



The Planning Inspectorate

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Richard Hawker
Hocking Parish Councillor

Your Ref:

Our Ref: TR010015

Sent via e-mail

Date: 1 May 2014

Dear Mr Hawker

NORWICH NORTHERN DISTIBUTOR ROAD

Thank you for your correspondence of 20 March 2014. This has been passed to me for reply as a member of the Quality Assurance team whose role is to investigate complaint correspondence. Please accept my apologies for the delay in responding.

I should explain that the identification of parish councils and their statutory status is directed by legislation. The notification of the acceptance of the application and forthcoming examination are the responsibility of the applicant. The Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms And Procedures) Regulations may be viewed at the following link:

<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2009/2264/contents/made>

The legislation states in Schedule 1 that "the relevant parish council" must be consulted. This is interpreted as "the host parish council(s)". As the consultation takes place before the application is submitted to the Planning Inspectorate, it is a matter for the applicant to interpretation and apply the relevant legislation. Any concerns regarding the consultation process may be brought to the Examining Authority's attention during the examination of the application.

Regulation 4 relates to publicising a proposed application and regulation 9 relates to publicising an accepted application. The Planning Inspectorate has no reason to believe that the applicant did not comply with these statutory obligations.

The National Infrastructure pages on the Planning Portal website provide information about projects and the stage they are at in the development consent order process. The information regarding the registration period for relevant representations was published on the website.

The publically advertised deadline for registration of 23 March 2014 cannot be extended. I understand that you submitted a relevant representation on 21 February and on the

behalf of Hockering Parish Council on 20 March 2014. Please be assured that you will be able to fully engage in the examination process on behalf of your parishioners. It is important to note that the Examining Authority will consider all points raised by interested parties, irrespective of how many parties raise the same issue. You will therefore be able to ensure that the views of your parishioners are heard and their arguments examined, even if they have not made any additional individual representations.

I hope this response has been helpful in providing clarification and reassurance on the matters raised.

Yours sincerely

Chris Pritchard

Quality Assurance