To: Adrian Stanfield <adrian.stanfield@tmbc.gov.uk> Cc: clerk@boroughgreen.gov.uk Subject: Standards Complaint</adrian.stanfield@tmbc.gov.uk>
Dear Adrian, Formal response. with attachments I received an email from complaining about "habitat destruction" (1), called Robert Body and met him and Shaun Body to visit the site. I subsequently received an email from RB with the 16 pictures he had taken during my visit (picture coll). What is not readily apparent from the pictures is the sheer volume of waste spread on the ground, you are walking on a layer of waste, not the actual ground. The area in question was backfilled some 20 years ago when the Talbot/Halls sand plant was dismantled. It is not Ancient Woodland, it is scrubland with a few small trees. I saw no evidence of large tree stumps or logs from large trees, and I was there within hours of the work. Upon my return home I emailed (2). I then posted the pictures to my own page on Facebook (Facebook Post).
On the 16th April I received an email from response (5)
Reading back over the notes I see that I did indeed overstate when I said that the matter had been ordered by the EA and KCC. That was my misunderstanding of Robert/Shaun's conversation that KCC/EA knew about the matter, and my assumption that Robert would have been required under the rules to remove the fly-tipping at his own expense.
It is also readily apparent that whilst the site could be accessed by any member of the public, it is extremely unlikely that anyone would go to the effort of finding the back way in, fight through 20-30metres of scrub, just to dump rubbish against the resident's rear fences.
I acknowledge that I was very angry when I discovered the truth of the "bulldozing the woodland habitat" accusation, and further angered when tried to defend the actions of her neighbours. I do not know exactly where either or actually live, but presume from their comments they are also residents backing onto the landfill site.
I did discuss at length with Robert and Shaun a more nuanced approach to the clearance of the northern section of the woodland. There are a couple of mature trees that need to be preserved, but some significant voids left that will need to be filled with inert material. I have been invited to attend and discus nearer that day.
However, although I might tweak the odd word, I stand by what I said. The fly-tipping is an appalling crim against wildlife in its own right, and unwarranted attacks against me and Robert Body do not mitigate the multiple offences.
Kind regards Mike Taylor

From: mike taylor [mailto:mike.taylor@boroughgreen.gov.uk]