

ST ANDREW'S TRUST BISHOPTHORPE

22 January 2021

email: Kathy.Stevenson@environment-agency.gov.uk>

Dear Kathy,

At your request, our email of 13 January 2021 repeated why we need unrestricted vehicular access to our land and explained how and why your development will deny that essential access, thereby forcing the permanent closure of an important heritage site including our concessionary riverside path. You have been provided with the relevant clauses of our Public Liability Insurance documents as evidence of our position.

We of course agree that flood defences are essential, and as we said in our email, we were awaiting planning consent for our scheme from the Planning Inspectorate.

We received that consent on 18th January 2021 and this now allows us to accept the offer of the NHF to make an application for CRF funding to implement our scheme.

Documentary evidence has already been provided in previous correspondence that records the history of both applications, but for the benefit of all parties, that chronology is as follows:

1. March 2019: EA and its agent Aecom Capita meet St Andrews Trust to discuss options for a flood alleviation scheme for Bishopthorpe including a flood barrier at the end of Chantry Lane.
2. July 2019: St Andrews Trust applies to COYC for consent under the planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 for erection of flood alleviation works and repairs to St Andrew's Cross.
3. February 2020: COYC refuse planning consent.
4. July 2020: St Andrews Trust appeal against COYC decision to the higher planning authority of the Planning Inspectorate.
5. January 2021: The Inspectorate overrules COYC and grants consent.

The Inspectorate's decision is very significant. It confirms that COYC had no good cause to refuse us consent for a scheme that adopts one of the viable options we discussed in March 2019 (see above).

We supported that option because it could be ramped across to retain the vehicular access we need to conserve our assets, not invalidate our public liability insurance and keep our riverside path open to the public.

We trust this clarifies our position unequivocally and serves as notice.

We look forward to hearing from you with a view to coming to a mutually beneficial solution that will both protect Bishopthorpe from flooding and maintain a valued asset for our community.

Trustees of St Andrew's Trust, Bishopthorpe.

Copied to Louise Milnes, LPA case officer, and all interested parties via our website

St Andrew's Trust Bishopthorpe is a company limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales. Company registration no. 3494257

St Andrew's Trust Bishopthorpe is registered as a charity in England and Wales. Charity no. 1068768.

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