From:

J Shelldrake < request-455116-4fd133c8@whatdotheyknow.com>

Sent: To: 05 January 2018 06:34 freedom of information

Subject:

Freedom of Information request - Church Fields PF/17/1802

Dear North Norfolk District Council,

This is a follow up to my previous FOI request.

This FOI requests copies of all correspondences (emails/meeting notes/letters) for Church Fields planning application be it under planning application references PF/17/1802 and/or PF/17/0696 and/or PF/16/0731 as follows:

1. Consultation Period Decision Making & Portal Submission The consultation process for PF/17/1802 appears to have been arbitrary in respect to submission coming after the consultation period.

I respectfully request all emails/meeting notes/letters between all NNDC staff internally pertaining to the Church Fields planning application for the dates 1.11.17 to 5.1.18 that discuss consultation dates, extensions to consultation dates, and the acceptance or refusal of submissions after the 21st December 2017.

2. Negotiations of Off Site Play Equipment Further to my previous FOI there are many emails/meetings/letters/quotations/proposal documents that are contained and made reference to within that FOI as a result of negotiations with Councillors from the Hoveton Parish Council and/or representatives of the Hoveton Parish Hall with NNDC staff, in particular Rob Parkinson. Therefore,

I respectfully request all emails/meeting notes/letters/proposals/quotations that refer to all negotiations regarding offsite play equipment between Rob Parkinson & Cllr Gourlay for the dates 30.9.17 to 5.1.18. and

I respectfully request all emails/meeting notes/letters between Rob Parkinson and other representatives of NNDC and/or NNDC staff regarding NNDC negotiations on the offsite play equipment at the Hoveton Village Hall from 30.9.17 to 5.1.18 Yours faithfully, Kerry Walker

Please use this email address for all replies to this request: request-455116-4fd133c8@whatdotheyknow.com

Is freedom.information@north-norfolk.gov.uk the wrong address for Freedom of Information requests to North Norfolk District Council? If so, please contact us using this form: https://www.whatdotheyknow.com/change_request/new?body=north_norfolk_district_council

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https://www.whatdotheyknow.com/help/officers

For more detailed guidance on safely disclosing information, read the latest advice from the ICO: https://www.whatdotheyknow.com/help/ico-guidance-for-authorities

Please note that in some cases publication of requests and responses will be delayed.

If you find this service useful as an FOI officer, please ask your web manager to link to us from your organisation's FOI page.

.....

2

From:

Rob Parkinson

Sent:

08 December 2017 16:57

To:

Nicola Baker; Geoff Lyon

Subject:

RE: Planning Application PF/17/1802 - Hoveton and committee

Importance:

High

Hi Nicola

Please advise re the below, I have been trying to get the report sorted for 20th Dec but (1) it feels there are loads of holes in it at the moment, and (2) hardly anyone has been able to come back to me.

Our reason for going to 20th Dec is:

REASONS FOR REFERRAL TO COMMITTEE

In the interests of expediting its determination as quickly as possible with a view to the Government's expectation for applications to be determined within 13 weeks, and, despite the 'open' consultation period, with regard to the relatively limited range of amendments made since the previous application PF/17/0696 which was refused in September 2017.

But re the timescales:

REPRESENTATIONS

Members should note that the application's consultation period remains 'open' until 21st December due to the date that the press advert was lodged, but the public site notices of 24th November have advertised consultation until 16th December.

CONSULTATIONS

Members should note that the application consultation period began on 23rd November and responses should be received by 20th December. Only a limited number of consultees have been able to respond at the time of writing (11th December).

To me, even though the issues are likely to be small enough to know about ourselves, it does seem like we are asking for criticism by presuming we know what we should recommend!

Kind regards Rob

Rob Parkinson

Major Projects Team Leader +441263 516149







From: Planning Department Sent: 08 December 2017 16:36 To: Nicola Baker < Nicola.Baker@north-norfolk.gov.uk > Cc: Rob Parkinson < Rob.Parkinson@north-norfolk.gov.uk >

Subject: FW: Planning Application PF/17/1802

Nicola

This email is addressed to you.

