

PLANNING COMMITTEE – 13 OCTOBER, 2004

Report of the Development Control Manager

ENFORCEMENT

Parish: Pitminster

1. **File/Complainant Number** E251/30/2004
2. **Location of Site** Minsters Edge, Pitminster, Taunton.
3. **Names of Owners** Mr P Adams
4. **Names of Occupiers** Mr Adams
5. **Nature of Contravention**

Change of use of agricultural land to domestic use

6. **Planning History**

Complaints have been received regarding the change of use of this land from time to time since 2002. Various uses have taken place for short periods including quad bike racing and bouncy castles but latterly the land has been used by Mr Adam's children to play football and other games. Also the grass has been closely mown giving a domestic type appearance. The owner has been informed that the use requires planning permission and that any application may not be viewed favourably. The owner has recently instructed a Planning Consultant to act on his behalf and to submit a change of use planning application.

7. **Reasons for Taking Action**

In the opinion of the Local Planning Authority the use of this land for domestic use is to the detriment of the environmental quality and landscape character of the area. Also, the site lies beyond the recognised limits of the designated settlement in open countryside where it is the policy of the local Planning Authority to resist residential development. Accordingly the change of use is contrary to Policy S8 of the Taunton Deane Local Plan Revised Deposit and Policy STR6 of the Somerset and Exmoor National Park Joint Structure Plan Review.

8. **Recommendation**

The Solicitor to the Council be authorised to take enforcement action and prosecution proceedings, subject to satisfactory evidence should the notice not be complied with.

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

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