

## **NORTH CADBURY AND YARLINGTON PARISH COUNCIL**

### **MINUTES OF NORTH CADBURY AND YARLINGTON PARISH COUNCIL PLANNING MEETING HELD ON 13<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER AT 10.00AM TO CONSIDER 16/03476/FUL – THE CHANGE OF USE OF LAND AND THE RETENTION OF ONE MOBILE HOME, ONE TOURING CARAVAN, ONE SHIPPING CONTAINER, TREATMENT PLANT, HARDSTANDING, GATES AND FENCING ON LAND OS 8735 SANDBROOK LANE, NORTH CADBURY**

**Present:** Cllr M Hunt (Chairman), Cllr L Cheesman, Cllr D Handley, Cllr M Martin, Cllr P Wood and Cllr J Masters.

**In attendance:** Mr Junge (Applicant) and three members of the public.

**16/182. Declarations of interest:** None

**16/183. The Chairman opened the meeting at 10.15am:** The Chairman started proceedings by an outline description of the planning process and the Parish Council's part in it. The Applicant was then invited to show members the site and what had been done. He was at pains to point out that all works had been professionally done and that care had been taken to do work cleanly and correctly. From what we could see, this was so. The Applicant's demeanor throughout (with one small exception - see below) was pleasant and helpful.

At the outset, he stressed that he had a gypsy background, although he did not produce evidence that this was so. He did, however, say that he found it difficult to live in houses. He explained that he spent much of his time travelling all over the country and that he needed this land to provide a secure base for his partner and five children. He said that there was absolutely no intention to invite other people in to share the land. He stated that he did not wish to be a problem or a nuisance, he and his family merely wished to be left to live quietly. In this regard, he stated that he would be very happy to lower the height of the fences, paint them green and change the gate to something more appropriate.

The members of the public and the Parish Council all reiterated the widely held concern that this action, if allowed to stand, would create a precedent for others to do the same as him in other fields in a stretch of country which is almost entirely agricultural. While his wishes to provide for his family were understandable, it was not right that people should be allowed to ignore the laws and the due processes. He had asserted that various tradesmen had informed him that he did not need planning permission for the fencing, the laying of hard standing and the electricity company provided power without demur.

The only unhelpful comment (threat) was that Mr Junge stated that if the application was refused, he would dump, for example, the caravan somewhere locally - "where would I put all this stuff?" He also stated that if he had to sell the field, he would only sell it to a Romany.

If this PA has to be considered under terms set out for travellers, and we are not aware of the details of such terms, we nevertheless consider that there is no case for any addition to those traveller sites already provided in Somerset.

**16/184. Resolution: The Parish Council resolved unanimously to recommend REFUSAL of the Application.**

The meeting closed at 10.40am.

Signed.....

Dated.....