

Stalbridge Town Council registered it was opposed to the application to build 160 properties on land north of Station Road with Dorset Council who are the authorised planning authority for the county.

Dorset Council took the decision to refuse the initial application from which the land agent (Gladmans) then appealed against the decision made.

Ward councillors and a Stalbridge Town Council councillor participated at the subsequent legal appeal hearing between Dorset Council and Gladmans, chaired by an independent Inspector from HM Government. Together with Planning Officers from Dorset Council, the three councillors delivered strong and robust arguments for why the rejected application should stand, highlighting national, county and local problems with the application.

As we now know, the Inspector has granted the application to stand with conditions.

Stalbridge Town Council is seeking further clarity from its Ward Councillor as to whether Dorset Council intends to challenge the Inspectors decision and, will ask him to publicise his statement in the usual media platforms.

- Gladmans completed outline planning permission for 160 properties and presented it DC PD.
- As part of the process DC PD requested STC comments as a “consultee” in the process.
- As a collective, STC recommended the application be rejected.
- DC PD considered our submission in their deliberations and together with other county reasons, refused the application.
- Gladmans appealed against the refusal.
- The appeal hearing – 3 DC planning officers V’s 9 Gladmans solicitors and other legal experts.
- Graham Carr-Jones, James Vitaly and myself also gave reasons why the rejection should stand.
- The HM Inspector concluded that DC did not have legal grounds to reject the application, therefore it was granted.