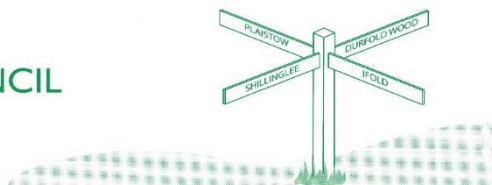


PLAISTOW AND IFOLD PARISH COUNCIL



3rd July 2022

BY EMAIL ONLY

Mr. M. Turner
Area Environment Manager
Solent & South Downs, Environment Agency
[email address redacted]

Dear Mr Turner,

Re: [Northover Energy](#) operating from Little Springfield Farm, Plaistow Road, Loxwood, Billingshurst, West Sussex, RH14 0PD

The above company has recently purchased Little Springfield Farm in Ifold, West Sussex and installed heating oil storage tanks for commercial distribution within an existing building. This installation is ancillary to the current permitted Class B2 and B8 use of the land and buildings, granted in 2003 under planning reference PS/02/03398/ELD (Chichester District Council).

However, members of the community have raised concerns with the Parish Council regarding the potential environmental pollution risks associated with storage of large volumes of heating oil near a water course and ancient woodland. It has been noted that if such a development came forward as a new planning application, appropriate environmental checks would be required to determine the application.

Chichester District Council (CDC) has informed the Parish Council that Building Control will not assess commercial fuel storage tanks to ensure the construction meets regulation standards. They have advised that the Environment Agency, as the competent body, would be the organisation to grant any required consent or license for the business operations and to ensure that the development conforms to the required standard. Similarly, CDC have stated that it would be a matter for the Environment Agency to ensure there is no potential impact risk to nearby watercourses.

Plaistow and Ifold Parish Council would be grateful to understand what licences Northover Energy requires for their business and if they are in possession of the correct documentation.

The Parish Council supports its resident's assertion that the community should be confident that the premises and the storage of heating oil does not pose an environmental safety risk, either from

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pollution to the nearby water course, the ancient woodland or to nearby residential property.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C. Nutting', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Catherine Nutting
Clerk & RFO