Supporting statement for our application for outline planning permission
Ref SMD/2018/0223

Who we are

We are a young hard-working family, consisting of myself, my husband, our three children, two dogs and a pony, both my husband and myself come from local rural/farming backgrounds and we are currently living in leek. I have lived locally for 33 years and my husband for 37 years.

What we propose and where

We are asking for outline planning to create a home with garage that is in-keeping with the current buildings in and around Bradnop. We would very much like for our family and pets to continue living within the local community, we plan–to maintain the majority of our land as paddocks for grazing, a small proportion of our land to be allocated for our home, a preserved nature area, an orchard and develop a wider field margin to the back of the property that will be planted with new hedging. We hope to be able to do this on a family owned field off Stile House lane in Bradnop.

Why in this area

Bradnop village is very close to my heart, my nan and grandad Mr & Mrs R Day, farmed in Bradnop for many years, my dad and his siblings were all born and went to school in Bradnop and it is where I lived as a child through to late teens with my mum, dad, sister and many many animals. My sister Mrs Tara Hine still lives and runs a successful business in Bradnop with her family and extended family Mr & Mrs E Hine, we also have close family friends in Bradnop Mr & Mrs J Plant and family. It would mean the world to be able to be back as part of a community that I once was and to be able to bring my children up in a beautiful village, our pony also lives in Bradnop hoping that one day we may be able to join him.

How we meet core strategies

After reading through the councils rural housing policies and strategies I feel we do meet the requirements set out for the development of new homes in smaller villages. For example in subsection SS6b – Smaller Villages Strategy 61, it states that the evidence base provides no justification for restricting new housing development in smaller villages, if important to local needs. I feel we meet this as I do think that allowing a family to return to their home roots and create a new family home is imperative to the survival of small villages such as Bradnop, we have seen in resent time the closing of central village buildings and it would be my hope that we would be helping to prevent other such happenings by introducing another generation to support the village.

We whole heartedly want to enhance Bradnop and in no way are we going to detract from its beauty when creating a home for our family, we want to help support Bradnop and live back in the community I grew up in. Furthermore, the area our field sits in is not completely undeveloped, over the past few years there has been several new barns and horse arenas built, several extensions also a few barns (Lark Hall) and a full farm (Colts Moor Farm) have been converted into homes and the creation of a fishing lake. I do not feel our home would be out of place in its surroundings.