

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 26 August 2026 17:42
To: Planning Comments (SMDC)
Subject: Comment Received from Public Access

[REDACTED]

Application Reference No. : SMD/2026/0057 Site Address: BASFORD SHOOTING GROUND Basford Green Road
Basford Leek Staffordshire ST13 7ER LEEK Comments by: Ptolemy-yves Edward Edge
From:

Pethills head farm
Leek
Leek

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Submission: Neither

Comments: I'm writing in support of the planning application for the proposed static caravan to provide full-time accommodation on the holding.

As a rural business owner myself, I understand only too well the problems that come with rural crime. We have experienced theft and other security issues at our own business, and it is incredibly frustrating and upsetting to see things you have worked hard for simply taken.

Rural businesses can be particularly vulnerable because we are often in isolated locations, away from busy roads and residential areas. Thieves can take advantage of this, knowing that there may not always be anyone around.

Having someone living on site would, in my opinion, provide a much greater presence and could act as a real deterrent. It would mean there is someone there to notice unusual activity, hear or see something that isn't right and raise the alarm quickly if necessary.

We all need to do what we can to protect our rural businesses and help prevent rural crime. It is not just the value of what is stolen that causes problems. Theft can have a much wider impact on a business, causing disruption, lost working time and considerable stress.

Even when you have insurance in place, being the victim of theft can be extremely costly. Insurance premiums can increase, excesses have to be paid and there are often costs involved in replacing equipment or making the site more secure afterwards. Some losses simply cannot be measured in financial terms.

For a working rural business, having someone living on site provides an extra level of security that CCTV, alarms and other measures cannot always provide on their own. A visible and permanent presence can make people think twice before targeting a property.

I therefore fully support the application for the proposed static caravan. I believe having the family living on site would not only help with the practical running of the holding but would also provide an important additional level of security and help protect the business from the increasing problem of rural crime.

We all have a responsibility to do what we can to protect our businesses, our livelihoods and the rural communities we live and work in. In my view, having someone permanently present on this holding would be a sensible and worthwhile step towards doing exactly that.

Yours faithfully,

Ptolemy-yves Edward Edge

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