Planning Committee 22nd April 2014

QUARTERLY REPORT ON PROGRESS ON ENFORCEMENT CASES WHERE ENFORCEMENT ACTION HAS BEEN AUTHORISED

The purpose of this report is to provide details of progress made on those cases where enforcement action has been authorised either by the Planning Committee or under delegated powers. Members should note that many breaches of planning control are resolved without recourse to the taking of formal enforcement action.

The case that was identified as being closed within the report to the Planning Committee meeting on the 28th January 2014 has been removed from the agenda. No further cases have been added since the previous report. Details of each case, and the progress made within the last Quarter, and the target for the next Quarter are contained within the attached Appendix.

A report on one of an open case where enforcement action has been authorised which contains information that is considered to be exempt by reason of the provisions of paragraphs 6 and 7 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended, is provided separately.

RECOMMENDATION

That the information be received.

APPENDIX

Report Ref	Address and Breach of Planning Control	Date When Enforcement Action Authorised	Progress/Action particularly that within last Quarter	Target for Next Quarter
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02/00034/207	Back Lane/Bar Hill, Onneley	20.11.2001 & 10.01.2006	Enforcement Notices issued in August 2010 requiring remedial works to be undertaken by 31 March 2012 to create a more acceptable	CASE CLOSED
T57/3/324	Failure to comply with conditions attached to planning permission for infilling and formation of cricket pitch		landform and landscape surrounding the 'Cricket Club' Land. No appeal was made against the Notices which therefore came into effect. In the third quarter of 2010 planning permission 03/527/FUL was issued and a meeting held with the Cricket Club who confirmed intentions to comply fully with conditions of that permission.	
			Visits confirmed progress on site, and the cricket club completed their second playing season. Submitted details to seek to discharge the conditions on permission 03/527/FUL were approved, and the application for a new pavilion (11/00477/FUL) was approved on 4 November 2011 (subject to further conditions).	
			No indications received of any compliance with the Notice by owner of the adjoining land, although some works of compliance had been undertaken by other parties on that land, and offers of assistance had been given. Site visits indicated that progress continued to be made on the Cricket Club elements to comply with conditions imposed, however significant progress had not been made on the adjacent land outside of the Cricket Club's responsibility.	
			"Final warning" letter sent but did not lead to any response and prosecution proceedings were commenced. This lead to two adjournments as reported to the Committee on 5 February 2013. As advised, a contractor was appointed by the landowner and works commenced on site on 21 February 2013 after delays for bad weather. Officers have attended the site on several occasions during the compliance works and report that the majority of the requirements of the Enforcement Notice have been complied with. All that remained as of 18 March 2013 is for a drainage ditch to be cleared and an overflow to be created, along with the final seeding of the site and it was agreed that work would recommence in early April 2013 when the weather and temperature would better help with the establishment of a grass sward. In light of the works undertaken, prosecution proceedings were withdrawn on 27 February 2013.	
			Site visits have been undertaken subsequently, further landscaping works have been undertaken and the appearance of the site has improved to the point where it is considered the case can now be closed.	

Report Ref	Address and Breach of Planning Control	Date When Enforcement Action Authorised	Progress/Action particularly that within last Quarter	Target for No	ext Quarter
12/00193/207 C2	19 Biddulph Road, Harriseahead, ST7 4LB Unauthorised extension of residential curtilage and erection of summerhouse/ garden shed	26.02.2013	The breach of planning control was identified by Officers following an enquiry from a prospective purchaser of 19 Biddulph Road. Site inspections confirmed that land to the rear of the properties had been enclosed and utilised as residential gardens without the benefit of planning permission. Officers advised that the submission of an application would be unlikely to be supported. Planning permission was applied for retrospectively under application 12/00780/COU for the change of use of agricultural land to garden land at 17 and 19 Biddulph Road. The application was refused. Officers wrote to the applicants on 26 th February 2013 to seek a resolution on site and timetable for compliance prior to the service of any notice. At a member's request the matter was reported to Planning Committee on 26 th March 2013 The Committee resolved to invite a new application for the change of use of the land to be submitted within 6 weeks. A joint application for 17 and 19 Biddulph Road was refused at the Planning Committee meeting on the 4 th June on the grounds that the authority did not consider, in respect of the garden of 19 Biddulph Road, that the required very special circumstances existed that clearly outweigh the harm to the Green Belt and the landscaped. Additionally it was resolved that the Head of Legal Services be authorised to issue enforcement and all other notices and to take and institute on behalf of the Council appropriate action and proceedings. An enforcement notice, dated 6 th September, was served which was due to take effect on 16 th October. An appeal has been lodged and Planning Inspectorate has confirmed that it will be considered at a Public Inquiry on 3 rd June. Statement's of case on behalf of the Borough Council and the appellants have been exchanged and comments made by each party on the other party's case. Officer's are currently working with the appellant's on the preparation of a Statement of Common grounds and full proofs of evidence are being prepared for submission by 6 th May in acc	Comply timetable.	with appeal

Report Ref	Address and Breach of Planning Control	Date When Enforcement Action Authorised	Progress/Action particularly that within last Quarter	Target for Next Quarter
13/00061/207 C2	21 Rathbone Avenue, Maybank Unauthorised Conservatory	4.6.2013	A retrospective planning application was taken to Planning Committee meeting on the 4 th June 2013 where it was resolved to refuse the application on the grounds that the development is harmful to residential amenity, of an overbearing appearance and of an inappropriate design for the house given its scale. Additionally it was resolved to authorise the Head of Central Services to issue enforcement and all other notices and to take and institute on behalf of the Council all such action and proceedings as are authorised by, and under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 to obtain the removal of unauthorised conservatory with the time period within which such step is to be taken to be determined by officers An enforcement notice was issued, dated 21 st August 2013 and took effect on 23 rd September 2013. The notice required the removal of the unauthorised conservatory by 23 rd December 2013 and whilst the conservatory was not completely removed by that date it has now been confirmed that it has been removed and the Notice has been complied with.	CASE CLOSED

09/00230/207 C3	Newcastle Auto Centre Albany Road Newcastle Under Lyme	10/12/2013	Investigations have established that an unauthorised extension has taken place at the premises resulting in the loss of parking spaces which were required to be retained by condition of planning permission (06/00616/FUL). A retrospective application was invited on more than one occasion and whilst indications suggested that such an application would be submitted it was never received. Following consultation with the Highway Authority who raised highway safety concerns it was concluded that it was expedient to take enforcement action.	Pursue, with the appellant, the completion of a S106 unilateral undertaking to secure off site parking. Continue to comply with the appeal timetable.
			An enforcement notice was issued, dated 11 th December 2013 which takes effect on 17 th January 2014. The notice requires the removal of part of the extension that is unauthorised and implement and develop in accordance with and pursuant to the conditions contained with planning permission 06/00616/FUL or the removal of the extension and reinstatement of the land to its previous condition by 17 July 2014.	
			An appeal against the enforcement notice was lodged with the Planning Inspectorate on 09 January 2014. A hearing date has been scheduled 31 st July 2014	
			Statement's of case on behalf of the Borough Council and the appellants have been exchanged and comments made by each party on the other party's case.	
			During the appeal process, the appellant has suggested that off site parking can be provided on other land in their ownership. Your Officer's are exploring the possibility of securing such parking through a S106 unilateral undertaking. If suitable off site parking is achieved the reasons for the taking of enforcement action will have been addressed and as such consideration will be given to the withdrawal of the Enforcement Notice.	