

Planning Committee – 7 January 2009

Report of the Development Manager

Enforcement Item

Parish:

- | | | |
|----|--------------------------------|---|
| 1. | File/Complaint Number | E247/38/2007 |
| 2. | Location of Site | Taunton School, Staplegrove Road, Taunton |
| 3. | Names of Owners | Unknown |
| 4. | Name of Occupiers | Taunton School |
| 5. | Nature of Contravention | |

Various unauthorised works at the Taunton school campus as listed below.

1. Wills West and East - Unauthorised windows, guttering and down pipes.
2. Services and events building – as 1 above
3. Southern Section of Loveday – as 1 above
4. Whittaker - The guttering and down pipes
5. Thone – as 4 above

6. **Planning History**

Following a complaint in 2003 regarding unauthorised windows to the rear of the main building, a follow up visit was made in April 2007 at which it was noted that further unauthorised works had been carried out. The issues were discussed with Mr Pitman (Estates Bursar) and agreed the best way forward which was to submit retrospective applications. By August 2007 no action had been undertaken and no assurances received as to when any action would be taken. A further visit was carried out in September 2007 with the Conservation Officer (Di Hartnell), The Bursar (Mr Taylor), Estates Bursar (Mr Pitman) and the Planning Enforcement Officer (Ann Dunford). A letter was sent in May 2008 outlining the issues raised at the meeting and what the Council felt was the best way forward. Contact was made by Mr Pitman to arrange a further site meeting in order to sign off some of the works that had been carried out. In September 2008 another letter was sent suggesting a reasonable time scale for the remainder of the outstanding works to be completed for their agreement. A reminder letter was sent in December 2008 requesting a response to my September letter but to date no response has been received.

7. Reasons for Taking Action

Unauthorised works detrimental to the character of the Listed Buildings contrary to Policy 9 of the Somerset and Exmoor National Park Joint Structure Plan Review and PPG 15.

8. Recommendation

The Solicitor to the council be authorised to serve a Listed Building Enforcement notice and commence prosecution action in respect of the unauthorised works to this Listed Building.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 Tel: 01823 356479