

**19 DCCW2005/0698/F - SITING OF POLYTUNNELS IN CONNECTION WITH RAISED BED STRAWBERRY PRODUCTION AT BROOK FARM, MARDEN, HEREFORDSHIRE, HR1 3ET****For: S.&A. Davies per White Young Green, Ropemaker Court, 12 Lower Park Row, Bristol, BS1 5BN****Date Received: 2nd March, 2005      Ward: Sutton Walls      Grid Ref: 52569, 48341****Expiry Date: 22nd June, 2005**

Local Member: Councillor J.G.S. Guthrie

**1. Site Description and Proposal**

- 1.1 Brook Farm, Marden is located to the north of the village and is accessed off the C1120 Marden to Bodenham road.
- 1.2 The proposal is to cover 55 hectares of land with polytunnels utilising raised bed/table top strawberry production methods. Each tunnel would be 8 metres wide and contain six rows of raised beds. The polytunnels would be covered for 3/4 months of the year.
- 1.3 A full Environmental Impact Assessment has been submitted with the application and will form part of any future recommendation.
- 1.4 In view of the extensive coverage involved and the potential for its impact upon the landscape character of the area, it is recommended that the Sub-Committee view the site in May/June.
- 1.5 It is not clear yet when the full report and recommendation will be before the Central Area Planning Sub-Committee but it is anticipated that this would be at its meeting on 1st or 29th June, 2005.

**RECOMMENDATION****That a site inspection be held on the following grounds:**

- **The character or appearance of the development itself is a fundamental consideration (encompassing scale and design issues).**
- **A judgement is required on visual impact.**
- **The setting and surroundings are fundamental to the determination or to the conditions being considered (impact on neighbouring amenity in particular).**

Decision: .....

Notes: .....

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**Background Papers**

Internal departmental consultation replies.