



# ***Barkham Parish Council***

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Jeremy Richards,  
The Planning Inspectorate,  
Room,  
Temple Quay House,  
2 The Square,  
Bristol,  
BS1 6PN

10<sup>th</sup> April 2025

Dear Mr Richards

**Appeal:** APP/X0360/C/25/3358834

**Planning Application:** 250051

**Alleged breach:** Without planning permission, the material change of use of the Land for the storage of caravans including associated fencing.

**Site Address:** Bluebell Farm, Commonfield Lane, Barkham, Wokingham, RG40 4PR.

Barkham Parish Council fully supports Wokingham Borough Council and the Enforcement Notice issued in respect of this site.

The Parish Council has consistently objected to the proposed siting of caravans, both during the original planning application process and in preparation for the forthcoming appeal, scheduled for 15 April 2025.

The Parish Council's response to the original application appeal is provided at **Appendix 1**.

Barkham Parish Council respectfully requests that the appeal be dismissed and that the Enforcement Notice is upheld in full.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Ellen Tims', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Ellen Tims  
Clerk to Barkham Parish Council

## Appendix 1

**Response to Appeal Number:** APP/X0360/W/24/3356397

**Planning Application:** 240788

**Full application for change of use of the land for stationing of 9no. mobile homes for permanent residential use for people over the age of 55 years.**

**Address:** Bluebell Farm, Commonfield Lane, Barkham, Wokingham, RG40 4PR.

Barkham Parish Council has been consistently opposed to the development of this site and commented in response to PA231330 – an earlier and similar application to PA240788 – as follows:

*The Parish Council questions whether this site is needed, as there is already a sufficient number of Gipsy and Traveller sites within the parish. It would change the character of the parish, and create extra traffic on a narrow road, that is not suitable for taking further traffic.*

Further, the LPU dated Sep 2024 include a number of pitches on two nearby sites – High Barn Farm x20 and Honeysuckle Lodge x 4 – as well as at Woodlands Farm x15. All in Barkham. LPU Ref. SS14.1-3.

BPC comments on Page 22 of our response to the LPU dated Nov 2024 adds to our earlier comments and are very relevant to this current appeal:

1. BPC notes that the Topic Paper on Gypsy and Traveller accommodation dated September 2024 included in the evidence base of the LPU and Policy H9 recognises the importance of creating inclusive mixed communities across the Borough. BPC considers that this objective is at odds with making provision for the majority of the supply in Barkham. The conclusions reached in the paper offers little evidence of how the preferred allocations have been balanced with this objective.
2. BPC has also noted a recent refusal for no. 14 static mobile home caravans for permanent residential use at Bluebell Farm (231330) which recognises that Barkham is an unsustainable location that would not encourage a modal shift towards sustainable modes of transport by reason of distances to services and facilities, limited public transport links and a poor quality of the walking/cycling environment.

Barkham Parish Council requests that this appeal is dismissed.