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PLANNING STATEMENT

November 2023

INTRODUCTION

This Planning Statement is in support of a Full Planning Application following submission of an application to determine if prior approval for a proposed: Erection, Extension or Alteration of a Building for Agricultural or Forestry use.

THE APPLICATION

The submission seeks Full Planning Consent to replace two existing dilapidated forestry buildings with new buildings for forestry use.

CROCKFORD COPSE

Crockford Copse is an area of mixed woodland located north-west of Crockford Road entering the village of West Grimstead, Salisbury. It is bordered to the south-west by open fields and to the north by the Southampton/Salisbury railway line.

The woodland extends to an area of 3.13 Ha.

The existing buildings comprise one open fronted storage barn with rustic timber frame and metal corrugated roof and three sides.

The second building comprises an open fronted two bay barn, a single bay barn with double door access and a two-bay workmen`s rest room with Crittall style windows and double door entrance. Construction is rustic timber framing, corrugated metal roof and sides.

The applicant has been granted a felling licence to manage the woodland.

It has not been possible to accurately date the current buildings, but they have been built with Crittall windows (started in 1849) and corrugated tin sheet (1828). Trying to trace any building on old maps has not helped. It is assumed they would be post-war when there was a push to work the land and the buildings would have been used in connection with forestry and agriculture to provide storage and shelter for workmen. Possibly erected pre-planning which is 1947?

DESIGN AND ACCESS

The present application seeks to rebuild the existing buildings for forestry use. The buildings are dilapidated but not in danger of collapse so would benefit from being rebuilt in a more robust and sustainable construction. They have simply gone past their sell-by date but have not become unnecessary for forestry operations.

The applicant owns land at Pear Tree Farm in Pitton, Snell Farm, West Winterslow and Butterfurlong Farm at East Grimtstead. Land in ownership has mixed agricultural use with some woodland at Butterfurlong Farm which is also the applicant`s main residence.

Crockford Copse provides additional woodland remote from the applicant`s other land and residence so the buildings on site are particularly useful for material storage and day use by forestry workers.

The design of the buildings maintains the footprint of the demolished barns and the accommodation will be similar with some improvements to meet modern Health and Safety on Site requirements - e.g. wc washroom and restroom facilities.

In line with this applicant`s track record to build to a very high level of workmanship and materials we propose to replace the barns with natural slate roof, Douglas Fir timber weatherboard cladding and two course facing brick plinth.

The barns will be used for forestry operations and workers and will not be used for overnight accommodation.

Access is retained off Crockford Road as existing.

CONCLUSION

It is submitted that this application would accord with the objectives of the NPPF and also the Development Plan seeking to deliver a sustainable solution by improving the current amenities and rural context of the site.