



SILCHESTER PARISH COUNCIL

Member of the Hampshire Association of Local Councils

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Gregg Chapman
Planning and Development
Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council
Civic Offices
London Road
Basingstoke RG21 4AH

Your ref:
My ref:

Date: 18th January 2018

Dear Mr Chapman

Ref: Land off Little London Road, Culhams Mill – Traveller caravan site

Silchester Parish Council note that His Honour Judge Bidder has now handed down his judgement in the case of Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council against Thompson (and others) and that he has declined the application to vary the High Court Injunction served on the site.

In reference to previous cases (*Brown and Robb*), His Honour Judge Bidder's concluding statement contains the following comment;

"Indeed, in my judgement, the flagrancy of the initial planned unauthorised occupation is such that it is, in many ways, more important here than in those cases to uphold both the authority of the court and to support the fundamental tenets of the planning system"

Later in his judgement he adds the following;

"There has, in this case, been very substantial environmental damage and there is urgency in the need to bring this unauthorised occupation to an end".

The Parish Council appreciate that delays in the applicant providing documentation have meant that almost a year has passed since work first started on the site, but would draw your attention particularly to the last clause of the above quotation from the judgement: ***"there is urgency in the need to bring this unauthorised occupation to an end"***.

As such, Silchester Parish Council respectfully request and urge Basingstoke & Deane Borough Council to take immediate enforcement action to end this occupation. Councillors also request that you provide them with an assurance that you will take necessary actions against the owners to ensure the site is returned to its previous state as a water meadow.

I look forward to your early response.

Yours sincerely

Maxta Thomas
Clerk to Silchester Parish Council