

Planning Consultation (DPD)

From: Simone Stanbrook-Byrne <[REDACTED]>
Sent: 15 May 2020 15:09
To: Planning Consultation (DPD)
Subject: Design Guide

Dear Planning,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on your Design Guide.

We live at Yarde Down Farm, EX5 4DG, above Silverhaye Farm. The appearance of this hillside was used by the National Trust at Killerton (which overlooks our hillside) as a fine example of the pastoral landscape which surrounds Killerton.

That was before you permitted the recent desecration of this landscape by the development of Silverhaye Farm. It's too late to save the landscape here, but we urge you not to let it happen elsewhere. This was an opportunity for a sensitive and attractive new holding. The opportunity was missed.

To quote from your reports.

1. "First consider the landscape setting and the characteristics of this setting which help development retain a distinctiveness in association with each particular landscape type (see Page 7 of this volume of the guide)."

Given the dominant, scruffy and unsightly sprawl of Silverhaye that, we are told, complies with Planning, the landscape setting cannot have been considered.

2. Materials and colours should be carefully selected to compliment the landscape and avoid being overly prominent. Selections should respond to the immediate surrounding landscape"

Silverhaye fails on every aspect of this. It is an eye sore, set prominently on a hill, overlooking the beautiful Culm Valley and historic landscape of Killerton, from which it is strikingly visible. I'm sorry to say that we feel the Planning Department should be ashamed of itself, for permitting this.

3. "Large expanses of roof and walls should be avoided or broken up with changes in materials, heights and set backs."

Large expanses of eye-catching bright concrete have not been avoided and dominate the hillside.

4. "Primarily agricultural and commercial buildings need to be fit for purpose but they can also be designed to be sensitive to their surroundings so as to have a positive impact on the character of the district. The importance of the design and appearance of these buildings is proportional to their location as there is more to consider in open countryside or an historic settlement than in the context of one of the district's existing industrial estates"

The Silverhaye development appears to have been allowed to be seriously INsensitive.

We fear there is nothing you can do to put right the wrong that you have permitted here, but PLEASE don't permit other developments to desecrate Mid Devon's lovely landscape in this way.

Kind regards,

PHA & SL Stanbrook-Byrne

Yarde Down Farm, Silverton, EX5 4DG