**PARISHIONERS MEETING WITH WC AND MP DANNY KRUGER 11TH JUNE 2021-REPORT PRESENT:** PC Chairman P Paget, R Humphries, MP Danny Kruger, WC Nick Botterol Cabinet Minister for Development, Strategic Planning and Climate Change. Sam Fox Corporate Director for Place.

Parishioners: T Lohrenze, C Wilson, C Read, J Norris, J Kington. (Limited to 5)

NB Assured everyone that WC is seriously committed and determined to get a solution, although the Travellers are well organised and resourceful and the process will take time but needs to be carried out within the law by an official body.

Under no circumstances this land will not be allowed for residential use.

Issues:

Purpose of the meeting: Questions regarding the process. To outline the procedures/elements to go forward.

* Injunction query – legislation steps required
* 2 Enforcement Notices, 2 recent Temporary Stop Notices – none complied with – Sufficient time required to comply and to take effect, but WC can now see this through.
* Police Input – unless reported by complainant the police cannot act- RH circulated WC log sheets to build a picture of intimidation/fear/change of habit due to intimidation and dogs.
* DK again queried the Injunction process. SF agreed to look at Case Law. Even with an injunction it will be necessary to work with the police.- Looking into Proceeds of Act
* It was reported that the owner will see this out and wishes 3 pitches to accommodate his family. It is hoped that new laws will be in their favour -WC Unsure regarding new case laws but there is to be new a Police Bill. Will new Government Laws be in the traveller’s favour? New Police Law in process.
* It was agreed the site is not suitable for permanent occupation and being the owner of the land should not impact on the case. Although now occupied WC will have to compile reports – welfare, Traveller’s rights, nowhere to live, WC have to prove sufficient sites are available. Although it was reported that 5 pitches are being advertised at their former residence at Semington.
* Where is the Enforcement Notice from Dec 2018, is it still with WC legal team (as indicated by M Wilmott) or with the Courts. A question that has been asked several times without confirmation, although confirmed several Times by email it is with the Courts!
* There is a positive case on non-compliance. There are long Court delays due to Covid, What is the expected time scale?
* The Proceeds of Crime Act was discussed, but to be able to claim back there has to be a conviction.

WC has a new Solicitor and legal team which will be addressing the case.

* At the Appeals Mr Clegg accepted a breach and discrepancies in information given by Appellant and family.
* Concern was voiced concerning the legality of the original purchase/money laundering.
* Notice served regarding no foul water and sewerage facility- alternative solutions, but WC not wanting anything permanent -on going – no action has been taken to provide a sealed tank as requested. £2500 fine 21 days to appeal.
* Use of the new entrance being illegal is the entrance being used to access the new compound having highway safety concerns which were highlighted in the last planning application. The site has an original entrance that could be used.
* Next step is acquiring evidence to take to Court- DK concerned that working within the law/enforcement procedures takes months and is pushing for an injunction for immediate action, it was felt that non-compliance should suffice for an injunction and should be recommended now to cease the illegal use of the land.
* WC/Sam Fox will review in one week’s time
* All notices served will build up a picture. Two notices have been served on the 10th and 11th to the two owners.
* Concern was voiced that even after Court procedures- failure to comply will still be an issue.
* Concern regarding the absence of evidence reported by parishioners due to fear. Will this weaken the case? SF to discuss with WC Barristers.
* There is an Article 4 already on the land which is covered by the TSN and Enforcement Notices which have been served. What are the penalties of not adhering to this? – Unsure.
* It was reported- previous traveller convictions/car vehicles query and a new company listed being registered at the Paddocks.
* Police contacts have been contacted and it is hoped Wiltshire police will be taking a much closer view of the situation in future.
* WC have now stepped up a gear and stated that valid point opportunities have been missed by WC
* DK to communicate with RH and have 2 week updates.

It was felt that this was a useful meeting with WC now pursuing all legal options.