Kind Regards

Tina

From

Sent: 08 December 2017 12:41

To: Planning Department

Subject: Planning Application PF/17/1802

For the attention of Mrs N. Baker

Dear Mrs Baker,

I wonder if you can help to clarify a few issues for me relating to key dates on the above application?

The Notice relating to the above calls for comment by the 17th December. The Standard Consultation Expiry Date stated on the Planning Portal states the 21st December. Mr Julian Wells of FW Properties, at a recent meeting of Hoveton Parish Council, stated that he expected a decision to be made on the 20th December. Can you please clarify for me what is the final date for public comment and objections?

Can you also advise whether or not this application will be referred to the full Development Committee of the Council for determination, as it was on the previous occasion? If so, and I sincerely hope this is the case given the amount of opposition locally to this proposal, is it likely to be on the agenda for the 20th December, given the questions I have asked about dates above?

I look forward to your answer and thank you in anticipation for your help.

Yours sincerely,

From:

Sent:

05 January 2018 12:43

To:

Nicola Baker

Cc:

Cllr. Annie Green; Cllr. Barry Smith; Cllr. Brian Hannah; Cllr. Maggie Prior; Cllr. Nigel Lloyd; Cllr. Nigel Pearce; Cllr. Paul Rice; Cllr. Pauline Grove-Jones; Cllr. Pierre Bütikofer; Cllr. Richard Shepherd; Cllr. Roy Reynolds; Cllr. Simon Shaw; Cllr. Sue

Arnold; Cllr. Vivienne Uprichard; Rob Parkinson

Subject:

RE: Planning Application PF/17/1802

Follow Up Flag:

Follow up

Flag Status:

Flagged

Dear Mrs Baker,

Thank you for your response, however I find that the Planning Office is being inconsistent on this occasion.

In its previous incarnation (PF/17/0696), the "last advertised in press date" was 14th June and the "Standard Consultation Expiry Date" was 15th August. I make that 9 weeks in total.

In this latest application, the "last advertised in press date" is 29th November and the "Standard Consultation Expiry Date" is 21st December. I make that just over 3 weeks.

In the previous application, comments received via the portal were appearing up to 12th August. That's still just under 9 weeks.

So why the shortened time for comment on the portal this time?

On the previous occasion, the decision was deferred to a later meeting, which is exactly the case this time. That presumably explained the longer consultation period. So why not now?

There is a danger that this action will appear to be stifling public participation in the planning process, not something I imagine you would wish to see. If the portal was able to be adjusted to a later consultation expiry date on the previous occasion, I cannot see why it should not be adjusted once more for this latest application.

I look forward to seeing the portal reopened once more.

Kind regards,

From: Nicola Baker [mailto:Nicola.Baker@north-norfolk.gov.uk]

Sent: 05 January 2018 11:06

To:

Cc: Cllr. Annie Green
Cllr. Brian Hannah
Cllr. Brian Hannah
Cllr. Maggie Prior
Cllr. Maggie Prior
Cllr. Maggie Prior
Cllr. Maggie.Prior@north-norfolk.gov.uk

Cllr. Nigel Lloyd
Cllr. Nigel.Pearce@north-norfolk.gov.uk

Cllr. Paul Rice
Cllr. Paul Rice
Cllr. Pauline Grove-Jones@north-norfolk.gov.uk

Cllr. Richard Shepherd

Cllr. Richard Shepherd

Cllr. Richard Shepherd

Cllr. Simon
Shaw
Cllr. Simon
Shaw
Cllr. Sue Arnold@north-norfolk.gov.uk

Cllr. Vivienne

Uprichard
Cllr. Vivienne
Uprichard
Cllr. Vivienne
Uprichard
Cllr. Sue Arnold@north-norfolk.gov.uk

Rob.Parkinson@north-norfolk.gov.uk

Subject: RE: Planning Application PF/17/1802

Good morning

CAN STAN

Thank you for your emails dated 22 December 2017 and 3 January 2018 concerning this application and in particular the acceptance of further representations.

