Morris, John

From: Alan

Sent: 12 August 2015 15:19

To: Morris, John

Subject: Application No P/15/0289/FUL (Siting of Residential Caravan)

Pond Cottage Slamannan

Dear Mr Morris

Your Ref: P/15/0289/FUL/JM

Thank you for your letter of 30th July, 2015.

It is difficult to offer any comment that you will not have heard several times before. However, for the record, Veronica Scott installed a caravan here and was made to remove it. Gerry Crolla, installed a caravan, applied for permission retrospectively, was refused and made to remove it. The current occupier installed a caravan, applied retrospectively and was also refused.

Claims made fifteen years ago that accommodation was somehow needed on the site for an agricultural worker at Binniehill and Balquhatstone Mains Farms were patently bogus and were proved to be so when the site was sold off after planning permission was granted. Since then, it has been used as a playground by a succession of occupants. The impact on the environment has been distressing to witness and the peace and quiet of the neighbourhood has been spoiled. All nearby residents are against the development and opposition is widening.

The house, caravan and the associated development are contrary to policies EQ1(2), 1(3), 4, 19(1), 19(2), 22, 23, 24(3), 24(4), 25(1), 26 and 29(1) in the Local Plan.

Our MSP was sufficiently concerned to direct the matter to the attention of Scottish Ministers four years ago.

A complaint of Council maladministration around the same time led to an investigation by the Scottish Public Services Ombudsman.

SPSO's bungled investigation was later criticised by both the Independent Service Delivery Reviewer and the Information Commissioner.

Action taken (and not taken) by Falkirk Council over the years has contributed to complaints, lawsuits and widespread bad feeling.

The local community would be best served and further bitterness would be best avoided by refusing all development at this location and restoring it as much as possible to its former condition.

Yours sincerely,

Alan Glass