

Update on Threeways planning consent.

We have endeavoured to engage with Suffolk CC to discuss the basis of the consent to the Threeways planning permission.

Cllr Elnaugh and Daphne Youngs produced a question set which has been sent to the following:

Jo Churchill: MP for Bury St Edmunds

Philip Isbell: Suffolk Planning officer

Tom Barker: Director of Planning and Building Control

Babergh Planning

This question set is Agenda item 13.2 on the portal.

To date only Jo Churchill has responded to any enquiries.

We have received no response from any of the above parties.

Complaint lodged with Babergh on 3rd April 2024 – no response however they must acknowledge within 5 days and respond within 10 days – no response

Follow up complaint to Mid Suffolk on 22nd April 2024 to complain that original complaint had not been responded to - BMCU607900034. No response.

Follow up to Isbell – no response – sent 22nd April 2024

Follow up to Barker – no response – sent 22nd April 2024.

The email to Barker read:

Dear Mr Barker

I am writing to you that the Drinkstone Parish Council strongly object to the above approval granted by Sarah Scott. I have raised this matter with our local MP and Nicky Willshire and am in the process of raising the decision with the Ombudsman.

I attach a set of questions that I believe need answering since the approval is a blatant rejection of our Neighbourhood Plan. I would be grateful if we could arrange a meeting where your team can explain how they reached this decision - I understand from other clerks in the County that there are material concerns over some of the decisions taken by the department. The planning approval has caused serious concerns amongst parishioners and residents and if this is allowed to continue has the potential to open the floodgates for further planning applications.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Jo Churchill is planning to meet with Isbell on our behalf however we have yet to hear the outcome of that meeting.

In summary the conduct of the key decision makers in Suffolk have shown no interest in entering into a discussion with the Drinkstone Parish Council and have ignored every request for information.

Drinkstone has requested a discussion so that it can better understand how the planning committee came to make its decision so that future applications can be better reviewed and commented upon.

Michael Walton

Clerk

13th May 2024