

Calne Without Parish Council

Studley House Farm Cottage, Studley, Calne, Wiltshire SN11 9LL
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Cllr Toby Sturgis
By email toby.sturgis@wiltshire.gov.uk

14/12/2020

Dear Cllr Sturgis,

Development at Former Blounts Court Nursery, Studley, Calne, Wiltshire Planning Applications 15/10457/OUT, 17/03035/REM

Further to the Parish Council's letter to you on 11th February 2020 I have still to receive the details of the outcome of your investigation into the handling of the above application and associated highway works. Your email to me dated 28th June 2019 stated:

"Your correspondence has raised many issues and I have asked that all your questions are answered during the review and I have extended the review to cover highways, enforcement and development control. Having discussed the timing for this review with officers I have been advised this should be carried out on the completion of the development, once Stage 3 Audit is complete and landscaping done. An interim report would be inconclusive in many parts, while there is ongoing works. In the meantime, any breaches will be investigated and the enforcement file remains open. Once the review is completed I will discuss the findings with you. I can assure you I am keen any lessons learnt during the processing of the application, committee decision, discharge of conditions and the build out will be considered and steps taken to prevent a recurrence of the issues you have raised. At the same time we will be reviewing our present conditions following the latest Government guidance.

Following my visit yesterday I have raised a number of issues with officers. They all concern unfinished work which I have asked them to check and monitor. Should your council have further concerns about operations at this site please report them to the council and copy me in."

This matter was first raised in November 2018, the only response so far being the email quoted above. The Parish Council has contacted you on 4 occasions following that response, September 2019, December 2019, February 2020 and October 2020 to seek updates and a response from you but there has not even been an acknowledgement of the request.

While I understand that this year has been a difficult one for us all, the local community are still waiting for answers to the issues raised particularly those relating to safety. The Parish Council is concerned that these matters are not being given the weight and serious consideration that they deserve and warrant, your apparent lack of concern is unacceptable and a disappointing way for a senior member of the Council to end their career.

Please acknowledge receipt of this letter and in so doing if you are unable to give the findings of the investigation please give me a date by which they will be available.

Yours sincerely,

Ed Jones

Ed Jones
Chairman
cc Cllr Philip Whitehead, Cllr Christine Crisp