

## Planning Committee – 19 November 2008

### Report of the Development Manager

#### Enforcement Item

##### Parish:

1. **File/Complaint Number** E107/08/2008
2. **Location of Site** 22 Hale Way, Taunton
3. **Names of Owners** Mrs S Hillburn & Mr R Wills. 22 Hale Way, Maidenbrook, TAUNTON. TA2 8PU
4. **Name of Occupiers** Mrs S Hillburn & Mr R Wills
5. **Nature of Contravention**  
Fence erected over 2 meters in height

##### 6. **Planning History**

The fence was first brought to the Council's attention in May 2008. Contact was made with the owner in June and an application was requested for the retention of the fence at the varying heights between 2.1m and 2.4m as measured from their side. In July a telephone call was received by the Senior Enforcement Officer who advised the owner that he would discuss the matter with the Planning Enforcement Officer on her return. Following this and from the information that was discussed regarding the increase of land on the adjoining properties the Senior Enforcement Officer wrote to the owners explaining Planning permission was required. A response was received in August 2008 setting out the reasons for the increase in height and in November 2008 a further letter was received saying they were not prepared to submit an application for the increase in height of the fence.

7.

When the owners first moved in to the property a native hedge was in situ with the boundary of Maidenbrook Farmhouse. This hedge was removed by the developers and the owners of 22 Hale Way therefore felt it necessary to erect a boundary fence. Over a period of time the developers and the owners of Maidenbrook Farmhouse have raised the ground level to their side. As a result earlier this year the owners felt the necessity to raise the existing fence to compensate for the ground level being raised in order to retain their privacy. A natural hedge has been planted on the owners side and is establishing very well. It is anticipated that in the future this will cover the fence and thus encourage wild life to return. It is not considered that the fence is detrimental to visual amenities of both properties such as to warrant taking enforcement action.

8. **Recommendation**

No further action

**In preparing this report the Planning Officer has considered fully the implications and requirements of the Human Rights Act 1998.**

**CONTACT OFFICER: Mrs A Dunford 01823 356479**