

Malt House
Chithurst
Rogate
Nr Petersfield
Hampshire GU31 5EZ

Trotton with Chithurst Parish Council
% Mr Neil Ryder
Clerk of Trotton with Chithurst Parish Council
Steps
Trotton
West Sussex
GU31 5EP

6th May 2022

Dear Parish Councillors

**Caravan Retreats
Malt House, Chithurst**

We write to inform our Parish Councillors of a low key wellness retreat project that we are hoping to introduce at Malt House by working in collaboration with a specialist company.

For some time we have, together with our son Dominic, been working to find a suitably low key way of sharing the peace and tranquillity of our woodland in a way that would be restorative and enjoyed by others.

We have always been careful to avoid contemplating anything that would harm the amenity of others nearby or affect our own enjoyment of Malt House and its surroundings. After a lengthy search we have found an organisation who we believe shares our ethos and has a track record of creating short stay wellness retreats in caravans located in isolated and secluded natural settings.

The occupants stay for a short period, usually two days, and enjoy the natural setting in seclusion and because of this, we do not believe that the proposal will harm the amenity of our surroundings or that of those who live nearby.

They have identified that a small number of sites (4 or less) could be located in our woodland. As the caravans remain on-site, movements are limited to a small number of visitors parking on existing hard standing and walking to their retreat sites, carrying their own luggage. Since the purpose is a short stay residential retreat, comings and goings during visitors' stay is minimal. No new access tracks are required to the retreat sites which will be located in existing clearings and our trees will be unaffected.

Unlike many other commercially available touring caravans, the proposed caravans are dark in colour, clad in wood and designed to blend in unobtrusively with their surroundings.

The recreational organisation that we are working in collaboration with is called “**U Y Recreational Club**”.

They have been vetted by Natural England and hold a Caravan Exemption Certificate that means that by adhering to a range of standards and a Code of Conduct, they do not usually require express planning permission or a site licence from a local authority for the type and scale of caravanning use which is being proposed.

Before any use of our land for caravans commences, “U Y Recreational Club” are seeking confirmation of this understanding from the South Downs National Park and have today submitted a formal notification (information copy enclosed).

Whilst we understand that no formal planning application is likely to be required at this stage, we hope that Parish Councillors will be supportive of this wellness proposal that we hope will enable others to share and benefit from the tranquillity and beauty of our National Park surroundings.

If you require any further information or clarification we would be pleased if you could contact our son, Dominic Ferguson, to discuss our proposal using the following contact details:

Dominic Ferguson
Tel: 07803 023 444
Email: dominicferguson@btinternet.com

Yours sincerely,

Mr and Mrs G. Ferguson

Encs.

U Y Recreational Club

U Y Recreational Club
uyrecreationalclub@gmail.com
Teignsnape House
Shaldon
TQ140EX

6th May 2022

Our Ref: 0522MEGU31

planning@southdowns.gov.uk

South Downs National Park Authority

Notice - Certified Site Under Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act 1960

To Whom It May Concern

U Y Recreational Club is a recreational organisation which facilitates landowners to run small, low density campsites in private nature spots around the UK. The club's mission is to help people easily access nature and understand the benefits of doing so regularly.

The club has a Paragraph 5 Touring Caravan Exemption Certificate issued by Natural England, attached to this email. With this exemption our organisation can approve certified sites by issuing certificates to landowners. Our certificates are issued under the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act 1960 and are valid for one year. They are limited to a maximum of 5 touring caravan pitches.

We organise short term caravan stays for our members and have a code of conduct that all members must abide by, including a rule that no member can stay for more than 28 consecutive days at a time.

We are writing to you today, with regard to a new certified site application to us within your area from Malthouse. The application is for the following address:

Malthouse
Chithurst
GU31 5EZ

U Y Recreational Club

As part of the consultation process and prior to an Exemption Certificate being issued, we send a notice to the Local Planning Authority (and immediate neighbours if applicable) regarding the proposed temporary land use proposal.

Please find attached the applicant's site plan showing the property boundary and the proposed area for certification.

We have undertaken an initial study and deem the site suitable, we would be grateful if you could confirm you would not object to us proceeding with the certification. The consultation period is 14 days from the send date of this email. If you require more time to respond or have any questions or comments, please inform us of this in writing. Please also feel free to contact the club on 07739988084.

If we do not receive a reply to our consultation, we will presume you have no objections or comments and will proceed with issuing the applicant a site certificate.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Alex Darkin".

Alex Darkin
Club Secretary



Site boundary

Certified site

Borden Ln

Borden Ln

s Pond Rd

Chithurst Ln

Hammer Stream

Hammer Stream

Chithurst Ln

Chithurst Ln

Estate Vineyards

Gateh



**CARAVAN SITES AND CONTROL OF DEVELOPMENT ACT 1960
CERTIFICATE OF EXEMPTION
PARAGRAPH 5**

WHEREAS under paragraph 12 of the First Schedule to the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act 1960, the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (hereinafter called the "Secretary of State") may grant a certificate of exemption for the purposes of paragraph 5 of the said Schedule to any organisation as to which he is satisfied that its objects include the encouragement or promotion of recreational activities.

NOW THEREFORE the Secretary of State hereby grants the **U Y Recreational Club, Teignsnape House, Coombe Road, Shaldon, Devon** this certificate under the said paragraph 12 dated the 12th day of July 2021.

David Reid

Caravan and Camping Exemption Case Officer

Natural England (*Authorised by the Secretary of State to sign in that behalf*)

Notes

1. This certificate is withdrawable at any time, and in any event will cease to be valid on the **12th July 2026**.
2. This certificate is granted only for the use of the organisation named and is not transferable to any other organisation.
3. This certificate is granted only for use in England.