

West Tisbury Conservation Commission, Maria McFarland, 508-696-6404

West Tisbury Board of Assessors, 508-696-0101

West Tisbury Building Inspector, Joe Tierney, 508-696-0113

West Tisbury Planning Board, 508-696-0149

West Tisbury Zoning Board of Appeals, 508-696-0107

West Tisbury Board of Health, Omar Johnson, 508-696-0105



As residents of Pond View Farm Road, we have concerns about the building being completed on Map 35 Lot 1.9, owned by **Blue Heron Farm LLC (principal Norman Foster)**. The building permit is for a three bedroom one family residence, with an additional permit for an extensive solar panel array. On paper this looks fine. An additional permit will be needed for three more bedrooms (septic is zoned for six).

According the Norman Foster Foundation, "Designed as a flexible space to accommodate a range of multidisciplinary activities including think tank sessions, workshops and seminars, the retreat will also host a residency programme for selected fellows of the Norman Foster Foundation." It is no longer a family residence.

Water. The demand for water for this property will be enormous. Hundreds of trees have been planted on the property, some forty feet high, but predominantly evergreens. We live on a fragile arid outwash plain, and to date the limited annual rainfall has served the houses on Pond View Farm Road adequately. We understand 150 more trees and 2000 grasses will be planted on lot 1.9 in the near future. What will this do to the water table on the Road? Will all the wells become saline? Or dried up? Who in West Tisbury is supervising this? Runoff from this property following a rain has already created a wetland on previously dry fields.

Tree planting. Many trees have been planted close to the edge of Pond View Farm Road, making it impossible to mow the six foot required distance from the road.

Parking. At the moment, construction workers, tree maintenance people, irrigation workers, and other service people have infringed on the abutting properties. This will end, but where will cars and large vehicles park on the property once work is completed?

Usage. Lot 1.9 is zoned as a family residence. It may take regular inspection to see whether the zoning laws are followed. A future conference center for architects would change the status of this building. Who will be checking on this? What recourse do the neighbors and the town have in case the residential requirement is flaunted and the building is used for a commercial purpose? It is distressing to feel that the town of West Tisbury has given little attention to this construction.

We hope you will give your immediate attention to this matter.

Marilyn and Warren Hollinshead

Ted and Betsy Wheeler

cc. Brad Silberling and Amy Breneman, Louis and Sheri Wexler, Peter and Nelly Rabinowitz, Nic and Rosemary Van Nes, John Rosenmiller

Marilyn and Warren Hollinshead
Ted & Betsy Wheeler