

Laura Crawford

From: Margaret Anne McKillop
Sent: 23 January 2024 09:20
To: Denise Dickson
Subject: Letter of support

Good morning Denise

Planning Application LA01/2022/1152/O for Mr & Mrs Pearse Black (recently married)

I have only learnt about this application recommendation for refusal and I am very disappointed that application has not been approved.

I have read the Planning Report and I am most disappointed as I have known both Pearse and Shannon since they were children, and they have grown up to be outstanding members of our community, providing voluntary work to members of the community and they have since approached me to support their application.

I am more than happy to support their application for a number of reasons.

First and foremost it is vital that young people in our rural communities feel that there is something here for them that they can remain in the community.

This young couple are a prime example of two people from the area who are trying to contribute to society via the means to tackling rural poverty and social isolation. It is clear that if they reside elsewhere the loss would be felt by numerous people in the community.

I feel that the rejection of their planning application stifles their future and by this the extension of the rural community.

They have supported local farmers and both Pearse and Shannon are valued members in a professional capacity as well as a social one.

Their youth in addition to the service they provide through agriculture to ageing farmers and vulnerable people leaves them in a strong standing with their peers.

I would like to ask the planning committee to support Creagh Woods as a focal point, this is a local nature reserve managed by our own council.

One of the local focal points - with the addition of the first red squirrels hide which brings not only locals but visitors from all over. You just have to go on the Glens Red Squirrel page to see how often it's visited and even in the snow last week which was really impressive photos.

All local children from the school, churches and community facilities visit regularly.

As you are aware, I am concerned at the lack of housing in the Knocknacarry and Cushendun area and evidence of decline in numbers in our local school is now down to 45 pupils

Another focal point, not forgetting the mass rock which is situated not far from Creagh Wood which dates back to (1695- 1756).

Sporting clubs have had to amalgamate, e.g. Naomi Padraig saw Cushendun, Armoy and Carey having to come together as there are not enough kids from under 12 to minor age group.

The Shop is now rarely open

Our rural towns and villages are the heart of our community and it's sole destroying to see so many leave and set up hope elsewhere due to no houses within the area.

I know first hand how difficult this is with not having any of my children living in their home town /villages

In addition, I know of Shannon's father's condition (Lawrence) the GP letter has been totally ignored.

I would plead with you as a Councillor to reconsider this application.

Margaret Anne

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