


From: Michael Brown m.brown@zoo.co.uk 
Subject: Re: Planning Decisions
Date: 19 May 2020 at 15:15
To: Eleanor Harrison Eleanor.Harrison@midsussex.gov.uk
Cc: Sally Blomfield Sally.Blomfield@midsussex.gov.uk



Dear Ms Harrison,

Please thank Judy Holmes for her 12th May reply to my 29th April letter asking about arrangements for the determination of planning applications and progressing of planning policy documents whilst physical meetings cannot be held.

Since Ms Holmes responded to my letter the Government has issued further National Planning Policy Guidance on the issue. In particular

- Ms Holmes's letter says that there is no legal reason to extend deadlines for either the submission of representations or the extension of deadlines regarding the determination of planning applications. That does not preclude your Council from responding to the additional challenge that some people will have in identifying and making representations on planning applications, especially where a respondent wishes to consult with others before doing so by extending consultation periods. We note that the latest National Planning Policy Guidance (paragraph: 044 Reference ID: 15-044-20200513) extends the minimum consultation period for most planning applications from 14 days to 21 days (or longer where the period includes public or bank holidays); and we would urge your Council to be more flexible in the time accepted for consultation responses in these and other cases;
- The NPPG (paragraph: 047 Reference ID: 15-047-20200513) now expects LPAs to consider whether their Statements of Community Involvement should be updated to explain how they will ensure local communities are consulted about planning applications, where they are unable to comply with normal requirements. As your Council's present SCI to which Ms Holmes referred me in her letter says nothing about community involvement in the current changed circumstances, it seems to CPRE that updating your SCI should be a priority so as to ensure that there is public clarity as to how your Council will be operating for the coming months. Please would you or Ms Holmes confirm whether this will be done.

Yours sincerely

Michael Brown
on behalf of the Campaign to Protect Rural England, Sussex Branch CIO - the Sussex countryside charity

On 12 May 2020, at 12:30, Eleanor Harrison <Eleanor.Harrison@midsussex.gov.uk> wrote:



2020.05.12 JH
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