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MH/mp/98.P44
9 November 2001

Dear Michael

LAND AT KEWS MEADOW, EAST MEON

I have been trying to get hold of you on the telephone for the last few days to provide you with an update of the latest position. As I have not been able to contact you, I thought I would drop you a line to briefly explain the current position:

1. In light of the comments from the Planning Officer and Conservation Officer at East Hampshire District Council we are currently reviewing a number of the designs of the dwellings with a view to submitting modified plans in due course. I am hoping that, once we have formulated our revised designs, I will be able to come and see you and one or two of your colleagues and Mrs Tyrwhitt-Drake to ascertain whether you are happy with the modifications prior to me submitting them to the District Council.
2. In light of the modification to the Local Plan, which has allocated the site for 20 houses to accord with PPG3, we are undertaking a revision to the site layout plan to accommodate two additional houses. However, we are endeavouring to retain, as far as possible, the integrity of the design on the current application.
3. As you are aware, I have written to the District Council, indicating that, rather than pay a large affordable housing contribution, we would be prepared to waive the claw-back provision that exists, thus providing free land for the Housing Association and use the residual money to entirely cover the funding gap for the additional classroom for the school.
4. From my recent discussion with Jeremy Heppell, I think there has been a reasonable number of letters of support and only one or two letters of objection. This is obviously encouraging. I met with the owners of the thatched cottages in front of the entrance to the Village Hall. They agreed that they would support the application but suggested that we could re-landscape the ditch in front of their property. As part of this it was suggested that the ditch be dug out to assist in removing any storm water. I agreed that this would be a good idea.

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