

Planning Report 22 May 2024

There are a few issues in the Parish

- 1 Redcot/Woodlands, Weatherhill Common, Smallfield
There are now 6 static caravans and children's play equipment on the Woodlands Plot. Existing consent allows for 2 caravans but the owner of both sites has been ignoring and adding more and more homes. Anecdotally, it has been said Mr Connors has publicly said he intends to own all of the plots on Weatherhill Common and to fill the space with caravans. I know this cannot be treated as fact.
The previous owner of Rose William cottage sold at a loss and relocated due to alleged intimidation and harassment from Mr Connors and his family. They still own 5 acres of the wooded common land to the rear of all the plots on Weatherhill Common and to the east of them. Mr Connors has expanded backwards into this land, ripping out all of the vegetation, covering with hardcore and stationing two caravans there. The weekend of the 18/19 May he cleared the land behind Redcote and Briar Cottage, laid hardcore and erected fencing. He has also built up a large bund on the bank of the stream to the rear of the plots. He doesn't own this land.
I have reported the following to Planning Enforcement but TDC have not responded to my queries about whether any enforcement action has or will be taken and if so what will they enforce against.
1 – 6 caravans on Woodlands and land to the rear of when there is only consent for 2 caravans
2 – The erection of children's climbing frame to the front of the Woodlands site. You are not allowed put this front of your dwelling and any platforms higher than 30cm need pp
3 – Redcot has two caravans on the plot. Neither have pp and Mr Connors is not living in them while his house is being built so they should be enforced against
4 – The new dwelling at Redcot has not been built in the location proscribed by his planning approval
5 – there is a window downstairs in the new dwelling (eat wall) that isn't on the approved drawings
6 – The dormer window has clear glass and not obscured glass as pp directs
7 – The double garage has been built in a different location than the approved drawings.
If TDC do not respond or take action I recommend we write to our MP saying that they are failing in their legal duty and try and get some sort of enforcement action going.
- 2 Land north of Effingham Road – Application for 6 each of static caravans, dayrooms and touring caravans. TDC. Failed to determine this within the allowed timeframe. As is their right, the applicant has asked a decision be made, by Public Inquiry. The Hearing should have commenced on the 14th May 2024. This has now been delayed until September approx. as TDC failed to publish a notice or write to statutory consultees.

- 3 Laburnum Court – Application for additional park homes. TDC refused the application. The owner has now lodged an appeal, I have submitted the Council's original comments.
- 4 Field at junction of Effingham Rd/Dowlands Lane. Due to various roadworks I have been driving to and from work past the field. Over the last week and a bit, I have noticed 5 fires. They were quite big and on one occasion I was able to see several mattresses as part of the waste. I suspect it is being used to illegally burn waste either by the owner or the owner is being paid by unauthorised waste carriers. I have made multiple reports to the EA, including earlier this morning, when I was able to take photos and a video. The local case officer has been very good and will be contacting the landowner. However, please do report any fires you see as it helps build a picture.
The hotline number is 0800 807 060 and the postcode is RH10 3HX. When reporting it is useful to mention there are horses grazing in the field, the pub across the road and the secure young offenders unit are all in close proximity.