



Wendy Sweet <knowstoneparishclerk@gmail.com>

East Hill farm Affordable Units

5 messages

Sam Kingston <sam@kingstonbc.co.uk>

16 June 2020 at 22:42

To: Wendy Sweet <knowstoneparishclerk@gmail.com>

Cc: Will Kingston <wkingstonwork@gmail.com>, Simon Kingston <simon@kingstonbc.co.uk>, Nikki Kingston <Nikki@kingstonbc.co.uk>

Good Afternoon Wendy,

Just getting in touch to provide you & the Parish Council with an update regarding the affordable housing units on site at East Hill Farm. We've recently sent an email to the Planning Officer for the case, outlining the issues we're facing with those units. Essentially what it boils down to is we can't find a housing association that's interested in them, having gone to approx. 10 different companies.

Our letter, therefore, has been a request to change the obligation for us to provide the affordable units. Instead, we've suggested that perhaps we build the houses for the open market and make a financial contribution for your area.

This way, the village still benefits from new members that will contribute and add to the community, and doesn't get 2 affordable units that there's seemingly no demand for. Swapping this requirement also frees up the site from a slight stalemate. Without interest from a housing association who can enable the 2x affordable houses to be built, the rest of the site can't be built on.

It's early days, and we only recently sent in our concerns to the planning officers, so there's no guarantee anything will change – but given the facts above & the way the economy is currently heading, housing associations will be even less interested in acquiring new stock for a little while.

As you're also stakeholders with an interest in the site & what it becomes, we just wanted to keep you in the loop on this front. So we'll let you know what response we get from the council.

In the meantime, feel free to give me a call if you want to discuss it further.

Kind regards,

Sam Kingston

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