

Report of the Chief Planning Officer

ENFORCEMENT ITEM

Parish: Bishops Hull

1. **File/Complaint Number** E64/05/2002
2. **Location of Site** Little Shamba, Upcott Lane, Bishops Hull, Taunton
3. **Names of Owners** Mr Paul Roper
4. **Names of Occupiers** M L E Caravans
5. **Nature of Contravention**

Use of land for the storage of caravans for sale together with 2 touring caravans for residential purposes.

6. **Planning History**

Planning permission was granted on appeal to use the site for the siting of two gypsy caravans and two commercial vehicles in January, 1986. In March of this year a complaint was received that the land was being used to store caravans. A visit was made on 16th April, 2002 when it was found that the two existing mobile homes on the site had been rendered unfit for human habitation. The owner had employed persons to refurbish the units and they had brought onto site their own touring caravan. They envisaged the work taking about a month. Further complaints were received that more caravans had been brought onto site. When visited it was found that a number of large touring caravans with a caravan dealers advertisement affixed to the windows were sited along the western boundary. When questioned the person on site said they would be gone by the end of the week, however from a visit on 16th September, 2002 the caravans were still on site.

7. **Reasons for taking Action**

The site is located in a rural location where the roads leading to and from the site are narrow. It is considered that the site is not suitable for a commercial operation especially one that involves the transport of large Romany type caravans. It is also considered that the use of the site to store caravans has a detrimental affect on the amenities of the area.

8. **Recommendation**

The Solicitor to the council be authorised to commence enforcement action and prosecution proceedings 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.

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