

Angela Russell

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 20 April 2023 15:38
To: Joseph.Swift@midsussex.gov.uk
Subject: Re: DM/22/2889 - Former Outbuilding (Barries) at Rock Lodge Vineyard RH17 7NG

Dear Mr Swift,

Re: DM/22/2889 - Former Outbuilding (Barries) at Rock Lodge Vineyard RH17 7NG

I would refer to our telephone conversation yesterday, 19th April 2023, when I expressed our concern that your consultant, ADAS Planning of Leeds, have concluded that they cannot support our application to utilise the above building as a small dwelling for an agricultural worker.

As you know, following the purchase of the property, Rock Lodge Cottage and its adjoining land during the summer of 2021 by me as owner of the main vineyard holding, I have reordered this property by extending this cottage and defining its garden area, excluding this small outbuilding which had no ongoing purpose. We made no significant alterations to the building, which was already well suited for use as a small habitation for a single occupant. This also suited the needs of the vineyard management, Plumpton College. Furthermore, the main area of adjoining land (1 ½ acres) has now been let, long-term, and planted as an apple orchard, thereby settling the future use of all elements for the long-term.

We do not believe that these arrangements have any negative impact on the agricultural rural nature of the vineyard estate nor on any adjoining property from whom there is no objection. Furthermore, there is no practical use to which this building could be put by us as the new owners and Plumpton College as our tenants. The building was well constructed some 20 years ago and to render it unusable would not seem to be of benefit to anyone, including MSDC, for whom a rateable income would also be potentially lost.

I hope there is some means by which the Planning Authority can help to deploy this existing building for long-term use.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]
Director
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