Whilst the Council's back office system will not allow representations to be submitted electronically once the consultation period expires, any representation or consultation response received prior the application being determined (in this case by Development Committee) will be taken into consideration. These can be sent in via email or letter.

Any written representations received are scanned and added to the case file and so can be viewed via our electronic system.

I hope the information contained in this email clarifies the situation.

Yours sincerely

Nicola Baker

Nicola Baker Head of Planning +441263 516135







From

Sent: 03 January 2018 17:11

To: Nicola Baker < Nicola.Baker@north-norfolk.gov.uk>

Cc: Cllr. Annie Green
Cllr. Barry Smith
Cllr. Brian Hannah
Cllr. Maggie Prior
Maggie.Prior@north-norfolk.gov.uk
; Cllr. Nigel Pearce
Maggie.Prior@north-norfolk.gov.uk
; Cllr. Pauline Grove-Jones
Maggie.Prior@north-norfolk.gov.uk
; Cllr. Roy Reynolds
Maggie.Prior@north-norfolk.gov.uk
; Cllr. Roy Reynolds
Magg

Subject: FW: Planning Application PF/17/1802

Dear Mrs Baker,

Further to my e-mail below when I protested about the closure of further comment on this application, I was stunned to see that a further comment had indeed been accepted after the closure date. Was it perhaps because this comment was in support of the development? Or was it perhaps because it was from the Chairman of Hoveton Parish Council, who no doubt felt obliged to justify the council's somewhat contrary decision not to object to the development this time round? Either way, it is clearly invidious to accept comments after the deadline on an entirely arbitrary basis.

I repeat therefore my earnest request that the portal remains open for further comment on this application and not just for comment in support of it.

Yours

Sent: 22 December 2017 14:39

To: 'Nicola Baker' < Nicola.Baker@north-norfolk.gov.uk>

Cc: Ann Green (ann.green@north-norfolk.gov.uk) <ann.green@north-norfolk.gov.uk>; Barry Smith (barry.smith@north-norfolk.gov.uk)

(barry.smith@north-norfolk.gov.uk)

brian.hannah@north-norfolk.gov.uk>; Maggie Prior (maggie.prior@north-norfolk.gov.uk) <maggie.prior@north-norfolk.gov.uk>; Nigel Lloyd (nigel.lloyd@north-norfolk.gov.uk) <nigel.lloyd@north-norfolk.gov.uk>; Paul Rice (nigel.pearce@north-norfolk.gov.uk) <nigel.pearce@north-norfolk.gov.uk>; Paul Rice (paul.rice@north-norfolk.gov.uk) <paul.rice@north-norfolk.gov.uk>; Pauline Grove-Jones (pauline.grove-jones@north-norfolk.gov.uk) <pauline.grove-jones@north-norfolk.gov.uk>; Pierre Butikofer (pierre.butikofer@north-norfolk.gov.uk) <pi>pierre.butikofer@north-norfolk.gov.uk>; Richard Shepherd (richard.shepherd@north-norfolk.gov.uk) <ri>richard.shepherd@north-norfolk.gov.uk) <ri>roy.reynolds@north-norfolk.gov.uk>; Simon Shaw (simon.shaw@north-norfolk.gov.uk) <simon.shaw@north-norfolk.gov.uk) <sucarnold@north-norfolk.gov.uk) <sucarnold@north-norfolk.gov.uk) <vi>vivienne.uprichard@north-norfolk.gov.uk) <vi>vivienne.uprichard@

Subject: Planning Application PF/17/1802

Dear Mrs Baker,

I am writing once again to protest about the time restraints being imposed on this application.

The portal will no longer accept comment on the application, in spite of the fact that many consultees have still not responded and many more members of the public will wish to comment now that the matter has been postponed to the January 25 meeting.

When this proposal last came to the committee, the Application Validated Date was 25/05/17, Last Advertised in Press Date was 14/06/17 and the Standard Consultation Expiry Date was set at 15/08/17. In practice, comments continued to be accepted up to and including 30/08/17, the day before the Committee Meeting to determine it took place.

