

Heyford Park Parish Council Response to Planning Application 22/02494/F

This planning application seeks to provide retrospect planning consent to build the car park on the north-western corner of the village green. The application refers to, seeks to amend, and will further delay the previously approved landscaping application Ref: 19/00024/DISC. Although this planning application was permitted, it has not implemented for over three and a half years.

The current planning application also fails to give any consideration to planning application 21/03701/REM, submitted in November 2021 and approved in January 2022. Application 21/03701/REM approved the building of a much-needed LEAP children's recreational area at the location where the current car park has been built. It appears that the developer sought to circumvent the application almost immediately after submitting it.

The developer has also proceeded to build the children's recreational area south of the permitted plans within the village green. The Parish Council can find no evidence that a revised planning application was ever submitted.

Heyford Park Parish Council notes that in recent years the developer has on this site:-

1. Demolished a building without planning consent.
2. Built a car park on land with plans approved to provide a children's LEAP play area on the same site.
3. Built a children's LEAP play area on an amended site without seeking further planning consent.

The building referred to at (1.), was one whereby the developer demolished everything except the wall facing the green, instead of retaining the building as planned. This was followed by a planning application to remove the remaining wall. It should be noted that the Heyford Park Parish Council only supported the demolition of this wall after receiving assurances from Dorchester Living that the area would become a community garden, and that this would be followed by the building of a community building/shops. The car park was never part of it. If parking spaces are needed, it is the view of the parish council that they must be found elsewhere and for the whole community, not just for hotel patrons.

It is the view of Heyford Park Parish Council that, if approved, planning permission should only be granted for a maximum of 2 years. This would give the District Council time in which consider what action it should take to prevent further similar planning irregularities.