

Lomond Luxury Lodges



SELF CATERING ACCOMMODATION

Planning Appeal Supporting Statement-Jamie and Ingeborg Martin,

Owners Oakwoods Farm and Loch Lomond Luxury Lodges

LOCH LOMOND AND THE
TROSSACHS NATIONAL PARK

6 - SEP 2016

HEADQUARTERS

Firstly, we would like to thank you for taking the time to review our planning application for a retirement home on our farm which has been in our family for three generations now. It is our earnest hope that current and future generations of our family will be able to continue to live on the farm enjoying country life while being custodians of a very special place and helping to sustain rural enterprises that contribute positively to the National Park.

We are appealing the decision to refuse planning permission for our retirement home as we want to continue living on the farm while gradually passing over the day to day running of the self-catering business to our daughter as we move to semi-retirement and ultimately retirement. Free from the day to day demands of running the self-catering business we would also like to get back to directly running the stock and grazing side of what is a small farm which has been leased out for a number of years to a neighbouring farmer who has successfully managed a quality herd of Highland cows on our land.

Considerable thought went into the design of the house and although we believed we had presented a sound application covering the many planning criteria, on reflection we feel that perhaps we did not explain ourselves well enough due to our inexperience in dealing with such matters. We also consider the Planning Officer, perhaps understandably, was unaware of what is involved in the operation of a cluster of quality Five Star self-catering lodges operating at the luxury end of the tourism market which requires an onsite day to day management presence.

At no time during the processing of the planning application were we asked for any additional information or justification and therefore assumed the submitted information was sufficient. We hope that the additional information we are now providing, coupled with the various supporting letters, help make the justification for our proposed retirement home clearer and stronger and that members of the Planning and Access Committee will be minded to approve our application. We don't want to over complicate this statement and will keep things as simple as possible.

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