



19 August 2020

Freedom of Information Act 2000 Response

Aerial images Of Regent Street Area January 2020

Query

On 23 July 2020, the following request, entitled "Aerial mages Of Regent Street Area January 2020" [sic], was made of Moulton Parish Council:

In January 2020 it would appear that MPC either, took or obtained aerial images of the Regent Street Backs area.

How were these images obtained ?

If taken by drone who held the appropriate commercial drone authority ?

Where are they stored ?

What are these images being used for ?

What collateral invasions of privacy incurred ?

Response

Moulton Parish Council did not take or obtain aerial images in January 2020. The parish council do have aerial photography, captured in mid-December 2019, of the land to the rear of Regent Street, and have applied your questions to this footage instead.

How were these images obtained?

The footage was provided to the council by a professional drone operator, OVA, who undertook a flight across this land, owned by Moulton Parish Council. This was done at the request of a senior member of the council.

If taken by drone who held the appropriate commercial drone authority?

The council does not hold any information relating to the licensing of the drone equipment or the drone operator.

Where are they stored?

The footage is held inside an MPEG4 H264 container and is stored electronically by the parish council on our IT platform. A still image was extracted from the video to satisfy a specific request from a parishioner and this was sent encrypted to them.

What are these images being used for?

The aerial footage was used to survey the land as part of the management of the site, which Moulton Parish Council owned. Until our redevelopment partner takes possession of the area, the parish council have obligations to meet. The footage was obtained primarily for this purpose and to establish the state of the land as the individual tenancies neared their end.

However, the footage may also play a role in establishing the provenance of some waste material that has been left or dumped within the boundary of the site. The footage from December 2019 may assist with safeguarding the interests of the council and community, by supporting any recovery of any costs incurred by the parish council for the removal of this waste, should the person who is liable and responsible for its removal refuse to do so.

What collateral invasions of privacy incurred?

The council is unable to ascertain a question for the parish council, and therefore does not believe it holds any information pertinent to the query. The activity was discussed on social media at the time, and no comments or complaints were logged by council regarding this exercise on privacy, or any other grounds. The parish council asserts that it has the right to obtain surveys of its own land to protect its interests, and those of the community it serves. The council utilises role-based access control for its storage and only a very limited number of individuals have access to this file, and can only do so for legitimate purposes.

However, if you wish to consider and clarify your request, we will endeavour to answer it.

If you are unhappy with the way your request for information has been handled you can request a review by writing to Moulton Parish Council within 40 working days from the date of the Council's response. You are entitled to a review by the council if:

- You are dissatisfied with the Council's explanation of why the application was not dealt with within the 20 working day time limit.
- All the information requested is not being disclosed and you have not received an explanation why some information is not being disclosed.
- A reason for the disclosures under the request being refused is not received.
- You consider that exemptions have been wrongly applied,
- You consider that a fee has been wrongly applied.

Please set out your grounds for seeking a review together with what specific part of your request those grounds apply to and the outcome you are seeking. The council reserves the right to ask you for clarification of the grounds for your review request if the grounds are not clear, and to delay commencing the review if such grounds are not provided.