

1. My name is Greg O’Broin & I am Vice Chair of Appleford-on-Thames Parish Council. I’m a frequent participant at the SC / Appleford ‘Quarterly Local Liaison Committee’ meetings for the Minerals & Waste site.
2. I am familiar with the concerns expressed by Appleford and Sutton Courtenay in the letters sent to this Committee.
3. We are concerned that S73 applications are used to extend permitted use beyond termination dates. This distorts the planning system and enables permissions to be repurposed in ways not originally intended.
4. In addition, the lack of compliance with Conditions for permissions granted, such as maintenance of hedgerows, drains, lane ways, ROWs, restoration works and aftercare not carried out, is a concern.
5. Further S106 agreements are often ignored, like the 10-year long violation of the Hinterland Agreement!
6. Any rational assessment must conclude the current position is not acceptable with local communities enduring the harm of noncompliance which damages public trust in the system.
7. These concerns not only arise in Sutton Courtenay and Appleford, but also in Radley and Faringdon / Wicklesham.
8. The Officers Report acknowledges there is a burden of ‘post-permission’ casework that is essential to maintaining public confidence “*given the scale, longevity, and operational complexity of M&W sites.*”
9. Nothing we say is intended to reflect on the Officers, who we know and respect. However, it is clear the lack of resources and enforcement action leads us to ask if **the Monitoring & Enforcement function is fit for purpose?**

For information (not to read)		
MW Strategy Team.	4 – 1 P/T + 1 Vac. (2.5).	inadequate to prep. New Plan
Dev App Mgt Team.	7 – 1 Vac. (6)	
Dev Mgt Mon & Enf.Team.	4 –. 2 P/T + 1 Shared (3*)	Inadequate to monitor 26 sites

Out of 15 staff positions in the OR, 4 are P/T with 2 vacancies & what looks like 3 and a bit staff in the Monitoring & Enforcement team to look after 26 sites.

10. The Council has sufficient powers to deal with breaches of conditions or S106 agreements, using civil processes or through the Courts. But are these powers used?
11. We can only speculate that the lack of appetite to prosecute enforcement is due to an over abundance of caution. What does this tell site Operators?
12. Councillors, we are all outraged at the illegal dump at Kidlington & yet here we see a light touch system with inadequate resources for Monitoring and Enforcement. This sends the wrong message to operators.
13. We ask the Scrutiny Committee to grasp this nettle and seek an independent review :-
 - a. To examine processes and a sample of breaches & make recommendations to Cabinet.
 - and
 - b. To consider the adequacy of resources to discharge the Council's M&W responsibilities.

Thank you for listening.