

Mr Nice's Case

Since 1973 Mr Nice submitted a total of 12 planning applications seeking on-site accommodation on his land at Gun Farm, Chiddingly. Three were for the stationing of a mobile home and nine were for a permanent dwelling. Of the nine applications which were refused permission, only two were the subject of appeals. Both appeals were dismissed. At APS on 7 December 1993 Mr Nice was granted temporary permission for a mobile home for three years. In 1997 he was granted outline permission for an agricultural worker's dwelling as a replacement for the temporary mobile home following completion of an appropriate Section 106 Planning Agreement. In April 1997 a full detailed application for an agricultural dwelling was approved.

1. The County Rural Estates Surveyor, Mr Hall, described Mr Nice's herd as a small beef herd when in fact it was a suckler herd. He claimed that a suckler herd would require no more care and attention than a beef herd. Any farmer would disagree with Mr Hall. Members of the Council are not farmers and rely on Mr Hall for advice about farming. His advice was poor.

This is outside the Panel's remit because Mr Hall is an employee of East Sussex County Council, not Wealden District Council. Mr Nice chose not to exercise his right of appeal in the case where his herd was described as a "small herd of beef cattle."

2. When his neighbour submitted an application for an animal incinerator, Mr Nice was not notified. He was told by a Council Officer that the matter had been discussed fully with the owner of Gun Farm (himself). That was not true.

This is outside the Panel's remit. Mr Kay deals with the point at paragraphs 9-11 of his written response. Mr Nice submitted objections to his neighbour's application in May/June 1994.

3. Various other allegations not involving Mr Nice.

These are outside the Panel's remit.

Conclusion

All of Mr Nice's allegations are outside the Panel's remit.