FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST – 739/18

Dear Sir/Madam

Your request for information has now been considered and the information requested is provided below.

Request & Response

At the recent Rutland Parish Council Forum held at Catmose, Cllr Helmsley gave us the ‘Garden Village’ presentation followed by a Q&A session, all of which was minuted.

From both presentation and Q&A I have some questions:

1. RCC saw the opportunity for MOU with MoD;
   a) Who in RCC saw the opportunity
   b) Who made the decision to progress to MOU

   Answer: Please be advised that this question you have asked does not fall within the Freedom of Information Act legislation. The Information Commissioners Office provides guidance on what is covered by the Freedom of Information Act., which can be found at the following link:


   The Act covers any recorded information only and not information that is in someone’s head (recorded information includes printed documents, computer files, letters, emails, photographs, and sound or video recordings).

2. Oliver quotes ‘our shared vision’

   Who makes up the ‘our’?

   Answer: Rutland County Council, the Defence Infrastructure Organisation and Ministry of Defence.
3. The open space in the new development in its current guise is quoted as 60%.
   a) Does this include the quarry?
      Answer: The 60% refers to the development when complete so it does include the Area for mineral extraction
   b) What other areas of note make up the 60%?
      Answer: The Thor Missile site, Green Gap, Village Greens, Play Areas and any other space readily accessible by members of the public.
   c) Are house gardens included?
      Answer: No

4. Oliver quotes figures of 200 to 300 thousand new homes needed.
   How many homes could be built on the land being sat on by speculative developers?
   Answer: Rutland County Council does not hold this information

5. Oliver says the minerals contained within the area of the base are unknown.
   So why are there no test bore holes being drilled in the area designated for housing outside the runways? Then the minerals would then be known.
   Answer: The objectives of the test holes was twofold. The first objective was to confirm the chemical composition of the minerals and their suitability for extraction. The second was to confirm the information already available as a result of a British Geological Survey (BGS) completed a number of years ago. The information we have obtained has confirmed within acceptable tolerances the information already held by the BGS which negated the need for us to undertake the survey under the area planned for housing. The information we do have form the BGS indicates that the thickness of minerals under the area for housing is economically unviable.

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request please contact the Data Protection Officer, Rutland County Council, Catmose, Oakham, Rutland LE15 6HP
You can also complain to the Information Commissioner at:

The Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House, Water lane
Wilmslow, Cheshire
SK9 5AF
Tel: 01625 545700

Yours faithfully