

## McCallum, Fiona

---

**From:** Point & Park Farm [REDACTED] >  
**Sent:** 11 September 2023 08:55  
**To:** McCallum, Fiona  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Notice of Review - Reference 23/0006/LRB (Planning Ref: 22/02100/PP) - Eilean Loch Oskair, off Isle of Lismore'

Dear Fiona McCallum

I am writing in full support of the above review/application. I have known the applicant for over eight years, since I purchased a farm on Lismore and the applicant is a tenant of my farm land. I am also a near neighbour of his existing holiday let cottage and my farm is right next to his son's farm. Hence I am fully aware of how critically important it is that Mr McGillivray is supported by Argyll and Bute Council Planning Department and the Councillors, in realising his innovative but sensitive development as included in his planning application.

This new self-catering, short-term holiday let accommodation will provide Mr McGillivray with an essential additional income stream at a time when agricultural input costs have rocketed and continue to do so; and there is huge uncertainty over future Government support post-Brexit. Farming on an island brings even greater costs and pressures.

I know that Mr McGillivray has already put in place plans for transitioning his tenancies to his son (who farms the leased farm next to my property). This proposed holiday let is not only for Mr McGillivray's farm diversification, but also - and perhaps more importantly - to ensure that his son will indeed be able to stay on the island and take over the McGillivray farming business. Supporting initiatives which not only help farm businesses diversify and survive; but also that keep young people on the island, contributing to the longer term economic and social welfare of the island, is surely something at the heart of all Councillors' decisions?

My understanding and opinion is that the approval of this holiday let cottage is critical to the longer-term survival of the McGillivray farming enterprise. Mr McGillivray owns this registered crofting entity and it is actually (as I understand it) the only place/land where he could in fact create and build a property which will generate much needed additional income. He has no other options for investing in and building a property for holiday lets.

Mr McGillivray is already successfully running one short-term holiday let accommodation on Lismore, so he has a strong track record in making such enterprises work. However one property is not enough income given the financial pressures on farming today. He has, in my mind, rightly then taken the initiative by investing in and developing these proposals in an environmentally- and scenic-sensitive way, on the only land in his ownership where he is able to do this. If he is denied this opportunity by the Council, then my understanding is that he has no other options available; and hence a negative decision by the Council, as I understand it, will put his entire farming enterprise at risk and potentially jeopardise the future on the island for his son.

My understanding is that there were no objections from any of the bodies consulted. I whole-heartedly write in support of his application review and indeed commend his initiative in fighting for the survival of his farm and for his son's future in farming.

Ron Livingstone  
Point and Park Farm  
Isle of Lismore

