

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 06 April 2016 15:52
To: Hiscox, John
Subject: 1 Leithen Road Innerleithen

Dear Mr. Hiscox

1 Leithen Road Innerleithen.

I am the owner of the above property which is currently leased out to Mrs Martha Gibson . Martha has been in touch this morning regarding a communication from yourself with regard to the shop colour scheme.

It is my understanding that Mrs. Gibson , unaware of the need for planning permission and at considerable expense ,had the shop repainted without submitting a planning application and subsequently the council contacted her in this regard . Agreement was reached with the then planning enforcement officer to allow the status quo on the proviso that a planning application was submitted. Accordingly Mrs.Gibson complied with all that was requested of her in this regard .

It now appears that the colours are now not going to be acceptable as they are not in keeping with conservation policy.

If it helps Mrs. Gibsons application in any way I write to advise that the present colour was one of the original exterior colour schemes many years ago when purples , browns and greens were traditional Victoriana favourites of the day and it does seem remarkable that this is no longer acceptable as a conservation colour. Many of my associates in the Antiques trade have actually remarked on how authentic the shop now looks in traditional mode and I personally like it very much. Although it could be construed that I have a vested interest in taking this standpoint, I can assure you this is not where I am coming from.....the contrast of the purple and cream complement each other admirably by way of authenticity.

Furthermore , Innerleithen is a difficult wee village in which to sustain a retail operation and 1,Leithen Road is no exception in this regard . I fear that if Mrs. Gibson is put to much more expense and anxiety , she may decide to close and it could be some considerable time before I can secure another tenant , leaving the premises empty which is not good for Innerleithen ascetics.

I submit this communication in the hope that all factors may be considered.

With Kind Regards ,

John Belford