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By Liv Rickman at 2:53 pm, Dec 14, 2022

**From:** [Christopher Garratt](#)  
**To:** [Planning \(Isles of Scilly\)](#)  
**Subject:** PLANNING REF. P/21/041/FUL  
**Date:** 13 December 2022 11:09:35

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Construction of two new dwellings (Amended Plans)

Location: Land at Porthcressa, Buzza Road, Hugh Town, St. Marys

Dear Lisa Walton

Thank you for your letter of December 5th inviting responses to the amended planning application

P/21/041/FUL. I am dismayed but not surprised at the persistence of the applicant(s)- (it is unclear to me who owns the land or in whose interest it is to develop it).

The photograph of the site c.1938 showing two small sheds within open coastal countryside provides a poignant visual contrast with the contemporary montage of two houses jammed in between public pathways and a rockface. Interestingly, although the two designs are identical, one has a much bigger garden than the other; bit of friction over the garden wall there? Both have a pretty dismal outlook from the back door, as well as being overlooked from the Buzza Hill path.

The area to the south of the proposed development provides the only open green space along the whole Porthcressa bank; with its tended grass and public benches, it is popular with both visitors and residents as a place to meet, picnic, socialise or simply to gaze out to sea. More consistent (though less profitable?) with the pastoral ambience of this Buzza Hill and quarry area would be to revitalise the proposed building site as landscaped garden for public use.

Regrettably, it is too often the case that social, environmental or even "aesthetic" concerns are overridden by speculative ventures disguised as progressive projects. It's all very heart-warming, it is argued, to talk about the well-being benefits of nature, re-wilding, bats and hedgehogs, but "you can't live in hedgerows and brambles". Obviously housing needs are a priority, never more so than in a constrained, finite land-mass such as St. Marys. But this proposal, even with its amendments and adjustments, for all the carefully researched and reasons given by your correspondents, does not answer those needs.

What it does do is (quote) "... offer the opportunity for local people to acquire the kind of home normally reserved for wealthy mainland buyers". Really?

Please seriously consider mine and the many other's strong objections to this plan, which I hope will ensure its final rejection.

Yours Sincerely

Christopher Garratt  
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