

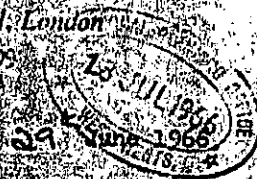


MINISTRY OF HOUSING & LOCAL GOVERNMENT
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Please address any reply to

THE SECRETARY

and quote: P2/839/223/2

Your reference: JWB/HDB:222.03/10

W. 352-55

Sir,

Town and Country Planning Act 1962
Town and Country Planning General Regulations 1962
Land at Kitcheners Field
Castle Hill, Berkhamsted

I am directed by the Minister of Housing and Local Government to refer to your Council's application for planning permission to develop 33.17 acres of land at Castle Hill, Berkhamsted for a secondary school and associated playing fields.

The application is deemed to have been referred for decision under section 22 of the 1962 Act.

It was explained in the County Education Officer's statement that the school was needed to provide adequate school accommodation for children living in Berkhamsted, Tring and the surrounding areas. There were objections to the proposal from the owner of the site and local residents.

Consideration has been given to the objections and the County Council's statement on them enclosed with your letter of 24th March 1966, but the planning position in this part of Berkhamsted is further complicated by the objections made in respect of this site and other nearby land to the proposals contained in the first review of the development plan. It is not possible to give decisions on the issues raised by the review in the immediate future and meanwhile having regard to the nature of the objections it is considered that development of the application site as proposed would be premature.

The Minister therefore refuses permission for the use of the application site for a secondary school and playing fields.

This decision is issued now in the light of the statement in your letter of 24th March last that the County Council were anxious to have a decision. It is, of course, open to them to renew their application if it seems to them appropriate when the review development plan has been decided but meanwhile, if the need for the school is particularly pressing perhaps alternative sites should be explored.

I am to ask you to notify the objectors of this decision.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

W. A. Swansfeld

(Miss W. A. SWANSFELD)
Authorised by the Minister
to sign in that behalf.

The Clerk of the
Berkshire County Council,
County Hall,
BURETTON.