

1. **File/Complaint Number** E0124/51/10
2. **Location of Site** Land adjacent to King William Drove, Stathe Road, BURROWBRIDGE.
3. **Names of Owners** Mr R Harbourn
4. **Names of Occupiers** Persons unknown
5. **Nature of Contravention** Change of use of land by stationing of vehicles/motor home and erection of structure for residential purposes.
6. **Planning History** A complaint was received on 12<sup>th</sup> May 2010 that a number of persons had occupied the land over the last week and had started to construct what appeared to be a 'straw house'. A site visit was made on 18<sup>th</sup> May where it was found that a group of people were intending to tend the land, grow vegetables and reside on the land for short periods between travelling to festivals etc. The structure was intended to house small implements. The owner was contacted and informed that Planning permission was required as the occupiers had stated that they would be on the site in excess of 28 days in any one year. The owner was intending to submit a timetable of when the site would be occupied but this has not been forthcoming. Further visits have been made to the site and at the time there was no one on site. The straw structure was complete and fitted with a window and door with various items inside that were not in connection with the enterprise. Further complaints have been received that the group are now back in residence. The land has now been occupied for more than 28 days and no Planning application has been submitted.
7. **Reasons for taking Action** No justification has been submitted to support the need for a dwelling on agricultural/horticultural need therefore the use of the structure and Motor home is contrary to policies S1 (General Requirements) and S7 (Outside Settlement) of the Taunton Deane Local Plan and policies STR1 and STR6 of the Somerset and Exmoor National Park Joint Structure Plan Review.
8. **Recommendation** The Solicitor to the Council be authorised to serve an enforcement notice to ensure that the land is not used for residential purposes and take prosecution action, subject to satisfactory evidence, in the event that the notice is not complied with

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

**CONTACT OFFICER: Mr John A W Hardy Tel: 356466**