

Planning Committee – 20 April 2011

Report of the Development Manager

Enforcement Item

Parish:

1. **File/Complaint Number** E/0086/25/09
2. **Location of Site** Courtlands Farm, Minehead Road, Norton Fitzwarren, Taunton, TA2 6NS
3. **Names of Owners** Mr P Schicht
4. **Name of Occupiers** Mr P Schicht
5. **Nature of Contravention**

Various unauthorised signs at Courtlands Farm, Minehead Road, Norton Fitzwarren, Taunton

6. Planning History

The unauthorised signs were brought to the Council's attention in March 2009. Contact was made with the owner and a site visit was arranged. The Planning Officer and I met Mr Schicht on site and verbally agreed that a corporate sign would likely to be acceptable in the event of an advert application being submitted. In March 2010 an advert application was submitted and subsequently approved on the 9 June 2010 with a note attached advising the applicant that the unauthorised signs should be removed within 3 months to avoid prosecution action being taken by the Local Planning Authority. Further contact has been made in September 2010 and January 2011 requesting that the unauthorised signs be removed and the approved corporate sign be erected. In February 2011 the approved corporate sign was erected but the unauthorised signs were not removed and to date they still remain in situ.

7. Reasons for Taking Enforcement Action

The signs by reason of their number, siting, proportion, design and materials create visual clutter and hence are contrary to Policy EC26 (A), (C) of the Taunton Deane Local Plan.

8. Recommendation

The Solicitor to the Council be authorised to commence prosecution proceedings to secure the removal of the unauthorised signs.

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

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