

[REDACTED]

Please could you upload the correspondence below, confirming a further extension of the time period to determine the applications, to both application folders?

Thank you

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Hi Ray,

I have discussed the matter with Dandara and I can now agree to the extensions of time as requested in your email below.

Please can you update me on whether the Council now find the elevations acceptable and in accordance with the spirit of the design code. I do not want to find that senior officers make comments towards the end of May when they should have been made by the middle of March, prior to the lockdown.

I look forward to hearing from you.

regards

[REDACTED]

0770 2121 930

Blueprint Planning & Development Ltd is registered in Scotland, SC361579.

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On 1 Apr 2020, at 17:08, Raymond Cole <[Raymond.Cole@arun.gov.uk](mailto:Raymond.Cole@arun.gov.uk)> wrote:

Dear David

I refer to our telephone conversation earlier this afternoon.

As discussed, the Council has received many requests to suspend the processing of planning applications but is sending the following as a typical response:

*"The District Council has recently received a letter from the Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government (MHCLG), which states:*

***Decision Making***

*We understand that some councils are concerned about the implications of COVID- 19 for their capacity to process planning applications within statutory timescales. It is important that authorities continue to provide the best service possible in these stretching times and prioritise decision-making to ensure the planning system continues to function, especially where this will support the local economy.*

*We ask you to take an innovative approach, using all options available to you to continue your service. We recognise that face-to-face events and meetings may have to be cancelled but we encourage you to explore every opportunity to use technology to ensure that discussions and consultations can go ahead. We also encourage you to consider delegating committee decisions where appropriate. The Government has confirmed that it will introduce legislation to allow council committee meetings to be held virtually for a temporary period, which we expect will allow planning committees to continue.*

*We encourage you to be pragmatic and continue, as much as possible, to work proactively with applicants and others, where necessary agreeing extended periods for making decisions. We recognise that there may be circumstances where a local planning authority is unable to consider a permitted development prior approval application within the deemed consent period. It remains important to prioritise these so important economic activity can continue. In these exceptional circumstances the authority can, if necessary, seek to agree an extended approval date with the applicant. Where agreement cannot be reached an authority may need to consider whether prior approval is refused if the application cannot be considered with the requisite attention.*

*We will continue to work within the guidelines issued by Central Government, as best as we possibly can, given our reduced capacity during this challenging period. As most staff are restricted to home-working, and postal services are also likely to be reduced, electronic submissions via the planning portal [www.planningportal.co.uk](http://www.planningportal.co.uk) and the Council's website <https://www.arun.gov.uk/weekly-lists> are the only ways that we can reasonably be expected to receive and process applications, comments and complaints.*

*We appreciate that this isn't ideal, and will obviously have an impact on residents who may not have the necessary means to work in this way, but this is the best solution that we have in order to maintain a planning service."*

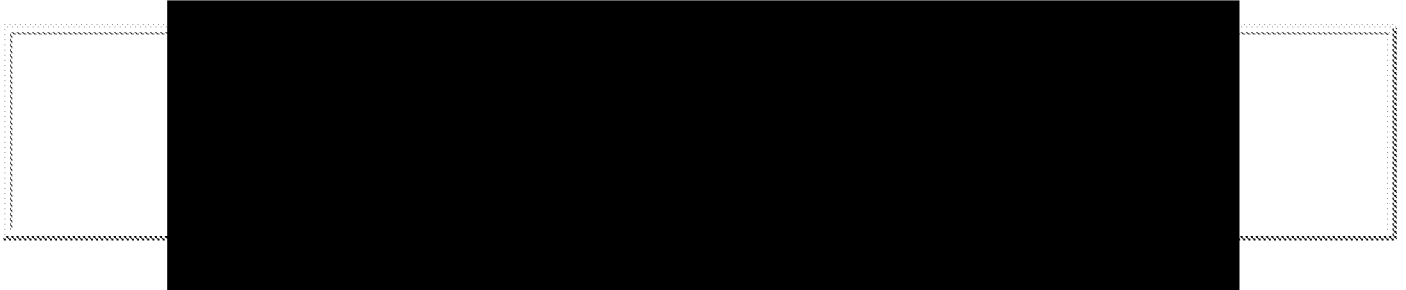
While the April meeting of the Development Control Committee has been cancelled, from internal e-mails received today and subject to new Regulations coming into force, I understand that the May meeting is likely to take place remotely. I do not know the precise arrangements for the meeting but I am aware that some guidance has been published by the Planning Officers Society here: <https://www.planningofficers.org.uk/uploads/news/pos-gpgn-decision-making---covid-19.pdf>. The scheduled date of the meeting is 27th May and I have been asked to work to a 30th April deadline for the completion of reports on items to be considered at this meeting, including the Reserved Matters application for Fontwell.

I am aware that Claire and Neil would like to consider the Design Code alongside the report for the Reserved Matters. Therefore, if Dandara is willing, I would suggest a further extension of the time period to determine application WA/41/19/DOC until 7th May 2020 and a further extension for WA/48/19/RES until 29th May 2020. I would be grateful if you could let me know whether these dates are acceptable to your client.

Please note that a shift pattern has been introduced to support the Council's ICT systems while most staff are home-working. For the time being, this means I will only be available online and by telephone Monday to Friday between 1.00pm and 7.00pm.

Regards

Ray



<http://www.arun.gov.uk>

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