

19th March 2024

11 Fleur De Lys Park

Pilley

Lymington

Hampshire

SO41 50J

Dear Ben Stockley and members of council

Application to vary numbers by 1 on Fleur de Lys Park

I am writing to you as the home owners of number 11 Fleur de Lys Park and the park owner, regarding the new park home sited on the Fleur De Lys Park, Plot 2.

The legals

By way of summary, the Council served two compliance notices, one on myself and one on my husband at the beginning of December 2023. We sent you a letter at the end of September but received no reply from you. The compliance notices came out of the blue to us and to Margeret and Charlie. You did not speak to them or contact them before the notices were served. If they had not been related to us, I believe you would have.

We have appealed both compliance notices through our solicitor and we have applied to vary the conditions of the site licence to allow one additional mobile home which you invited us to do.

Our solicitor asked you to withdraw the compliance notices pending the submission and determination of the application to vary but she did not receive a response from you. We had to incur the costs of making an appeal to preserve our position.

Since appealing the compliance notices and applying to vary the conditions, we have, through our solicitor responded to each query you have raised in full and without delay, demonstrating that by having just one additional home, this is allowed in the context and planning law and i8s not breaking any of the conditions of the site licence either. Each time our solicitor has written to you, you have asked about something else which has also been answered in full and promptly. We have proposed solutions.

Four months have passed since the application was made and we don't have any indication from you as to what your recommendation will be. This is a very worrying and anxious time for our family.

As you know, we have moved the mobile home on plot 2 so that is its 6m from Miss Knight's home. This was done in early January 2024. We extended the base to move the home onto. Since then, acting on your advice, we have not bricked in or added steps to number 2 which for a young family with a pushchair is difficult for them to navigate safely.

In terms of the planning on the park, the Park Authority have confirmed to us that in planning terms, we are allowed 12 mobile homes.

Residents of Fleur de Lys

Fleur de Lys is a small park home estate. The residents of the Park are generally friendly and courteous. They are our neighbours as well as our residents. I am heartened to read the letters of support from residents for Charlie and Margaret's home including from Mrs Brown.

However, not everyone is friendly or neighbourly. The owner of number 14, Miss Knight is very aggressive and has had a lot of disagreements with other residents on the park. She wanders over different plots on the park taking photos without the consent of others and invading other people's privacy. We try not to approach her as over the years she has deteriorated in health. When the home on plot 2 was being sited, she threatened one of the operatives.

Miss Knight has a big garden, one of the largest plots on the park. The new home is not invading her privacy and there is the full 6 metres spacing requirement which we accommodated even though the home on plot 2 is modern and is class with class 1 fire rated materials.

No devaluation of homes on Fleur de Lys

When speaking to some of the residents recently, they said that they were worried that the value of their homes would be effected in a negative way by the new home.

I spoke to Justin Power at Ross Nicholas who sells a lot of park homes in the area and is selling number 12 on behalf of Mrs Brown and in his opinion the new home is not having a negative impact on the prices of homes.

Enclosed with my letter are copies of two emails from him about sales on the Park and valuations.

By their nature, park homes or mobile homes are mobile. I know, as do you Ben that there are parks including parks within the Council's area where the park owners have changed the layout and brought on new homes. We are asking for just one more.

Residents of the local area

We bought Fleur de Lys around 15 years ago and we have called Lymington home for this time.

We are a small business owner in a struggling economy. Our income is basically limited to the pitch fee income on the Park which is low. Few people sell and move on, because the park and the local area is lovely. A new home will be of financial benefit to the business and the upkeep and longevity of the park.

A new park home, is affordable accommodation in an affluent area. Another home means more council tax for the Council and another family to support the local area and to put down roots. Our children have grown up here and our grandson will as well, all being well.

Our business contributes to the local economy. We support this, as do our residents.

Conclusion

We know that we have not gone about things the right way and we regret that all of this is happening. However, we did what we felt was right at the time for our family.

We have spent significant sums of money which we can ill afford to do, getting the right representation for us and doing what we can to keep Charlie and Margaret's home. If they cannot stay here they have no where else to go and will be left with no choice but to apply to the Council.

We are not the most educated of people, but we have strived to achieve, and to create a welcoming environment at Fleur de Lys for everyone.

Please can you confirm Ben that this letter, its enclosures and the letter from Margaret will be included in your report to the Committee.

Thank you for taking the time to read this.

Yours sincerely

Kathleen and Charlie Fitzgerald

Enclosures:

