

Dear Nicola,

The owner of the Beacon was granted permission to knock it down and replace it with a block of flats in February 2016 on condition that he start work on it within three years. I'd spotted a flaw in the plans submitted to the Committee and advised the Council about it but it was deliberately withheld so permission was granted.

On my last visit to South Shields, this Summer, I noticed that nothing had changed and had been meaning to raise the subject again and I was reminded by a small article in the latest issue the *Ambler* off the potential loss of the English Coastal Path (ECP) in Amble to do something about both.

It appears from here that South Tyneside Council had developed what they thought of as a fairly fool proof method of giving away public footpaths and the like to developers of adjacent properties but it contains the same flaw as the one detected in the plans for the Beacon in late 2015.

I first became aware of this happening on Tyneside when the planning officer in charge of the resiting what was to become UK Docks head office on River Drive in South Shields gave the right of way to Readheads Landing to the Port of Tyne. There was little one could do about it because the agent for the Port of Tyne agreed with the planning officer to make alternative to make 'alternative provision'. Needless to say the 'alternative provision' came to nothing.

That was just a hint of what eventually lead to the corruption that has become endemic through various department of South Tyneside Council, please see the attached document which which for the want of a less pompous title I have called 'Contagion of Corruption'.

Back to now, the reminder in the *Ambler* was an email titled "Quayside walkway still closed" and the photograph attached, taken this morning, is to illustrates how owner of the Radcliffes Lodge which overlooks Amble Marina appears to be anticipating the gift of part of the ECP much as the part of it was given to the developer of apartments overlooking the Tyne.

I had initially thought to address this email to the Anna Williams, the Editor of the *Ambler*, but thought it more courteous to address it to you and give you a chance to respond as Monitoring Officer.

Like the MPs to whom this will be copied, it is for information to do with as they or she wishes, and I hope that either Amble Marina or Northumberland County Council will respond, either by removing the restriction to the English Coastal Path or explaining why they won't.

Yours sincerely

Michael Dawson