

Sharon Craig

From: Billington and Langho Parish Clerk <blparishclerk@outlook.com>
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Billington and Langho Parish Council wish to object to application 3/2020/0110 in the strongest terms.

The applicant's statement admits that the site of the building is in Open Countryside (para. 1.2).

The building for which change of use is sought was originally the very basic remains of a Dutch Barn in Dewhurst Farm's land, and was specifically permitted as a holiday let only last year under application 3/2019/0076.

Normally, new permanent residential accommodation would not be permitted in Open Countryside, unless there were exceptional justifications. The conditions for holiday lets in Open Countryside are not so onerous and as the applicant has stated (para. 6.1) the building is in a small cluster of existing holiday lets.

The applicant states in para. 5.3 that there is no demand for holiday lets. The Ribble Valley demonstrates how wrong he is, by virtue of the several hundred holiday lets that already exist locally and by the fact that 3,000 local jobs depend on tourism (various RVBC reports refer).

The parish council worry that permitting this application will open the floodgates to many more applications for permanent residential houses in the Open Countryside throughout the Borough – an open sesame to developers wherever they may have a spare plot of land !

Clerk to Billington and Langho Parish Council
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