

Tsang, Madeline

From: Marion Regan [marion.regan@hlf.co.uk]
Sent: 16 December 2013 14:15
To: Team E2
Cc: Neil Cockburn (neil@pennoxstone.freemove.co.uk)
Subject: letter attached APP/ W1850/A/13/2206638
Attachments: Planning Inspectorate.pdf

Please see letter attached re. case no APP/ W1850/A/13/2206638

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15.12.13

by email to : teame2@pins.gsi.gov.uk

Dear Sir/Madam

APP/ W1850/A/13/2206638

I am writing to voice my support for the appeal against the decision to refuse planning permission for continued use of polytunnels at Pennoxstone Court Farm in Herefordshire, where the farmer is Mr Neil Cockburn. Denial of planning permission threatens this well-established and responsible family farming business and the jobs of skilled agricultural workers in the county. The business contributes to the local economy and maintains many jobs - not only in fruit farming, but also in related traders and local businesses. At a time of fragile economic recovery it would be wrong to stifle this enterprise, particularly in a rural area.

Tunnels are essential for the consistent supply of high quality soft fruit from the farm and promote environmentally responsible management of water, waste, and biodiversity. The tunnels are carefully sited and are not inappropriate within the AONB as this part of Herefordshire is a living agricultural and horticultural landscape. Indeed hedges and woodland has been planted to enhance this aspect of the farm.

Finally, polytunnels are not a permanent development – unlike houses, roads or paved areas, tunnels are temporary structures pegged into the ground and their use is completely reversible. This is a genuine agricultural use for agricultural land. Allowing this appeal will help ensure a thriving agricultural economy, a sensitively farmed landscape, and local soft fruit rather than imports.

Yours sincerely,

Marion Regan