of the wood trade. I trust that the Inspectorate will reconsider its decision in light of these environmental, social and sustainability factors.

Yours,

Thomas Rickard.