853/19 - FREEDOM OF INFORMATION / ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION REGULATIONS REQUEST

Dear Sir/Madam

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

Request / Response:

I understand that Rutland County Council agreed to supply the Catmose Close Car Park for the Hunt meeting on Boxing day 2015. [https://www.stamfordmercury.co.uk/news/cottesmore-hunt-holds-boxing-day-meet-in-oakham-1-7135829/]

I understand that Rutland County Council agreed to the meeting in Catmose Close Car Park for Boxing day 2016. [https://www.stamfordmercury.co.uk/news/cottesmore-hunt-s-boxing-day-meet-to-be-held-in-rutland-county-council-car-park-again-1-7628142/]

1. Could you please confirm if any requests were made for Boxing Day 2017 & 2018 to use Catmose Close, Car Park Oakham by the Cottesmore Hunt or its associates for a meeting.

Answer: Rutland County Council are not aware of any such requests.

2. Could you confirm that you were aware that they intended to meet on Public Highway in Market Place, Oakham on Boxing day 2017,2018. This area is highway and under the control of Rutland District Council. It has been confirmed from Oakham Town Council, Rutland County Council and Leic Police (FOIs) that this is legally highway with the only restrictions being the market conditions.

Answer: The Market Place is public highway and does not require any user to apply for permission to use, it is a matter for the Police if the proposed use is unlawful as they have the powers to address criminality.

The powers given to highway authorities under the Highways Act 1980 cover misuse, obstruction and the like. Any lawful group meeting for a brief period would not be in contravention of the Highways Act 1980.
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If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request please contact the Head of Corporate Governance, 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

FOI Administrator
Business Support Team
Rutland County Council