

From: Gill Thompson
Sent: 14 July 2014 16:16
To: DC Consultation
Subject: RE: Planning Application Consultation 14NP0048 The Old Coach House, Whitefield Hall, Hepple, Morpeth, Northumberland, NE65 7LN

Dear Michael,

Thank you for consulting me on this application. I was consulted pre-validation and determined that a bat survey was not required to accompany this application since the extension was lower than the roof and not breaking into the existing wall, plus the widening of the door is minor and low level. I have no objections to the proposals and my only comment would be regarding the lighting of the facility. I note that they are intending to have limited lighting and I would advocate that as much as possible is on timer and or motion operated to prevent disturbance to bats and other nocturnal wildlife.

I do have some additional comments regarding the operation of the distillery, which we should perhaps bring to the applicants' attention as they may be relevant in the future operation of the business and may require further consents. I know the applicants are currently propagating some juniper from the existing plants on the estate with help from Natural England and the National Park Authority, but I would like to be assured that any collection of berries and management of the existing shrubs is sustainable. Some of the plants are found within the Simonside Hills SAC and collection from these will require consent (as would the collection of any plant material from within this area). The recent new water supply route that has been given approval is abstracting water from within the SAC and although the new supply was deemed acceptable by the Planning Authority and Natural England, if there is to be increased abstraction from this source to serve the distillery, this may require additional consents. The information regarding waste water is to discharge via the existing sewage package treatment site, but the details for this seem only to be regarding the increase in use for the additional workers at the site (which seem acceptable). If there is to be any waste water discharge from the distilling process, what would this contain and where would this go? Watercourses surrounding the property discharge into the River Coquet SSSI and I would like to ensure that there is no possibility of any effluent making its way into the watercourses.

If you wish to discuss any of these issues further, please contact me.

Yours sincerely,
Gill Thompson

-----Original Message-----

From: NNPA Planning Consultations [mailto:dcconsultation@nnpa.org.uk]
Sent: 02 June 2014 14:43
To: Gill Thompson
Subject: Planning Application Consultation 14NP0048 The Old Coach House, Whitefield Hall, Hepple, Morpeth, Northumberland, NE65 7LN

Please see the attached consultation regarding a planning application which has been received by Northumberland National Park Authority. Full details can be viewed at <http://nnpa.planning->

register.co.uk/plaPlanningAppDisplay.aspx?AppNo=14NP0048

Gill Thompson, Ecologist

Tel: [REDACTED]

IMPORTANT NOTICE - Disclaimer - Officers are expressly required not to make defamatory statements and not to infringe or authorize any infringement of copyright or any other legal right by email communications. Any such communication is contrary to ICT policies and outside the scope of the employment of the individual concerned. Northumberland National Park Authority will not accept any liability in respect of such communication, and the employee responsible will be personally liable for any damages or other liability arising.