

FL 09 + FL10 and FL11 – Camping Parks in Fleet

AECOM's assessment of the camping parks in Fleet is based on a flawed transcription of the proposals and consequently is misleading.

The report heads the section as "Tourism Expansion" yet the proposals were for improvements to the facilities and landscaping. No expansion was proposed and a reduction in density might even be possible. There seemed to be little understanding of the proposals, most of which were to improve the visual amenity, sustainability and competitiveness of the parks.

The report writer has abbreviated the proposals incorrectly, changing the meaning beyond recognition. As an example, for Sea Barn & West Fleet, "Addition of a café/ parking area for walkers" has been changed to "Addition of Camping". It is stated that this would be year-round when the proposal for these seasonal parks was to improve the offering of the camping park during the shoulder season, reducing the dependence on the summer months.

For Bagwell "increased Recreation Units" has been added although there was not even a slightly similar phrase in the proposal.

The report assesses the parks as if they were new development, and rejects the proposals for improvements as detrimental

The full proposals as submitted are below: -

FL 09 + 10 Sea Barn & West Fleet Farms

Following the challenges of Covid-19, we would like to enhance the facilities and infrastructure to further improve the offering of the camping park during the shoulder season, reducing the dependence on the summer months. We need to protect existing jobs and increase the number of quality year-round career opportunities.

Improvements could include but not be limited to: Addition of a café/ parking area for walkers, provision for electric vehicle charging, additional solar energy harvesting (perhaps on the roof/walls of tent-type "pods"), battery storage of energy, wildlife observation "hides", eco-lodges, more indigenous hedges, reorganisation of layout to reduce density, improving roads & hardstanding's/green hardstanding's to minimise grass damage, increasing number of hook-ups rebuilding of shower blocks to achieve insulation and low-energy heating, additional staff accommodation units, additional recreation areas.

Farm improvements could include livestock barns, composting facilities for green waste, equestrian grazing and exercise facilities

FL11 Bagwell Farm

Following the challenges of Covid-19, we would like to enhance the facilities and infrastructure to further improve the offering of the park as a year-round destination, reducing the dependence on the summer months. We need to protect existing jobs and increase the number of quality year-round career opportunities.

Improvements could include but not be limited to: Winter café, provision for electric vehicle charging, solar energy harvesting (perhaps on the roof/walls of tent-type “pods”), battery storage of energy, wildlife observation “hides”, eco-lodges, more indigenous hedges, reorganisation of layout to reduce density, improving roads & hardstanding’s/green hardstanding’s to minimise grass damage, increasing number of hook-ups rebuilding of shower blocks to achieve insulation and low-energy heating, additional staff accommodation units, increased secure storage facilities.

Farm improvements could include livestock barns, composting facilities for green waste, canine facilities or equestrian grazing and exercise facilities.

For clarity, the eco-lodges and tent-type pods are wooden structures, the size of a family tent. Some are designed to be equivalent to a touring caravan but, with wooden sides rather than plastic/aluminium panels giving an enhanced visual appearance. Increasingly, these are designed to be more eco-friendly, some have living roofs, others have solar panels for self-sufficient living.