

Dear Sassi,

Ref: Community Asset Nomination for POW Camp site in Mill Lane Hatfield Heath

I am writing on behalf of Mark Lemon and the Parish Council about this application.

We have undertaken further research into the number of visits to this site made in the last five years and established through Mr Allan Wilton, a School governor that there have been at least four.

I quote from his letter dated March 19, 2018.

‘ I have looked back through my diaries and found entries on 14th and 22nd Oct '14, when I accompanied class trips to the site. I have also taken further classes during the last 5 years but do not have diary entries for those. The school would visit more regularly but now the site has been fenced off it had become more difficult to get access. Hope this helps.’

We have been trying to track down specific dates for the second two visits within the school records but have so far had no success.

In the last five years it has indeed become more and more difficult to access the site. From a situation prior to the land purchase of the Southern section, where free access was granted by the previous owner we have gone through ‘by permission only’ to outright refusal for any purpose as witnessed by the latest e mail by the developers to our History Society dated 29th March 2018.

The request was to allow the History Society access to at least make a photographic record prior to any potential development of the site. The relevant extract reads as follows.

‘As mentioned when we met, we are very keen to work alongside you and to confirm for clarity the owner is more than happy to allow access for you to undertake data recording at an appropriate time. However, as you are aware the units are in varying states of repair and currently present a health and safety risk. As such, the owner doesn’t wish to be held responsible for any damage or personal injury/liability that could occur on such a site; therefore, our Health and Safety officer has advised that key insurance policies and risk assessments need to be in place prior to any such movements within the site. As such, I have programmed these assessments to be undertaken following the determination of the application, following which we will look to arrange a date for you to visit the site.’

This statement has unfortunately taken many months to extract from them.

I will be present at the meeting on Wednesday representing the Parish Council, Niki Champion will be representing the ‘popular vote’ that countersigned our application and Ivan Cooper our History Society.

Yours sincerely

Nigel Robley

3rd May, 2018