

Planning Statement

Newbank Garden Centre, Radcliffe

Our business in Radcliffe has gone from strength to strength over the 25 years we have been trading here, becoming one of the most recognisable businesses in the area and a hub for the local community.

As much as we try to paper over the cracks with our displays and exciting products, the infrastructure of the site is now starting to let us down quite badly.

The plans submitted will dramatically improve the site for our customers and staff without any detriment to the local area. We have always tried to keep the garden centre authentic and full of character and this is what we will be trying to achieve with this development.

Benefits to the business include:

- Much improved and larger café facilities - we have fallen behind in many ways to people like Bents, Barton Grange, Hayes and more. Their café facilities currently bring lots of people into their local areas from far afield due to the fact they can house so many people. Our café at the moment, although quaint, is terribly degraded, too small and customers have to walk in the rain to get to it. This new development would form part of our main building with excellent toilet, disabled and baby changing facilities, free wifi and fantastic new menus with local produce. We see the new café project as essential to the longevity of the business as leisure is now a key factor in any successful retail business on our scale. We have noticed a real fall in customer numbers over the past few years with so many modern and exciting choices now available elsewhere.
- We believe this new development will bring the benefit of many new jobs, estimate 10-15
- We intend to create a fully landscaped courtyard where people can sit out, either under heated awnings or fully outside in the sunshine.
- This development will secure the future of Newbank in Bury and help to keep us competitive as one of the premier garden centres in the North.
- Our car park is rarely full these days, aside from the busy two weeks at Christmas, we are hoping that the extra seating, improved toilet and parent facilities, weatherproof access and new ambience will attract the local people of the borough and many others as well.
- We have been a stalwart of Bury for over 30 years and wish to continue being here for another 30 years, but we need the new development as food and leisure is now an intrinsic part of a retail offering, especially in the current economic climate.

We hope you find out exciting project viable and look forward to bringing a new chapter to the area.

Jon Bottomley

Commercial Director

Newbank Garden Centres Ltd.