

Woodpecker Camping Site and Premises

Crookthorne Lane, Climping

CM/7/18/PL

Covering Letter addition to amend inaccurate Proposal Description Application CM/20/20/PL

16/07/20

Miss Alison Baird, Rigates, Climping Street, Climping,

Littlehampton, West Sussex. BN17 5RQ

Dear Mrs Gardner,

As Case Officer for this application I am writing to advise you that there is some local confusion with the description put onto my application which is not accurate and is misleading.

My Planning Application CM/20/20/PL

Validated on 19/06/20

Decision due by 14/08/20

Comment by 23/07/20

I asked to vary Condition 4 of an existing Planning Consent CM/7/18/PL

I worded this application very carefully to avoid any confusion and to my dismay, I find that my words in the application have not been followed and as a result, there is some confusion locally regards my application.

I am seeking to vary Condition No – 4 to add Caravans and Motor Homes.

The description on the Proposal is not correct as it states:

Proposal Variations of conditions 2, 3 & 4 following the grant of CM/7/18 /PL relating to tent pitches to allow for camping use to include caravans & mobile homes.

The use of the words Mobile Homes is not accurate or correct and I would like to ask you to correct this please. I am not asking to vary conditions 2 and 3 – ONLY No 4

I already have Full Planning Consent for Camping use on the Field for Tents CM/7/18/PL.

Original letter 16/06/20

Following a grant of planning permission on 12th July 2018 I am applying for a removal or variation of a condition following grant of planning permission.

The condition is No. 4 – The use of the site for seasonal tent pitches shall only take place between the 1st April and 30th October in any one year.

The variation I am seeking is to **add caravans and motor homes to this condition.**

The condition would become:

No. 4 - The use of the site for seasonal tent, caravan and motor home pitches shall only take place between the 1st April and 30th October in any one year.

The reason is that due to the Covid – 19 Pandemic in line with Government guidance, I have not been permitted to open the Tented Camping facility so far this season. The Government has stated that the earliest date that overnight stays will be allowed to resume could be from 4th July 2020, but this is still to be confirmed.

Woodpecker Camping Field has permission and is Licensed to only allow Campers to stay in Tents therefore, the premises operate with communal toilet and washing facilities. This works very well in a normal season.

However, this is not a normal season and everything I have learned about Covid – 19 to date, leads me to be concerned that there could be a risk to my Campers of contracting the virus by using shared/communal toilet and washing facilities. In addition to this, there will also be a risk to myself and any staff by having to clean these facilities, as is demonstrated by the local authority's reluctance to open public conveniences.

By contrast, the concept of Camping overnight in a grass field in the fresh air and sunshine carries a much lower risk for Campers, provided they can be kept as separate as possible from each other.

Campers bringing Tented accommodation with them in their vehicles or on public transport are going to find it difficult to bring toilets and washing facilities with them and extremely difficult to take these soiled conveniences home with them after they have been used. There would be a temptation for Campers in Tents to leave these behind in the field which is highly unsanitary and presents a risk to myself and any staff disposing of them.

Campers in Caravans and Motor Homes bring their own toilets and washing facilities with them, so there is no risk to the other campers, me or any staff.

I will double the normal space between the pitches to 6 metres.

I will construct a safe, foul water disposal point for Campers to dispose their waste from their own toilets and washing facilities into.

I will install fresh running water taps at each pitch to further reduce any risk of contact between Campers.

There will be a strict “one way” path around the field for vehicles to access their pitches.

These proposed measures will enable many people from within in our County as well as visitors to enjoy a holiday in our rural area in a safe, contained manner, especially if public toilet facilities in the County continue to remain closed.

I would like to ask that this application be treated as a matter of urgency as whilst I understand the normal time scale would be 8 weeks to determine a decision, we are not in normal times and 8 weeks would be too late for this season.

The Government's recovery strategy is designed to enable businesses like mine be able to reopen provided it is safe to do so.

Guidance

Our Plan to rebuild: The UK Government's Covid-19 Recovery Strategy

Updated 26th May 2020

4.3 Step Three

The next step will also take place when the assessment of risk warrants further adjustments to the remaining measures. The Government's current planning assumption is that this step will be no earlier than 4 July, subject to the five tests justifying some or all of the measures below, and further detailed scientific advice, provided closer to the time, on how far we can go.

The ambition at this step is to **open at least some of the remaining businesses and premises that have been required to close, including personal care** (such as hairdressers and beauty salons) **hospitality** (such as food service providers, pubs and accommodation), **public places** (such as places of worship) and **leisure facilities** (like cinemas). They should also meet the COVID-19 Secure guidelines. Some venues which are, by design, crowded and where it may prove difficult to enact distancing may still not be able to re-open safely at this point, or may be able to open safely only in part. Nevertheless the Government will wish to open as many businesses and public places as the data and information at the time allows.

In order to facilitate the fastest possible re-opening of these types of higher-risk businesses and public places, the Government will carefully phase and pilot re-openings to test their ability to adopt the new COVID-19 Secure guidelines. The Government will also monitor carefully the effects of re-opening other similar establishments elsewhere in the world, as this happens. The Government will establish a series of taskforces to work closely with stakeholders in these sectors to develop ways in which they can make these businesses and public places COVID-19 Secure.