

**CIVIC GOVERNMENT (SCOTLAND) ACT 1982**  
**NOTICE OF OBJECTIONS/REPRESENTATIONS**



**SCOTTISH BORDERS COUNCIL**

Licensing Unit, Council Headquarters, Newtown St Boswells TD6 0SA  
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**Application Details:** Snack van operation at Craighburn lay-by (A703) adjacent to Leadburn Community Woodland. Applicant is Bates, [REDACTED]. Application notice put in place at Leadburn on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> June.

**Name, Address and Contact Details of Objector:** Wendy Cunningham, [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**Nature of Objections/Representations** *(continue on separate sheet if required)*:

Friends of Leadburn Community Woodland (FLCW) owns the land adjoining the Craighburn lay-by and over the last 15 months the woodland has seen a marked increase in visitors. At any one time on weekdays we may have up to ten cars parked in the lay-by and over the weekends considerably more vehicles. People visit to walk along our paths, enjoy the quiet nature/emptiness of the location and enjoy views across to both the Pentland and Moorfoot Hills. The woodland was nominated for Local Biodiversity Site status in 2020, reflecting the range of habitats and species across this site. Volunteers have worked hard to plant and maintain more than 7000 trees, established ponds along the main burn and most recently arranged for the restoration of four hectares of raised bog, funded by NatureScot.

FLCW's experience of previous snack vans at the lay-by has not always been positive. Despite Scottish Borders Council's (SBC)' requirements for licensees to provide bins and for them to clear up at the end of each working day, our volunteers had to make regular trips to Eshiels to dispose of discarded packaging and rotting food. The last licenced user, Janey (?) with her Land Rover and trailer, moved to the opposite lay-by (about 500m south of Craighburn), within a couple of weeks of her setting up business. That lay-by is considerably longer (so more parking available), has a fully tarred and maintained surface and has a permanent Dumb Dumpers sign in place.

SBC has always been very responsive when we have reported fly tipping on the lay-by or at the edge of the woodland, and uplifts happened within 48 hours of reporting. In one of my online requests to SBC in 2020, I asked whether something could be done about the very degraded nature of the lay-by surface, which was (and still is) full of pot holes. I didn't get an e-mail response, but had a telephone message from someone from SBC saying that the Council did not own the lay-by and would therefore not be maintaining it. My understanding is that the Council does own part if not all of the lay-by, but would be grateful if ownership could be clarified through SBC's estates team.

Since the beginning of March 2021, volunteers have been filling pot holes on the Craighburn lay-by with donations of hardcore from Cowieslinn Quarry. This lay-by is regularly used as an overnight stop by trucks, as well as by delivery trucks and woodland visitors during the day time. We would prefer not to maintain the lay-by and its margins for through traffic and people stopping for only a few minutes and would appreciate the help and support of SBC to bring the surface of this lay-by back to a reasonable standard. Please note that Blue parking signs (P) are not in place at either the Craighburn lay-by or the one opposite on the southbound A703.

