

A summary of the proposed erection of a temporary yurt at Lawrence's brow St Martins and the repair and refurbishment of an existing concrete barn into an ancillary building.

It is my belief that this proposed development fits like a glove with the aspirations set out in the local plan for Scilly.

- **“Where it demonstrably improves the quality of existing tourist accommodation, or potentially extends the length of the tourist season.” (Policy 4)** The yurt is a value-added provision for the tourist market. It will contain a wood burning stove, new pine furniture, rugs, and have solar powered lighting and charging. It is also offered with free use of an inflatable boat, two kayaks, four wetsuit/snorkelling equipment kits and shrimp nets. Outside of the yurt there will be a sturdy, six seater garden table for outdoor dining and a purpose built barbeque.
- **As has been shown during the school holidays there is no spare, available tourist accommodation on St Martins, with the neighbouring yurt full booked, each year until the end of October, helping extend the tourist season. I already have a wealth of people wishing to use this facility as they have no other options available to them.**
- **“The intention of this plan is therefore to support business development that will benefit the overall community and facilitate employment opportunities for those who wish to live within it”.** This project will provide one additional full-time job and one part- time job on St Martins, **“It also emphasises the need for a high quality and distinctive response to changing markets in tourism” (Policy 4)** Glamping in many forms is currently the fastest growing sector of UK tourism, with increasing demand outstripping current supply.
- **“.....including where appropriate, energy conservation and the use of renewable sources of energy generation, minimising the consumption and discharge of water....” Policy4**
Both the yurt and ancillary building will be **solar powered**, harvested water for showering will be UV treated. Water for human consumption, cooking, washing up etc, will be provided in large format drinking containers, responsibly recycled. There will be a compost, odour free toilet system, not adding to the island fowl waste system. **This is a low environmental project, with green credentials...**
- **“Ensuring or facilitating the re-use of previously developed land and existing buildings for the economic, social and environmental benefit of the Islands and local communities” (Policy 2)**
The existing 1930's shuttered concrete storage building is in poor state. This would be reroofed and refurbished completely to provide clean and dry, toilet, washing and cooking facilities.
The economic benefit to all of the Island businesses cannot be denied. The land has been farmed by myself, for twenty years as an agricultural holding.
- **The site is screened to the East by continuous unbroken Pittus Sporum hedging, 4m high, to the south by a 4m blown sand/ Marram grass bank and to the west by Pittus Sporum hedging planted in 2016 and now 1-1.5 M tall. This will achieve 2m by the end of this growing season, providing total screening.**
- **The site is served by two tracks, one Westward and one Eastward, both accessible to cars, tractors and emergency vehicles and the Eastward track is merely 400m to local shops, tea rooms, bakery gallery, restaurants and Hightertown quay.**
- **The Westward is 400m to an organic veg/fruit stall and 15 minutes walk to the Island pub, hotel, silversmith gallery and lowertown quay.**
- **The site although accessible to amenities is remote from any other human habitation, not creating noise or light pollution..**
- **The yurt would be erected in the spring and stored away during the winter months.**

It is my belief that this temporary, removable, low impact project would be,

“Improving the availability of high quality accommodation and raising the value of the tourism product” (Policy 4)

Its benefits of increasing employment and greatly contributing to the St Martins economy are undeniable, whilst not being a drain on water consumption or the discharge of it.

It will make use of renewable sources of energy, meeting modern-day carbon reduction targets.

I ask you for your support for this application. Yours sincerely, T Tobin-Dougan