

## Bronte Welham

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**From:** Amanda Scholes on behalf of Planning.Responses  
**Sent:** 26 June 2017 08:51  
**To:** Planning Scanning  
**Subject:** FW: P/22/17/PL

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**From:** Simon Davis  
**Sent:** 23 June 2017 11:04  
**To:** Planning.Responses  
**Subject:** FW: P/22/17/PL

Application Correspondence. Please upload. I don't need a copy. Thanks

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**Sent:** 22 June 2017 17:58  
**To:** Simon Davis  
**Subject:** Re: P/22/17/PL

Hi Simon,

Thanks again for your note. I shall attempt to answer the queries in the same order as your note;

1. I am not sure what further material is required and I hesitate to repeat what we said in the original application but, we are advised that due to changing farming and horticultural practices, there is now a demand for all round labour to support the industry. It is true there are more packhouses in the locality than eight years ago and in fact the latest one just up the road at Merston, for which we obtained planning permission, requires a workforce of 600 people. Shift patterns require 24 hour operations normally based upon a 3 shift system. As far as we are aware the last decade has seen an intensification in the agricultural and horticultural business as the supermarkets have become more 'aggressive' in the market place putting added pressure on growers and packers to bring fresh produce to the customer's table. All of this has resulted in the extended season which is now full year.
2. Since planning permission was granted for the caravans they have been occupied by various people (in accordance with the conditions) as some migrant workers occupy the caravans for different parts of the season, hence the transitory nature of the occupation. In other words whilst the caravans have been occupied for 12 months of the year they have not necessarily been occupied by the same people. Depending upon the season some family members have joined the main breadwinner to complete the family group for holidays or temporary periods but again this is not permanent.
3. We have taken further instructions regarding the imposition of the proposed two conditions and the applicant is comfortable with both and proposes no changes. I can advise that at the current time, nobody occupying any caravan resides there permanently and all have their sole or main residence elsewhere. Also, a register of occupants is kept already. Nevertheless on behalf of the applicant, we thank you for the opportunity to comment.

I trust the above information is of assistance but as usual, should you require anything further please let us know.

Graham

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**Sent:** 22 June 2017 15:15:18

**To:** Graham Beck

**Subject:** RE: P/22/17/PL

Dear Graham,

I have had my draft report back from my Team Leaders with some comments which I would be grateful for your assistance with.

(1) I stated the following in my report which I had written using the information in your supporting statement

"..... when the original application was determined, the nature of farm work locally was seasonal between March and October. However, with modern advances in horticulture and farming, it has now become all year round and hence there is a need for staff to be available throughout the year to assist with such activities as soil preparation, planting, picking, processing and packing."

My Team Leader asks has this really changed so much in 8 years. Can you provide more examples? Or is the need for extra months just because there are more pack houses in the local area/more demand for food processing/packing?

(2) In my report, I have described the workers as seasonal and transitory. This being as per your statement in your letter of 17/05/17. My Team Leader asks how are they seasonal if they are occupying caravans all year round? Also, it has been asserted by a third party that there are families and children living in the caravans.

(3) On the basis that the workers are seasonal/transitory, I had proposed to add the following two conditions in order to ensure that the caravans are used on a seasonal basis by transitory workers and do not become permanent homes:

- (a) The caravans shall not be occupied as a person's sole or main place of residence.
- (b) The owners/operators shall maintain an up to date register of the names of all of the occupiers of individual caravans on the site of their main home addresses and dates of occupation and shall make this information available at all reasonable times to the Local Planning Authority.

Would your client agree to these?

I look forward to hearing from you.

Kind Regards

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Simon J Davis MRTPI | Principal Planning Officer, Planning Department, Arun District Council |  
Location: 1st Floor, Arun Civic Centre, Maitravers Road, Littlehampton, BN17 5LF

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