

## Appendix 5

159 Thornaby Rd.  
Thornaby-on-Tees  
14th January '08

Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council.  
REF SA/19/90/49120

Dear Mr Ahmed.

With reference to your recent letters referring to the installation of alley gates in my area, I note that you are issuing keys for these on January 16th '08, although the consultation period does not end until the 18th January '08. This shows complete contempt for the consultation process, and exposes the fact that the council never had any intention of taking into account objections raised during the consultation period.

I also note the Act which the council is using to remove the public right of way - i.e. 129A of the Highway Act 1980, does not apply to 123-171 Thornaby Rd as we are unaffected by Anti-social behaviour and crime has been minimal.

As alley gates are not necessary, I object to the enforced inconvenience of having to open and close heavy gates which are difficult to handle in the wind several times a day.

Yours Sincerely

D Fern

D. FERN

# Appendix 5

My Ref: SA/LG/GO/44120  
Your Ref:  
Please ask for: John Angus  
Tel: 01642 5264999  
Email: john.angus@stockton.gov.uk

1<sup>st</sup> February 2008

Dear D Fern

In reply to your letter objecting to the Gating Order for the alleyways in Thornaby, Parkfield and Newtown with particular reference to the alleyways at the rear of 123 – 171, I would like to provide further information to support this Gating Order.

However, firstly, with regards the session to issue the keys that was held prior to the consultation period for the Gating Order being complete. This was due to a programming error within our office, this matter has been investigated and steps have been taken to ensure that errors like this will not take place in the future. The alleygates are not currently in operation and I can assure you that if the Gating Order does not proceed in the face of objection these alleyways will not be gated off.

Before making a gating order in relation to a relevant highway, in this case the alleyways in Thornaby, Parkfield and Newtown, the Council must be satisfied that-

- (a) Premises adjoining or adjacent to the highway are affected by crime or anti-social behaviour;
- (b) The existence of the highway is facilitating the persistent commission of criminal offences or anti-social behaviour; and
- (c) It is in all the circumstances expedient to make the order for the purposes of reducing crime or anti-social behaviour

To assist in the delivery of the alleygate programme a steering group made up of representatives of Cleveland Police, Cleveland Fire Brigade and the Council's Care For Your Area and Community Safety teams analyse the crime and anti social behaviour statistics across the Borough. These incidents are then correlated with the positions of the alleyways to assess if the installation of alleygates would benefit the area. To minimise the risk of any crime displacement, the steering group analyse the statistics for a wider area around each alleyway.

For the alleyways in the Thornaby area that are part of this Gating Order the statistics show that the levels of crime and anti social behaviour have been at a high level consistently for the past 2 years. As a result the alleygate steering group are satisfied that these areas satisfy the Act and would benefit from the installation of the alleygates.

The consultation exercise carried out with those residents that live within the areas identified for the alleygate programme showed that the majority (98%) of these residents supported the proposals.

D Fern  
155 Thornaby Road  
Thornaby-on-Tees  
TS17 6HG

## Appendix 5

In a recent evaluation of existing alleygates installed around the Borough, a significant reduction (55%) in incidents of crime and anti social behaviour was found in the 12 months following the installation of gates compared to the 12 months prior to the installation of the gates. In one area of Thornaby the installation of alleygates resulted in an 88% reduction in the number of incidents in the 12 months following installation.

In the Council's opinion there is compelling evidence that crime and disorder can be reduced with the installation of alleygates and we urge you to acknowledge the same.

I hope that you are satisfied that in formulating this proposal Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council has given careful consideration to each scheme and its wider social impact and I trust that you will be encouraged to remove your objection.

If you so wish your objection to be withstanding the matter will be referred to the Council's Appeals and Complaints Committee. As an objector you would be invited to attend the Appeal and would be given the opportunity to address the Committee Members is you so wish.

Please confirm your position in writing to either myself at the above address or Shajeel Ahmed at Law & Democracy, Municipal Buildings, Church Road. Stockton. TS18 1LD.

Yours Faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John Angus', is written over a light grey rectangular background.

John Angus  
Senior Projects Officer

CC. Shajeel Ahmed, Law & Democracy

Appendix 5

155 Thornaby Rd.  
Thornaby-on-Tees

4th February 2008

RECEIVED  
14 FEB 2008

Ref SA/29/50/44120  
re John Angus.

Dear Mr. Angus,

In response to your letter of 1st February 08, I want to re-affirm my objection to the gating of 123-171 Thornaby Rd.

You claim that 98% of the residents support the proposal, however as residents who have abstained from answering the questionnaire were deemed to be supporters according to the Council - it is my assertion that the true level of support is unknown.

You suggest not gating our section will lead to a migration of crime to our area. I have not found this to be the case as other areas nearby have been gated off for some time. To block off a Public Right of way the Act requires that said Highway is to facilitate the persistent commission of crime and anti-social behaviour. As you are aware this particular highway - 127-171 Thornaby Rd. fails to meet the requirements of the Act. which

## Appendix 5

makes no mention of some vague general area!

Finally, I find the charge of £10 each for extra keys to be extortionate as most keys cost less than £4 per copy. Every family needs at least three keys to function properly. Although this is not my main objection, it is an additional aggravation.

Yours sincerely  
D Fern.

MR. DENIS FERN