



Bothenhampton & Walditch

Parish Council since 1886

Mrs Jean Marshall
Head of Planning
South Walks House
South Walks Road
Dorchester
Dorset
DT1 1UZ

19th July 2019

Dear Mrs Marshall

RE: HOMESTEAD FARM, MAIN STREET, BOTHENHAMPTON, DT6 4BJ
PLANNING NO WD/D/17/002888

The Parish Council wrote to Ms Redding on 12th June 2019 and requested a response in time for our meeting on the 8th July, a response was received from Ms Redding on the 20th June by email informing us that you have been investigating the concerns and discrepancies and expect a revised application to be submitted soon.

We endured another angry and frustrating confrontation at our meeting on 8th July, between Mr Hughes and some 30 residents about the size and impact of this building. Allegations of harassment were made. This confrontation continued in the street outside for a long time afterwards.

For the benefit of the 'new' Parish Council, Mr Hughes represented a sketch of the development, and a recent photograph of the current state of the building. He asserted that the roof in dispute was to a lower building in the complex than the one whose height the Parish Council had objected to. He made no admission as to the height of this building. We understand that the sketch comes from the Design and Access Statement which stated that the house was to be rebuilt to its original height.

Mr Hughes admitted that a mistake had been made when Mr Pinto told him that 40% of the Forest Marble put by for the street wall cladding was 'friable' and that as a result the specification should be changed to Purbeck stone (thus changing its conservation impact drastically). A member of the public asked whether the client or the architect should be the responsible party. Many others asserted that the height of the roof should be reduced to the permitted level. Mr Hughes called on the PC to arrange a reconciliation between the parties.

The current position of the Parish Council is that the character of this development within a Conservation Area should be recognised as worthy of conservation protection. We believe that the Conservation Officer should reconsider its value.

We have been presented with alleged evidence of anomalies (reported by Andy Jeffries) between the approved documents as permitted by WDDC, which we sent to Jean

Marshall (Head of Planning) on 18th February to study and research, and we sent an expert's report* to Kevin Perry (enforcement officer) on 8th March. We remain of the view that the anomalies should be resolved in order to bring peace to our parish.

I would appreciate an early response to this letter outlining the action that Dorset Council is taking as further escalation of this dispute which is damaging our community is very likely.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A J Basker', written over a light blue grid background.

Cllr A J Basker
Chairman

Bothenhampton & Walditch Parish Council

clerk@bothenhamptonwalditchparishcouncil.com

Website www.bothenhamptonwalditchparishcouncil.com

*not a report commissioned by the Parish Council and we have no view on its accuracy

CC:

Cllrs Williams, Bolwell, Clayton

DC Conservation Officer

Ms D Redding

Roger Hussey, Crickmay Stark Architects