

OFFWELL PARISH COUNCIL

Dear Offwell Resident

**Planning application - 21-1798-FUL Land On The East Side Of Tower Road Offwell
Change of use of an existing agricultural building and associated works for use as Livestock Collection Centre.**

As you may be aware the Parish Council were notified in July of the above planning application, which is for the present Honiton Livestock Collection Centre to be relocated from Silver Street in Honiton to an existing Agricultural Building on Land on the East Side of Tower road, Offwell.

The Livestock Collection Centre handle tens of thousands of Livestock Animals over the year. It operates on two days every week with farmers dropping off their animals to the Centre and then large Livestock lorries taking the livestock to abattoirs.

The Centre if the planning application is approved will result in a significant amount of additional vehicles with trailers and large lorries travelling along Tower Road and also along the lane passing alongside the Bishops Tower. This additional vehicular movements will also affect both the A35 junction at Tower Cross and the Ramsden junction with the A35.

As we are all aware there are already considerable difficulties encountered at both these junctions due to the amount of and speed of traffic along the A35. The additional traffic resulting from the proposed application would certainly increase these difficulties.

Councillors were very concerned by this application and wished to fully consider this application, the potential implications and effects on the Parish and Parishioners and also to allow Parishioners to express their views and opinions on the application to the Council.

The Council held an extraordinary meeting on the 26th July 2021 to discuss and consider the matter. The meeting was attended by 39 members of the Public who were allowed the opportunity to express their views and opinions in an hour long open session. Many views were expressed both for and against the application.

The Council then resolved to object to the application and a detailed objection was submitted to East Devon Planning.

The applicants have now submitted revised plans and documents and the Parish Council has been asked to consider these and respond to East Devon Planning.

The Council will be considering the matter at the Council Meeting next Wednesday on the 8th December in the Village Hall at 7.30pm.

In view of the number of persons who attended the July meeting and who will probably wish to attend next week's meeting, I have set the agenda for the meeting so that this planning application will be one of the first items on the agenda, in order to minimise the Covid 19 risk as much as possible.

There will be an hour long Open Session again at this meeting.

In order that this meeting can be conducted in as safe a manner as possible to protect everyone attending from the Covid 19 risk, entry into the meeting at the Village Hall is subject to the following conditions of entry:-

- 1) That all persons **must** be wearing wear a face mask before entering. (unless they have a valid health exemption reason for not wearing one)
- 2) They **use** the hand sanitiser provided on entering the foyer.
- 3) They **record** their name, address and telephone contact details on the meeting register book in the foyer.
- 4) Then **use** the hand sanitiser provided by the book.
- 5) On entering the hall, to please go and sit on one of the seats which have been set out at a 1 metre socially distanced spacing

In order to protect everyone present at the meeting, we would also request that persons wishing to attend take and receive a negative lateral flow test result just before coming to the Village Hall.

I appreciate that some persons may not want to attend the meeting due to Covid 19 concerns but may still wish to express their views to the Parish Council. If this is the case, please either email me or send me a letter. The closing date will be Tuesday 7th December 12 midnight.

We would suggest that everyone who has internet access view the planning application on line by visiting the East Devon District Council Planning website and searching for the following planning application:-

Planning Application No 21-1798-FUL- Land On The East Side Of Tower Road Offwell

Change of use of an existing agricultural building and associated works for use as Livestock Collection Centre.

If you have any queries about the Meeting please email me at offwellparishclerk@aol.co.uk

A copy of the agenda for the meeting is attached.

Kind regards

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