This latest act, on top of the indecent haste with which the current application was due to come before the committee on 20/12/17, the day before the Standard Consultation Expiry Date of 21/12/17, may contribute to a sense of the application being rushed through without due process.

At a Hoveton Parish Council Meeting on 1st August 2016, when the original scheme was proposed, District Councillor Nigel Dixon assured residents that "views expressed after that (Consultation Expiry) date will also be taken into account up until the planning committee meets." I can see no good reason why the same should not apply in this latest version of the application, especially given the level of resistance to the plans among local residents.

I would ask you therefore to review the decision to close down comment and reopen the portal until much closer to the new meeting date.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Kind regards and Merry Christmas,

From: Rob Parkinson

Sent: 08 January 2018 15:22
To: Nicola Baker

Cllr. Annie Green; Cllr. Barry Smith; Cllr. Brian Hannah; Cllr. Maggie Prior; Cllr. Nigel

Lloyd; Cllr. Nigel Pearce; Cllr. Paul Rice; Cllr. Pauline Grove-Jones; Cllr. Pierre Bütikofer; Cllr. Richard Shepherd; Cllr. Roy Reynolds; Cllr. Simon Shaw; Cllr. Sue

Arnold; Cllr. Vivienne Uprichard

Subject: RE: Planning Application PF/17/1802

Dear

My apologies for stepping in, but I'd like to answer on Mrs Baker's behalf as she's unavailable and out of the office until Friday.

You are quite right to point out that previous application PF/17/0696 had an extended period for public comments lasting approximately 9 weeks or so, and there are specific reasons for that. If I may just reiterate, the LPA has a responsibility to ensure there is at least 21 days' consultation for each application, having regard to the need to determine applications within statutory timeframes wherever possible.

Previous application PF/17/0696 was subject to 2 series of amendments and consequently 3 periods of public consultation (the initial, and 1 per amendment), before Officers felt the issues raised by consultees had been addressed, although the development committee felt there were further matters that needed clarifying, which resulted in the planning committee deferring its decision.

Each amendment had additional consultation, and for each period of consultation we ensured the website portal was 'open' for public comment for the commensurate period. As Mrs Baker has described, we take all comments received before determination into account, whether submitted through the portal or otherwise, but the portal can only work for the statutory 21-day period that site notices cover and/or press adverts display, whichever is the later (this restriction is a function of the national software provider).

Application PF/17/1802 has not been subject to amendments made since the application was submitted, hence the portal has been open for only the one initial consultation period. However, as you're aware, all other comments are still being accepted despite the portal closing on 21st December.

I believe the Planning Department has been consistent in its approach; each application has been afforded the same period for comments on a per-submission/per-amendment basis. The fact that this application has had a shorter period is because it has not been amended as was the case previously.

Although the Portal will not be reopened unless there are amendments that will include additional public consultation, we are still accepting letters and emails to planning@north-norfolk.gov.uk until such time as the Planning Committee formally considers the application.

I hope this clarifies the situation.

With kind regards, Robert Parkinson

Rob Parkinson



From

Sent: 05 January 2018 12:43

To: Nicola Baker < Nicola.Baker@north-norfolk.gov.uk>

Cc: Cllr. Annie Green
Cllr. Barry Smith
Cllr. Maggie Prior
Cllr. Nigel Lloyd
Cllr. Nigel Pearce@north-norfolk.gov.uk
; Cllr. Pauline Grove-Jones@north-norfolk.gov.uk
; Cllr. Pauline Grove-Jones@north-norfolk.gov.uk
; Cllr. Richard Shepherd

Cllr. Simon

Cllr. Simo

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<<u>Richard.Shepherd@north-norfolk.gov.uk</u>>; Cllr. Roy Reynolds <<u>Roy.Reynolds@north-norfolk.gov.uk</u>>; Cllr. Simon Shaw <<u>Simon.Shaw@north-norfolk.gov.uk</u>>; Cllr. Sue Arnold <<u>Sue.Arnold@north-norfolk.gov.uk</u>>; Cllr. Vivienne Uprichard <<u>Vivienne.Uprichard@north-norfolk.gov.uk</u>>; Rob Parkinson <<u>Rob.Parkinson@north-norfolk.gov.uk</u>> **Subject:** RE: Planning Application PF/17/1802

Good morning

Thank you for your emails dated 22 December 2017 and 3 January 2018 concerning this application and in particular the acceptance of further representations.

