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Direct Line: 01588 674088
Email: phil.holden@shropshire.gov.uk
Your Ref: 12/05237/HRM
Our Ref: ph_020113_Marrington Farm hedges

2 January 2013

Dear Dougald

12/05237/HRM Removal of hedgerows, Marrington Farm, Chirbury

The Shropshire Hills AONB Partnership objects to this application. The removal of hedgerows on this scale is an extraordinary proposal which would have a profound effect on the character of an area of landscape with historic and wildlife value, in the setting of the Shropshire Hills AONB.

Though outside the AONB itself, the site is an area in which we have an interest, being within the boundaries of the proposed Stiperstones and Corndon Hill Country Landscape Partnership scheme (www.stiperstonesandcorndon.co.uk), in which we are the lead partner. This scheme does not confer any new protection or restriction on land, but does recognise the considerable landscape value of the area, and is intended to provide advice and some funding support for voluntary conservation initiatives on farmland. The removal of hedgerows as proposed in this application would run significantly against the scheme's vision of conserving and enhancing landscape value in the area.

Yours sincerely

Phil Holden
AONB Partnership Manager