

Copy of email correspondence with Andrew Smith (PR Consultant for Woodstock Homes/Colston's School), copied to Kirsty Hassan, Marketing & Communications Manager, Colston's School:

On 12/03/2015 21:16, Andrew Smith wrote:

Thank you for your email Mr Faulkner.

I shall share your email with relevant members of our team.

Yours

Andrew Smith

On 12/03/2015 20:30, Christopher Faulkner Gibson wrote:

Dear Mr Smith,

At last night's 'exhibition', a number of us informed Mr Martin Newman and others that we believe your ecological survey to be incorrect, and that we are of the opinion there is in fact an active badger sett in the field.

We confirmed that we had had an expert from the Badger Trust look at it, and that he thought it was likely to be active. Therefore a licence should have been applied for before the scrub clearance works were carried out.

He also believed that tyre ruts and depressions suggested that the sett had been damaged by the clearance work, and that a partial collapse had occurred, of which we have retained photographic evidence. We think it entirely possible that if breeding badgers and their young were underneath at the time they might well have been injured or killed as a result of this clearance work.

It has since been confirmed by Natural England that no licence had been applied for, and that given the fact the breeding season has been underway since December it is highly unlikely that one would have been granted.

This has been reported to Natural England who are to carry out further investigations. We informed Mr Newman that if it does transpire that an offence has been committed under the Protection of Badgers Act 1992, we will press for charges to be brought.

Last night we were informed that test drilling is to be carried out on the site. We believe that any intrusive works such as test drilling will require a licence in line with the requirements of the 1992 Act.

The main purpose of this email is to inform you that if any work is done that does (or might be considered likely to) damage, destroy or interfere with badgers or their sett in contravention of the above Act, we will report the matter to the relevant authorities. Again, if it transpires that an offence is committed we will press for charges to be brought against those responsible.

Our properties overlook the site and we will remain vigilant.

I would also like to say how very disappointed we were at the lack of substantive detail in last night's 'exhibition', in particular at the lack of elevation details and that there was nothing for us to take away. We do not therefore accept that we have been consulted with to a meaningful degree and if a planning application is submitted without a more substantial attempt at consultation we will include this in our objections. Now that the proposals constitute a Major Development we expect the mandatory requirements for consultation to be properly fulfilled before any application is submitted.

Yours sincerely

Christopher Faulkner Gibson

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