

Andrew Savage

From: Cllr Ivan Jewell
Sent: 20 August 2013 08:28
To: Andrew Savage
Subject: RE: Sale of land adjacent The Todner, Dipton

Dear Andrew,

Further to our telephone conversation at the latter part of last week and subsequent discussions with residents of the Dipton area, I wish to present my objections to the sale of the above land (The Todner)

My concerns fall into two broad categories. The first being the overall process and the second is the environment and loss/part loss of amenity.

I feel that due to the actions of Mr Ord prior to the opportunity for him to buy this piece of land, it sends out the wrong message to others in similar situations.

The facts as I see them are that Mr Ord 's actions in fencing off the land were illegal, and I don't believe that there was ever an intention to seek to purchase this land from Durham County Council initially.

However, by the action of fencing off the land and clearing it of natural vegetation, this removed any potential objection that may have been made in the future on the grounds of loss of natural habitat and related issues. In addition to this, the fencing off of the plot meant that the land would become of little or no interest to any other potential buyer. If Mr Ord or anyone else decides to encroach further in the future, are Durham County Council suggesting that the process followed in this instance is an acceptable practice? I believe the process sends out the wrong message entirely.

I also believe that the sale of this land would constitute the loss or part loss of a valued open space and rob the community and wild life of an important facility. I also believe that the sale of this plot could lead to the potential of selling off further plots in the adjacent area. This generates an argument that if this plot of land has little to no significant effect, then why would the loss of adjacent land?

Whilst on paper this sale would appear insignificant, the reality is far from this, and I would ask you to reconsider the sale and have the land restored to how it was with the cost of this being met by Mr Ord.

Regards,

Cllr Ivan Jewell

From: Andrew Savage
Sent: 08 August 2013 17:35
To: Cllr Ivan Jewell
Subject: Sale of land adjacent The Todner, Dipton

Dear Cllr Jewell

Following reports of an encroachment on Council land by Mr Ord of The Todner, Front Street, Dipton in early 2012 the Assets Service have progressed an application to purchase the land verged red on the attached plan and have agreed terms with Mr Ord for garden use. The change of use has received planning approval however as part of the statutory process of selling areas of open space we must advertise the sale for two consecutive weeks in the local press. Three objections were received and we are now in the process of producing a report for the Highways Committee to make a decision.

I would be grateful if you could provide comments/objections to the sale of land and loss of open space as soon as possible. If I do not hear from you by 23rd August 2013 I will assume you have no comments to make. I would be happy to discuss this with you if you would like further information.

Kind Regards

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Cllr Bob Alderson
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20/5/2013

Dear Collette

Objection to sale of land to the rear of the Todner Front Street Dipton, last year I was approached by residents from Dipton about a fence that appeared at the rear of the Todner on Front Street Dipton, on visiting the site where and looked at the fence which was 6ft high and at regulation height, I phoned the land and property asset management department to see if the land had been sold.

I spoke to the officer Andrew Savage who said the land had been enquired about from Mr Ord the owner of the property and still had to be processed, and I pointed out that a fence had been erected and they had started to work on the land, I as one of the Councillors for the Burnopfield and Dipton Division was not informed of the sale of the land as it was still been processed.

I sent an e-mail to the Officer objecting to the sale of the land on the grounds that it was a loss of open space and the erected fence should not of been put up, I was told my objection was a planning matter, on speaking to the residents of Dipton they told me that the land in question was well used by the public, I am objecting to the sale of the land on the grounds that it is an encroachment on the land, loss of open space and a public amenity which is well used by the public.

Regards

Cllr Bob Alderson.



