

2 Greenside,  
Off Garstang Road,  
Chipping,  
Preston,  
PR3 2QH

29<sup>th</sup> December, 2013

To whom it may concern,

I am writing this letter in support of the planning application made by Mr. & Mrs T. Gornall to change a holiday let into a Warden's home on the premises of Brickhouse Caravan Park in Chipping, which if granted, would release their current home – 1 Swinglehurst Cottages which I would dearly love to buy. The Caravan Park is a very popular tourist attraction in Chipping which has become extremely busy over the past three years. The people who come use all the facilities that our village has to offer. They dine in the two pubs, use the butchers and the post office, the play areas in and around the village hall and enjoy the wonderful walks around the area. Mr. and Mrs T. Gornall keep the Caravan area in pristine condition and work tirelessly to maintain its very high standards that the caravan visitors enjoy and say are fantastic.

My name is Helen Newell and I am a single parent. My son and I have lived in my parents' home at 2 Greenside, Chipping for the past thirteen years since I have been unable to purchase my own home at a price that has been affordable to me during this time. In effect, there are three generations of people living under one roof at my parents' home since my son is twelve years old, I myself am forty years old and my parents are nearly 70 years old. Consequently, relationships within the family are at times strained due to the circumstances. I would therefore relish the opportunity to purchase my own home, albeit an affordable one if 1 Swinglehurst Cottages became available since my ultimate goal is to buy a home not rent one so that myself and my son's future will be assured.

From a professional point of view, I have been employed as a teacher at a Catholic Primary School in Blackburn for the past four years on a permanent, full-time contract and am confident that my earnings would enable me to obtain a mortgage for an affordable property particularly since I would also be a First Time buyer. The opportunity to purchase the property at 1 Swinglehurst Cottages would not only enable me to live independently with my son but would also ensure that I would be within close proximity of my parents since my father has a number of health problems and I need to remain close by.

Since I have been desperate to have my own house in Chipping for many years, more recently, I applied for one of the six houses that are currently being built at Church Raikie in Chipping under the Ribble Valley Homes Scheme. I was hopeful of acquiring one of the houses since they are part of the Affordable Housing Scheme and although they are for rent initially, I had hoped that they would have a Right to buy or a Right to acquire on the property after a number of years. However, to my sheer disappointment, the dwellings are for rental only and the monthly rent on the property is £550.00, which in my opinion is not affordable and is in fact comparable with a mortgage. Furthermore, there is not a Right to buy, a Right to acquire or a Shared Ownership Scheme available on any of the properties which will consequently prevent local people from buying their new home in Chipping where opportunities for affordable housing are few and far between. The property at 1 Swinglehurst Cottages would therefore give me the opportunity to afford to buy my own home at 25% off the market value of the property.

