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Miss Kellie Hainsworth  
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Your Ref: KH.DRW

Our Ref: APP/W9500/W/20/3250668 &  
APP/W9500/Y/20/3250669

Date: 18 June 2020

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Dear Miss Hainsworth

I refer to e-mail of 12 June addressed to Sarah Richards about the appeals by Restek for development at 3 Bloomswell, Robin Hoods Bay, WHITBY, YO22 4RT. I have been asked to respond on her behalf.

I would firstly point out that we are not being target driven in setting a date of 29 July for the submission of your statement. We exceptionally gave this deadline as it coincides with the 6-month deadline for lodging a valid appeal in respect of the decision to refuse permission for the planning application. Your suggestion of submitting a statement 4 weeks before a site visit was impractical as it would have disadvantaged the LPA and interested parties and may have meant critical information was missing at the time of the site visit. In order to provide some element of structure to the process, the 6-month appeal deadline seemed a pragmatic solution given that the lockdown is easing.

We note the comments raised about your heritage consultant. It obviously rests with you what evidence needs to be included in the full statement of case and whether a visit by your consultant is essential. What I can say is that our Inspectors have started visiting sites in the last few weeks taking the necessary precautions. On the face of it taking into account that there are Government guidelines for working in other people's homes, what we have suggested would not necessarily conflict with those guidelines provided that neither the appellants nor the consultant are shielding or self-isolating or there would be a need for an overnight stay in order to carry out the necessary work. Ultimately, it is your choice whether to carry out a visit in the near future, but we are uncomfortable leaving the deadline open ended or placing it into abeyance. Irrespective of whether an appellant is happy for appeals to be delayed, we have a duty to process cases as quickly as practically possible.

In the light of the above I would be grateful if you could reassess the situation and advise whether it is possible for a statement to be submitted by the set deadline and whether your heritage consultant can carry out a site visit in the near future if this is deemed to be essential. If you still feel that the deadline is not feasible, I would invite you to explain why this is not possible.

A copy of your e-mail and this response have been forwarded to the local planning

authority.

Yours sincerely

Ian Cassar  
Planning Casework Operations