

6 Dobcross New Road

Dobcross

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William Simcock

Kirklees Council Planning Department

Hey End, Shaw Lane, Slaithwaite, Huddersfield HD7 5XA – 2021/62/90165/W

I write in support of the planning application by Mr Peter Clifford to renovate and upgrade the existing farmhouse and buildings at Hey End Farm.

This small farm is situated on a wet Pennine hillside adjacent to open moorland overlooking the upper Colne valley. Traditional management of the damp pastures produces ideal conditions for endangered species like curlews to breed.

The farm and buildings have been taken on by the applicant in addition to his full-time employment. The intention of this proposal is to update and improve the accommodation.

I believe the applicant is committed to running the holding in an environmentally friendly way. This is shown by his participation in the                      run by the RSPB.                      are a critically endangered small finch and the South Pennines is their last remaining stronghold in England. They need a mixture of moorland for nesting, and wild-flower-rich meadows where they can find the seeds on which they feed. The project aims to manage the farmland habitat in such a way as to provide for their needs, and this impacts on the amount of grazing which can take place and at what times of year.

I hope the Committee will approve the application, which will allow the applicant to improve his living accommodation while continuing to improve the surrounding environment for wildlife, as well as the animals on a working farm.

11 May 2021