

Supplementary Item

38/18/0165

Cutliffe Farm, Sherford, Taunton

Introduction

The above application was recommended for approval and approved by the Chair of Planning Committee on 8 July 2018. The conditional approval was issued on 11 July 2018. A copy of the report and decision are attached in Appendix 1.

However under the Taunton Deane Borough Council Delegated Powers the application should have been reported to Planning Committee for consideration and determination as four submissions and an objection from the Ward Councillor were received during the assessment of the application.

Update of Report

For clarification, the following submissions were received:

Five representations received objecting to the application on some or all of the following grounds:

- protection of the Vivary Green Wedge
- increase in traffic using Sherford Road
- increased hazard for cyclists and pedestrians
- the units are being let out to hospital workers not just seasonal farm workers

One representation was received from the Ward Councillor, Councillor Berry, making the following comments:

This item was the subject of an earlier dispute in which the planning committee reversed a recommendation by officers.

I wish to record my objection to this proposal. The Vivary Green Wedge needs to be protected and allowing the annexe at this farm to be used for letting to non-agricultural workers (and or non-seasonal workers) would drive a coach and horses through this Council's continuing policy of protecting the green spaces around the town. As well as allowing permanent lets in the green wedge, it would affect traffic by vastly increasing the usage of Sherford Road. This accommodation was built to accommodate seasonal agricultural workers and if this purposes has changed then it should be a full application. Such an application would likely to be refused.

There may of course be a good legal/technical reason for allowing this application to be approved. I do hope not but if there is it should be explained in an open session of the Planning Committee.

Recommendation

That Planning Committee endorse the recommendation to approve the application.