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From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Mon, 9 Jan 2023 20:39:46 +0000Authentication

To: [REDACTED]

Subject: Support for Review 22/00047/RREF 22/00032/FUL Joinery Workshop Greenlaw

Sensitivity: Normal

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\f0Support comments to Local Review Body

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\f0It is on the planning file that I was an enthusiastic supporter of the application my Marchmont Farms Limited to offer a new location for the Waddell's growing joinery business to re-locate and increase employment.

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\f0I have visited the proposed site several times and visited the existing cramped and outgrown workshop.

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\f0Whilst this development modestly stretches the development boundary of Greenlaw it does so as a logical extension, adding a business unit next to an existing one and sharing an entrance.

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\f0It also offers opportunities for tree planting and a safer path for residents. Any visual issues could easily be dealt with by way of conditions.

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\f0Members have an opportunity to consent this proposal which would bring significant investment to Greenlaw, a town that needs more of that not less. ED7 allows members to make an exception when economic and employment benefits would arise. That is clearly the case here.

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\f0Having seen the existing workshop it is clear it is hampering growth. As the appeal makes clear the Waddell's have a strong commitment to developing their local workforce with training and apprenticeship schemes. A relocated base will enable them to take on a number of more staff and create additional local employment. It also enables them to move into a more sustainable & environmental building.

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\f0The move from Eccles to Greenlaw also brings them into a settlement with a shop, cafe, butchers and pharmacy which will inevitably help support those businesses too.

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\f0Officers commented that businesses should be accommodated in settlements with existing industrial sites. There are simply none available in Greenlaw, nearby in Duns all vacant plots are allocated and I've a number of constituents where their business growth is being hampered by lack of suitable sites. One has recently expanded onto land out with the industrial estate, another business is about to leave.

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\f0This is an opportunity to recognise and support a collaboration between three significant local employers. Marchmont Farms Limited are willing to contradict their policy of not selling land in order to enable another local business to grow and Border Embroideries are happy to offer shared access through their business site.

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\f0If consented Berwickshire gets a growing business, Greenlaw gets more economic activity and SBC will get an additional business unit to levy rates on - all at no cost to SBC.

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\f0Our policies are, rightly, there to guide development but this is a great opportunity to take a wider view and for SBC to actively support and encourage responsible business growth.

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\f0I hope Members will take that positive & pragmatic view.

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\f0Mark

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\f0Councillor Mark Rowley

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\f0Councillor for Mid-Berwickshire

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\f0**Executive Member for Service Delivery & Transformation**

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\f0Finance & Budget Oversight, Human Resources,

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