LETTEAL

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Dundas Cottage, Ettrick, Scottish Borders TD7 5HU

Scottish Borders Council, Plans and Research Team Newton St. Boswells, Melrose TD6 0SA



6 December 2013

Dear Mr Wanless,

Proposed Plan: AETTR003

Thank you for your letter dated 2 December 2013 regarding the above.

As owners of Dundas, the house directly above the road from the subject, we are very surprised to see that yet again building permission has been granted for the above plots. The plots lie very close to the original route of the Ettrick, which was diverted in Victorian times, and since we have lived here (from May 2011) we have witnessed severe flooding in the fields directly across the road from our house. This seems to be getting worse and we have enclosed several pictures – some taken from inside the house – which show the extent of the flooding. We often see surface water which indicates that the solem of this land is waterlogged. In addition to periodic flooding from torrential rain, we can testify that water runs off the hill behind our house continually, come rain or shine. It drains off, under the road and onto the land below, making it marshy and soggy underfoot.

We have lived in Dundas for two and a half years and in that time we have often sent photographs to the Planning Department and also we have directly approached SEPA. We have also contacted these departments during visible flooding, inviting their flood control officer to visit the site and make their own photographic record. We do not know if anyone appeared.

Under all these circumstances, we believe that the regular flooding makes the land unsuitable for building development and as such we would be very interested to hear your up to date analysis of the situation.

Should you need any more information or photographic evidence, please do not hesitate to contact us but we would encourage you to make your own scientific measurements. We are happy to alert you to future adverse weather conditions here in the Ettrick Valley.

Your sincerely,

Graeme and Mairi Briggs











