The Planning Process Scrutiny Office Morier House St Helier JE1 1DD

Tuesday 21st March 2006

Dear Sirs,

I am writing in response to the recent notice in the Jersey Evening Post inviting written submissions on the planning process.

The one aspect of the process that I feel moved to write about is the notice of applications submitted, which appears only in the Jersey Evening Post, and gives people only two weeks to lodge any objections. If you happen to be out of the island, or don't happen to see the notice, you lose your ability to object.

I consider it would fairer if notice of all planning applications is given to the owners of all properties that have a boundary with the property for which planning permission is being sought. This need not be an additional cost or burden for the Planning Department. A standard form of notice could be designed by Planning, and it could be the responsibility of the owner of the property applying for planning consent to give the notice to all owners of adjacent properties. A condition of planning consent could be that all the notices have been given, and consent could be withdrawn (or the applicant required to restore works already carried out) in the event that notice was not given to the owner of an adjacent property and that owner raises an objection, which Planning uphold. Clearly proof of delivery of the notices will be required.

Further, it would also be fairer if applicants were required to display details of the planning application in a prominent position at the property concerned so that neighbours also have the opportunity to be aware of the application and raise an objection with Planning if they feel the need to do so. Again this need not be a burden on Planning. Planning could define the details that need to be displayed and perhaps in which location (more than one for larger sites or sites with multiple access points etc), and again planning consent could be conditional on the details having been on display for a minimum prescribed time period.

I consider the above suggestions will go some way top making the planning process fairer for owners of properties or residents nearby who may be effected by a successful planning application.

Yours faithfully.

enny Fowle

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