Whilst the Council's back office system will not allow representations to be submitted electronically once the consultation period expires, any representation or consultation response received prior the application being determined (in this case by Development Committee) will be taken into consideration. These can be sent in via email or letter.

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Yours sincerely

Nicola Baker

Nicola Baker Head of Planning +441263 516135







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; Cllr. Richard Shepherd

Cllr. Richard.Grove-Jones@north-norfolk.gov.uk
; Cllr. Richard.Shepherd@north-norfolk.gov.uk
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Shaw
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(barry.smith@north-norfolk.gov.uk)

(brian.hannah@north-norfolk.gov.uk>; Maggie Prior (maggie.prior@north-norfolk.gov.uk) <maggie.prior@north-norfolk.gov.uk>; Nigel Lloyd (nigel.lloyd@north-norfolk.gov.uk) <nigel.lloyd@north-norfolk.gov.uk) <nigel.gov.uk>; Nigel Pearce (nigel.pearce@north-norfolk.gov.uk) <nigel.pearce@north-norfolk.gov.uk>; Paul Rice (paul.rice@north-norfolk.gov.uk) <paul.rice@north-norfolk.gov.uk>; Pauline Grove-Jones (pauline.grove-jones@north-norfolk.gov.uk>; Pierre Butikofer (pierre.butikofer@north-norfolk.gov.uk) <pi>
(pierre.butikofer@north-norfolk.gov.uk) <pi>
(pierre.butikofer@north-norfolk.gov.uk) <ri>
(richard.shepherd@north-norfolk.gov.uk) <ri>
(richard.shepherd@north-norfolk.gov.uk) <ri>
(roy.reynolds@north-norfolk.gov.uk) <ri>
(roy.reynolds@north-norfolk.gov.uk) <simon.shaw@north-norfolk.gov.uk>; Simon Shaw (simon.shaw@north-norfolk.gov.uk) <sue.arnold@north-norfolk.gov.uk) <sue.arnold@north-norfolk.gov.uk) <vi>
(vivienne.uprichard@north-norfolk.gov.uk) <vivienne.uprichard@north-norfolk.gov.uk) <vivienne.uprichard@north-n

Subject: Planning Application PF/17/1802

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I would ask you therefore to review the decision to close down comment and reopen the portal until much closer to the new meeting date.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Kind regards and Merry Christmas,

From:

Sarah Hinchcliffe

Sent:

05 January 2018 09:22

To: Cc:

Rob Parkinson

Subject:

RE: Church Fields - Hoveton - Consultation Period PF-17-1802

Dear

I am sorry that you feel that the system is unfair. However as I mentioned previously, although we set deadlines for comments, based on planning legislation and we are under no obligation to accept comments after this date, the reality is that we would not be in a position to refuse to accept further comments up to the point of determination for any application. There does however become a point when it becomes too late to include such comments in a report to committee or within a delegated officer report, hence the need to set deadlines.

Representations are put on our website by a team that deals with all incoming correspondence to the Council. If emails are sent direct to officers the process of putting these on line takes longer as the officer has to send the representation to our customer services team to put online (hence it is not advisable to email officers direct, if they are on leave or sick officers mail boxes are not accessed by others). On Robs return on Monday I am sure he will make sure that all representations made are up to date both within his file and on our website.

Regards

Sarah

From:

Sent: 04 January 2018 17:52

To: Sarah Hinchcliffe Cc: Rob Parkinson

Subject: Re: Church Fields - Hoveton - Consultation Period PF-17-1802

Dear Sarah

How would Hoveton residents (laypeople) understand this back door system?

How has NNDC advertised or communicated to the residents of Hoveton that they are still taking representations?

