Proposed Development of Tregarthen's Hotel

Dear Lisa,

The owner has done very little to improve the exterior of the "eyesore" which is Tregarthen's Hotel. His current proposal is to add more inferior dwellings, exacerbating the "eyesore". It is proposed that these dwelling are sited in front of the refurbished block, completed last year, compromising the view of the harbour of guests renting these suites and creating shadow. Is he considering the experience of guests in these already finished suites?

He states that his development will help with the Covid crisis. This is a ridiculous comment, as by the time the units are built, the crisis will be over and we'll all be vaccinated, and if Covid contamination is still rife, then the units will not be allowed to function.

He equates the development with glamping, and by so doing, is admitting that it is not hotel accommodation, but something inferior. St. Mary's already has a glamping site and a camp site for guests who can only afford a more economical experience. These sites are both hidden away from the main areas of the quay and the town. In his plan, the package involves "a ladder" to access the bed, which is pushed up against a wall, so not for the infirm or elderly.

His staff are already accommodated at The Woolpack, so on finishing their shift, must climb Garrison hill to live underground.

I would ask you to consider this developer's attitude to Scilly, his guests and his staff. He doesn't live here and has no intention of doing so. Compare his modus operandi with that of the owner of St. Mary's Hall, who takes a real interest in the Islands. When this developer has given St. Mary's its next substandard accommodation, which is not in his backyard, but the backyard of St. Mary's for the perpetuity, it is my opinion that he will seek to sell off the Hotel as time share. It will do nothing for the status of the Hotel or for Scilly in the long term.