

Dear Friend

Many thanks for your email regarding this planning issue. As you can imagine, CPRE Norfolk receives very many requests for help with planning matters. Given our very limited staff resources, you will appreciate we are not able to deal with all such requests directly.

In the first instance we would encourage you to visit our [Planning Help Pages](#) which have been written specifically to help people understand and deal with the planning process. It also contains links to planning help pages on the CPRE National website.

You should also consult the **CPRE Norfolk [Policy Statements](#)** from which you may quote in any correspondence as long as it is a **direct, unchanged** quote. These statements provide a summary of our views about a range of issues and threats posed to the Norfolk countryside - usually as a result of inappropriate or excessive development.

When responding to a specific planning application it is important that the comments you make are referenced to **planning policies**. Objections which are not supported by planning policy will not influence decisions made by a Development Management Committee – the new name for the planning committee of a local authority.

The relevant policies can be found in a number of places:

- The [National Planning Policy Framework \(NPPF\)](#) provides the planning policies enacted by central government. These policies, in theory, must be complied with when a district council considers an application.
- You should also search the planning pages of the **local authority** considering the application. Here you will find your authority's Core Strategy (South Norfolk, Broadland and Norwich have a Joint Core Strategy) - a posh name for the local plan. A planning application should comply with the requirements of this strategy. Look also at the Development Management Policies and any saved planning policies i.e. policies that are saved from previous local plans.
- Finally research your parish or town council's **website** - there may be a neighbourhood plan or very local policies that are relevant considerations in respect of the application.

Wherever you find a policy or an objective that appears to **contradict** the application to which you are responding then quote the policy and refer to it by its number or name and note the source of the policy.

You can also get **free advice and help** from [The Royal Town Planning Institute](#).

We also recommend you take a look at the [community planning pages](#) of Action with Communities in Rural England (ACRE).

CPRE National Office provides a huge amount of advice and information in the form of reports, briefings etc. on [housing and planning](#) issues, all of which are available to download.

If we are able to get directly involved with the particular issue you have raised then it will be passed onto our **CPRE Planning Consultant** for comment on the relevant planning application or other action as necessary. If appropriate, we can also include this in our next regular **Alert Bulletin** to our supporters for them to take action if they wish.

You may also wish to use a new online toolkit which has recently been launched by **The Princes Foundation for Building Community** known as [BIMBY](#) (Beauty in my Back Yard) for engaging with the planning system and developers in a more positive, structured way, to bring about developments which are appropriate to your particular community.

If you are putting together a **Neighbourhood Plan** you may be able to apply for a grant towards this – visit locality.org.uk for more information and advice.

The Department for Communities and Local Government have recently launched a [new website](#) to guide people through the **Neighbourhood Planning** process.

If you are **objecting** to an application try to enlist the support of your MP, County Councillor, District Councillor and parish councillors. This can make a big difference. If the application is a big one and is exciting considerable feeling in the community then consider forming an action group. A well directed and focussed group of local residents can achieve much more than an individual objector.

In light of the increasing pressure on our precious Norfolk countryside we hosted a **Planning Training Seminar** in April this year which provided training and advice from planning experts. The idea was to provide attendees with the tools to be able to help themselves and their local communities in dealing with planning issues, and to be part of a new CPRE planning wardens learning network sharing experiences and expertise.

The whole seminar is now on [You Tube](#) as a permanent resource.

You are able to view the written presentations below:

[David Hook: How to oppose a planning application](#)

[Cllr. Christopher Kemp: How planning applications are dealt with](#)

[Christopher Weatherburn: The BIMBY toolkit](#)

Finally, if you would like to join the **Planning Wardens Network** (which we strongly encourage you to do!) please apply using the form below and return to me.

Kind Regards

Helen Leith

Branch Manager

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My usual office hours are Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday 12.30pm – 5.30pm

Follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#)

Please sign our *Petition calling for a Green Belt around Norwich:*

<https://www.change.org/p/broadland-district-council-and-south-norfolk-council-green-belt-for-norfolk>

[Campaign to Protect Rural England \(CPRE\)](#) fights for a better future for the English countryside. We work locally and nationally to protect, shape and enhance a beautiful, thriving countryside for everyone to value and enjoy.

CPRE Norfolk is a county branch of CPRE and a separate registered charity, no. 210706.

Visit our [website](#) for more information about the work of CPRE Norfolk, to subscribe to our newsletter, or to [join cprenorfolk](#) as an individual or a group and help fund our work.

- FORM BELOW -



CPRE NORFOLK Planning Wardens Network

One of the hoped-for outcomes of the Planning Training Seminar is an informal network of CPRE Norfolk Planning Wardens who will acquire the knowledge and skills to be able to deal with planning applications in their local area, be part of a County-wide network sharing advice, experiences and expertise, and with the confidence to operate semi-independently of the CPRE Norfolk office although we will always be there to help and advise where needed. Please sign below if you think you would like to be part of this network.

Name:

Email:

Contact Numbers:

Area of Norfolk (N/S/E/W):

Are you willing for your details to be shared amongst the network?

Would you be willing to be a regional organiser of the network?