

Mr Nicholas Butler

APP/L1765/C/22/3311632 Unauthorised erection of Gates

On purchase of the adjoining Dradfield Lane field Mr Butler removed the existing 5 bar metal gate, created a larger concreted entrance which entailed removal of hedgerow. The previous open field gate was replaced with 2 gates with timber fencing either side. These gates were closed in with addition of high grey boarding to obscure any view of the site making these more in keeping with those of an industrial site rather than an agricultural enterprise and entirely out of keeping with other gates in the Lane.

Mr Butler could have removed these in compliance with the planning decision and enforcement notice, but has chosen to keep them in place pending this appeal. His suggested replacement with 1.75 oak gates gives little detail and the size/style would again seem to be inappropriate for an agricultural enterprise being more suited to a residential site and still out of keeping with the locality. Given there have been few animals on site (presumably due to the unsuitability of the land given the drainage issues) the need for such massive gates seems to be entirely unnecessary, unless their purpose is to facilitate and conceal other activities planned on the site.