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From:
Sent: 14 November 2022 14:56
To: Laura Cutter <deputyclerk@haydonwick.gov.uk>
Subject: ExternalRE: ExternalFW: Enforcement Enquiries

Hi Laura

Thank you for your eMail. I have updated in red text for you on each case.

Just a quick update on the team, it is currently only me again at the moment. We haven't been able to recruit to the vacant position since Levi left although we have advertised twice and the contract that was with me has also finished and we are trying to find another contractor.

Do let me know if any new issues arise after your meeting tomorrow.

Kind regards

Louise

162 Avonmead – enforcement action was due to start in January 2022. This followed the appeal against the refused planning application. The Planning Inspectorate dismissed the appeal. The enforcement case was allocated to Levi Harfield who left in April. Unfortunately, this wasn't picked up in his hand over and action is yet to commence. This will now be progressed as a priority. Discussions commenced and underway with the owner in regards to voluntary demolition of the building. If these negotiations are not successful an enforcement notice will be served (likely to be in the new year).

1B The Brow - no works have been undertaken for a substantial period of time due to the cost of materials. Complaints were made about the dormer window being installed without permission. Recognising this issue officers have undertaken considerable negotiation which resulted in the submission of a planning application. A decision is due to be made soon and it is understood that consent will be granted subject to a condition requiring the obscure glazing to be used and retained. Had officers not undertaken this negotiation the developer could have scheduled the works in such a way that the dormer window with plain glass could have been installed as permitted development. Hopefully you support our intervention to secure more privacy for residents.

The agent has also had no contact with the owners for some time but as it has recently been concluded that obscure glazing can be conditioned and will be placed in the window. We have been unable to get any definite timeframe for when all works will be completed. The Planning Inspectorate have not been involved in the construction of the dormer window as there has been no appeal. Additional discussions re type of obscure glazing. Officer report can be updated and a decision issued in near future (by mid December as officer away w/c 21 November)

From: Laura Cutter <deputyclerk@haydonwick.gov.uk>
Sent: 14 November 2022 13:37
To: Cc: Georgina Morgan-Denn <clerk@haydonwick.gov.uk>
Subject: RE: ExternalFW: Enforcement Enquiries

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Good afternoon,

Is there any update for us to present to Planning & Highways on the email kindly forwarded to you by Tara, as below?

If you could send something to myself and the Chief Officer (cc'd in) then one of us present at the meeting tomorrow can update the Committee.

If there is no action but a holding statement, that is also fine, we appreciate the tight deadlines you are working towards.

Kind regards,
Laura
Laura Cutter
Deputy Clerk & Services Manager
Tel: 01793 722446

Haydon Wick Parish Council
The Council Offices
Thames Avenue
Haydon Wick
Swindon
SN25 1QQ



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Sent: 02 November 2022 12:24

Subject: ExternalFW: Enforcement Enquiries

Hi All

Please see the email below from Haydon Wick Parish Council. Are you able to provide an update by the deadline stated please?

Leadership Support Officer and PA to:
Sam Mowbray - Chief Operating Officer
Sonia Grewal - Director of People, Customer & Organisational Resilience
Mick Bowden - Corporate Director of Finance and Assets
Philip Murkin - Chief Digital Officer

Customer Services
Swindon Borough Council

www.swindon.gov.uk

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From: Laura Cutter <deputyclerk@haydonwick.gov.uk>

Sent: 20 October 2022 13:21

To:

Subject: Enforcement Enquiries

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Hi Tara,

In September, you & Sam kindly provided an update on the Enforcement enquiries we had (see below) as we were not getting any responses from the SBC Enforcement Officer.

1B The Brow says it would be dealt with as a priority – is there any updates on this? I appreciate this

was only a month ago, but the query was raised again this month.

I'd be grateful if you could circulate this to your contacts again as I have been asked to provide the Committee with an update on the 15th November 2022.

Kind regards,
Laura
Laura Cutter
Deputy Clerk & Services Manager
Tel: 01793 722446

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From: Laura Cutter
Sent: 20 September 2022 13:34
To:
Subject: Enforcement Enquiries

Dear Councillors,

Please see below a response from SBC regarding the questions we raised at a previous meeting.

1. An update on 162 Avonmead and 1B The Brow

162 Avonmead – enforcement action was due to start in January 2022. This followed the appeal against the refused planning application. The Planning Inspectorate dismissed the appeal. The enforcement case was allocated to Levi

Harfield who left in April. Unfortunately, this wasn't picked up in his hand over and action is yet to commence. This will now be progressed as a priority.

1B The Brow - no works have been undertaken for a substantial period of time due to the cost of materials. Complaints were made about the dormer window being installed without permission. Recognising this issue officers have undertaken considerable negotiation which resulted in the submission of a planning application. A decision is due to be made soon and it is understood that consent will be granted subject to a condition requiring the obscure glazing to be used and retained. Had officers not undertaken this negotiation the developer could have scheduled the works in such a way that the dormer window with plain glass could have been installed as permitted development. Hopefully you support our intervention to secure more privacy for residents.

The agent has also had no contact with the owners for some time but as it has recently been concluded that obscure glazing can be conditioned and will be placed in the window. We have been unable to get any definite timeframe for when all works will be completed. The Planning Inspectorate have not been involved in the construction of the dormer window as there has been no appeal.

2. How many enforcement officers are currently employed by SBC– is it a lack of resources which is causing this unacceptable delay and no action?

There is one full time senior officer and one part time contractor (three days per week) covering the post of the officer who left in April. We are currently trying to recruit to the vacant post. The senior officer has also been involved in a public inquiry and another high profile enforcement case and prosecution which has taken up a large amount of her time for several months, as a result workload is being prioritised.

3. A named contact for the relevant Planning Inspectorate?

There is no specific contact for the Planning Inspectorate. Inspectors are appointed on a case by case bases to consider appeals. The support team is then allocated on each appeal and detailed in the start letter of each appeal. You can view documents relating to appeals. If you register your interest in an appeal you will also be sent the decision letter.

4. How long after the decision is made by the Planning Inspectorate should the case be resolved?

This does depend on the appeal decision and if the appeal relates to a planning or an enforcement appeal. It also depends as to whether the appeal is allowed or dismissed and what the decision may entail.

5. Who is the higher authority that the Parish Council could contact? Or the next steps in the event that SBC cannot mitigate any further.

The council's complaint procedure should be used to escalate concerns, more detail can be found on our website. This also details the complaint escalation procedure.

Please accept our sincerest apologies for the inconvenience you have experienced. I hope you are satisfied and feel that I have addressed your concerns. The enforcement officer will keep you updated on the progress of both these cases.

Kind regards,
Laura
Laura Cutter
Deputy Clerk & Services Manager
Tel: 01793 722446

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Swindon
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