

P73. Use of Land and Premises as Materials and Soil Treatment Facility (Class 5 General Industrial) at Carron Works, Stenhouse Road, Carron, Falkirk, FK2 8UW for ATG Group – P/18/0351/CPE

The committee considered a report by the Director of Development Services on an application for planning permission for the use of land and premises at materials and soil treatment facility (class 5 general industrial) at Carron Works, Stenhouse Road, Carron, Falkirk.

Decision

The committee refused the application for the following reasons:-

It is considered that there is insufficient information on lawfulness to satisfy the planning authority.

The authority has not received evidence that is sufficiently precise and unambiguous to justify the grant of a certificate on the balance of probabilities.

The site has been subject to significant periods of inactivity particularly between 2012 and 2015 and then 2016 to date. There is a lack of evidence to demonstrate any activity that took place in 2015/16.

The application covers a building on the site and external areas. Information received by the authority indicates that there has been no activity on the external area since around 2012 and it is understood this was a requirement by SEPA in terms of an amendment to their licence. It is understood that there may be soil in the building but there has been no dealing with this since 2016. The building would appear to be in poor state of repair. A section of the roof would appear to have collapsed. This constitutes evidence of abandonment of use.

It is acknowledged that waste management licences have been in place for the site but the condition of the site and lack of activity for very prolonged periods is considered to amount to abandonment of use of the site.