Yours sincerely

From: Sarah Hinchcliffe <Sarah.Hinchcliffe@north-norfolk.gov.uk>

To:

Cc: Rob Parkinson < Rob.Parkinson@north-norfolk.gov.uk >

Sent: Thursday, 4 January 2018, 17:49

Subject: RE: Church Fields - Hoveton - Consultation Period PF-17-1802

Dear

The website is programmed to close the consultation period at the end of the press or site notice period, whichever is later and therefore no further comments can be submitted via the website, whether internal or external consultees or residents. However, letters and emails to the Council Planning Department would

still be accepted. In this case the representation was made by email to the planning department email address planning@north-norfolk.gov.uk

If you are still wanting to make a representation on this application I suggest that you do so using this email address, quoting the application reference number.

Regards

Sarah

From:

Sent: 04 January 2018 17:41

To: Sarah Hinchcliffe Cc: Rob Parkinson

Subject: Re: Church Fields - Hoveton - Consultation Period PF-17-1802

Dear Sarah

I am somewhat confused by your response. In attempting to submit an objection letter to NNDC the following message comes up:

"Comments may not be submitted at this time.

The consultation period for this application has ended."

Can it please be explained how letter of support dated 26.12.17 was accepted and uploaded to the portal but further correspondence (objections) are being rejected and receiving this error message?

Yours sincerely

From: Sarah Hinchcliffe <Sarah. Hinchcliffe@north-norfolk.gov.uk>

To:

Cc: Rob Parkinson < Rob. Parkinson@north-norfolk.gov.uk >

Sent: Thursday, 4 January 2018, 9:47

Subject: RE: Church Fields - Hoveton - Consultation Period PF-17-1802

Dear

I write in Mr Parkinsons absence to answer your query.

The public consultation period for a planning application would be as advertised on the site notice and if applicable on the notice posted within the local press (EDP). However, most planning authorities will continue to accept representations up to the determination date of an application, as we cannot refuse to accept a representation made to us. The point behind setting an end point to a consultation period is to then allow time for the representations to be considered and any necessary amendments to be made to a planning application if necessary. Therefore the later a representation is made the less opportunity there may be for changes to be requested from the applicant.

In this case the Council offices were closed between 5pm on 22nd December 2017 and 8.30pm on 2nd January 2018, but on return to work on 2nd January Mr Parkinson would have brought the application file up to date by checking for any correspondence received over the holiday period and made such representations available to view online.

I hope the above helps to answer your query.

Regards

Sarah Hinchcliffe

Major Projects Team Leader +441263 516012







From

Sent: 04 January 2018 06:36 To: Planning Department

Subject: Fw: Church Fields - Hoveton - Consultation Period PF-17-1802

As Mr Parkinson is not reading emails until 8.1.18 - I would be grateful (given the time frame for this pending application) if someone from the Planning Department could respond urgently to my query.

Dear Mr Parkinson

I note that the NNDC planning portal has accepted a letter in support of the Church Fields application. This email was sent to NNDC on Boxing Day 26.12.17 @ 20.33pm.

Please could you advise me who authorised the uploaded of this letter to the portal and why it was done when the consultation period closed on 21st December 2017 as per your email of 20th December 2017 (below)?

Yours sincerely

From: Rob Parkinson < Rob. Parkinson@north-norfolk.gov.uk >

To:

Sent: Wednesday, 20 December 2017, 9:23

Subject: RE: Church Fields - Hoveton - Consultation Period

The consultation period lasts until 21st Dec (tomorrow).

Regards Rob

Rob Parkinson Major Projects Team Leader +441263 516149

From

Sent: 19 December 2017 21:58

To: Rob Parkinson < Rob.Parkinson@north-norfolk.gov.uk > **Subject:** Church Fields - Hoveton - Consultation Period

Dear Mr Parkinson

I believe that Church Fields has been withdrawn from the December 20th 2017 agenda.

Please can you confirm that the consultation period is still open and provide a new date for the closure of consultation submissions.

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Thank you

Yours sincerely

Hovelon