



Strensall with Towthorpe Parish Council

The Village Hall, Northfields, York YO32 5XW
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Email: clerk-strensallpc@btconnect.com
Chairman: Councillor A K Marquis

10th August 2016

Mr A Docherty
Monitoring Officer
City of York Council
West Offices,
York YO1 6GA

Dear Mr Docherty

We the undersigned who are current and former councillors elected to serve the Parish of Strensall with Towthorpe find the report by Rachel McKeivitt both incomplete and biased against the Parish Council. We believe that if it is submitted to the Sub Committee of the Joint Standards Committee in its present form it represents evidence biased against councillors as some of the statements given by members of the Parish Council to Ms McKeivitt are included in her evidence document.

Limited account appears to have been taken of the situation that the owners of The Firs created in 2007/2008 by refusing to obtain permission to build a structure across land owned by City of York Council and is the subject of a lease dated 4th January 1996 to Strensall with Towthorpe Parish Council for 99 years. The Parish Council were advised City of York Council consider that due to the length of the lease that the leaseholder has the rights of the owner in managing the land.

It must be born in mind that the leased land in question creates a barrier between the adopted highway of Lords Moor Lane, Flaxton Road and Ox Carr Lane and the green belt land bounded on the other two sides by the York to Scarborough railway and existing built areas. The Parish Council has had a mandate from the residents of the Parish for more than 25 years to protect the green belt in and around Strensall village and Towthorpe hamlet from development.

In order to make you aware of our concerns that the report by Rachel McKeivitt is an incomplete document please find attached a summary of the many actions that the Parish Council has taken to resolve the dispute.

It is considered that representation of the Parish Council should be the Chairman and one other councillor and I trust this is acceptable.

Councillor Keith Marquis

Councillor Dennis Baxter.....

Councillor Duncan Hill.....

Councillor Tony Fisher

Councillor Chris Chambers.....

Councillor John Chapman.....

Councillor Lawrence Mattinson.....

Councillor Kevin Ogilvy.....

Councillor Geoffrey Harvey-Walker..

Councillor Judy Smith.....

Councillor Ralph Plant.....

Ms Cath Edwards

Ms Tracey Flannery