

ELMSWELL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of an Ordinary Meeting of full Council held on
Monday 16th July 2018 at 7.30pm
at The Blackbourne, Blackbourne Road, IP30 9UH

Present: Cllrs Burch, Edmonds, Friend, Hawes, Ms Indurain, Pallett (Chairman), Pratt, Schofield, Mrs Taber, Wiley

Attending: County Council Ward Member Mrs Jane Storey (part)
Parish Clerk Mr Peter Dow
7 members of the public

18.07.01 **Noted:**
1.1 An apology for absence was noted from Cllr Barker as he was on holiday.

18.07.02 **Resolved:**
That the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 18th June 2018, as tabled, be agreed as a true record.

18.07.03 **Noted:**
The following when any Members' Declarations of Local Non-Pecuniary Interests and/or Disclosable Pecuniary Interests in subsequent agenda items were invited and any additions, deletions or alterations to the Council's Register of Interests noted;
3.1 Cllr Wiley declared a Local Non-Pecuniary Interest in Agenda item 14, the Elms Fest grant, as he was an organiser of the event;
3.2 Cllr Friend declared a Local Non-Pecuniary Interest in Agenda item 14, the Elms Fest grant, as he was an organiser of the event;
3.3 Cllr Ms Indurain declared a Local Non-Pecuniary Interest in Agenda item 14, the Elms Fest grant, as she was an organiser of the event;
3.4 Cllr Edmonds declared a Local Non-Pecuniary Interest in Agenda item 11.3, the Planning Application at Orchard House and Woodstock as he was a near neighbour.

18.07.04 **Noted:**
4.1 A written report from District Council Ward Member Cllr John Levantis
4.2 A written report from District Council Ward Member Cllr Sarah Mansel
4.3 A written report from the BWMA
4.4 A written report from County Council Ward Member Mrs Jane Storey

18.07.05 **Noted:**
That, when questions or comment were invited from Councillors or the public on any matter reported under Agenda item 4 or on any District Council or County Council matters, none were forthcoming.

18.07.06 **Noted:**
The following when questions or comment were invited from the public on any matter on this agenda:
6.1 The developer's Agent spoke to enlarge on the details provided to support Planning Application ref. DC/18/02830 for up to 9 houses at Oak Lane and answered questions from Councillors.
6.2 The developer's Agent spoke to enlarge on the details provided to support Planning Application ref. DC/18/02553 for 2 bungalows at Hedgerows, Grove Lane and answered questions from Councillors.
6.3 The Clerk confirmed that he was in correspondence with Jo Churchill MP, as per Agenda item 16, regarding the sudden reduction in opening hours at Elmswell Post Office.

18.07.07 **Noted:**
The following correspondence:
7.1 the Clerk confirmed that he was pursuing a response from MSDC regarding concerns raised by Councillors in the matter of the recent MSDC / Babergh Commercial Investment Strategy funded by PWLB borrowings.

- 18.07.08 **Noted:**
An oral report from the Clerk covering the following matters:
8.1 The Council's general, building and assets insurance is now amalgamated into one policy following changes on the part of the insurer allowing more flexibility of cover and a thorough updating of the Assets Register to include the recently acquired Wesley facility, the new arrangement providing a cheaper overall arrangement.
8.2 The periodic review of the electricity provider arrangements at Blackbourne have prompted a new 3 year agreement with the current provider.
- 18.07.09 **Noted:**
That when any Complaints Committee business was invited for information, to be noted or for inclusion on a future agenda none was forthcoming and that the date of the next Complaints Committee meeting was not known.
- 18.07.10 **Noted:**
The following Planning results as notified by Mid Suffolk District Council:
- | | | | | |
|------|-------------|--|---------|---------------|
| 10.1 | DC/18/02323 | Notification of works to trees....
18 Oxer Close | GRANTED | EPC supported |
| 10.2 | 4909/16 | Outline Planning Permission 38 dwellings...
Land East of Warren Lane and West of Cresmedow Way | GRANTED | EPC objected |
| 10.3 | 0210/17 | Outline Planning application...up to 106 residential units...
Land to the east of Ashfield Road | GRANTED | EPC supported |
| 10.4 | DC/18/01444 | First floor side extension at 17, Oxer Close | GRANTED | EPC supported |
- 18.07.11 **Noted:**
Planning Applications as referred by Mid Suffolk District Council for comment:
- 11.1 **DC/18/02553**
Outline Planning Application (some matters reserved) – erection of 2No detached bungalows and vehicular access
Hedgerows, Grove Lane, IP30 9HN
Councillors objected to this application for the following reasons:
The site is in the countryside outside of the Settlement Boundary within which new development will properly take place.
With regard to the strong policy imperatives aimed at protecting the existing character and appearance of the countryside, this proposal offers no justification for exceptional treatment and does not present a case for special consideration under categories identified and defined in the Local Plan, the Core Strategy or the National Planning Policy Framework.
In reaching these conclusions, Councillors had reference to Local Plan policies SB1 & H7, Core Strategy Policies CS1 & CS2 and National Planning Policy Framework para.55.
- 11.2 **DC/18/02792 Application for reserved matters**
Submission for details under DC/18/00843/OUT – Appearance, Scale, Layout and Landscaping for erection of 5 no. detached dwellings and construction of vehicular access
Grove Lane
Councillors agreed to support this application
- 11.3 **DC/18/02826**
Erection of 2no. detached dwellings, new vehicular access and off-street parking
Orchard House and Woodstock, Ashfield Road IP30 9HJ
Councillors objected to this application for the following reasons:
The site is in the countryside outside of the Settlement Boundary within which new development will properly take place.
With regard to the strong policy imperatives aimed at protecting the existing character and appearance of the countryside, this proposal offers no justification

for exceptional treatment and does not present a case for special consideration under categories identified and defined in the Local Plan, the Core Strategy or the National Planning Policy Framework.

In reaching these conclusions, Councillors had reference to Local Plan policies SB1 & H7, Core Strategy Policies CS1 & CS2 and National Planning Policy Framework para.55.

11.4 **DC/18/02830**

Outline Planning Application (some matters reserved) – erection of up to 9no. dwellings and creation of access

Land adjacent to Oak Lane IP30 9HH

Councillors objected to this application for the following reasons:

The site is in the countryside outside of the Settlement Boundary within which new development will properly take place.

With regard to the strong policy imperatives aimed at protecting the existing character and appearance of the countryside, this proposal offers no justification for exceptional treatment and does not present a case for special consideration under categories identified and defined in the Local Plan, the Core Strategy or the National Planning Policy Framework.

In reaching these conclusions, Councillors had reference to Local Plan policies SB1 & H7, Core Strategy Policies CS1 & CS2 and National Planning Policy Framework para.55.

Councillors also vigorously support the objections on grounds of highway safety and suitability with regard to the safe and free flow of traffic and safeguarding pedestrians as voiced by neighbours and by SCC Highways in line with the requirements of Local Plan policy T10.

11.5 **DC/18/03087**

Erection of 1 No dwelling (following removal of caravan and brick building) re-submission of DC/18/00730

1 Royston Park, Kiln Lane IP30 9QR

Councillors objected to this application for the following reasons:

The site is in the countryside outside of the Settlement Boundary within which new development will properly take place.

With regard to the strong policy imperatives aimed at protecting the existing character and appearance of the countryside, this proposal offers no justification for exceptional treatment and does not present a case for special consideration under categories identified and defined in the Local Plan, the Core Strategy or the National Planning Policy Framework.

In reaching these conclusions, Councillors had reference to Local Plan policies SB1 & H7, Core Strategy Policies CS1 & CS2 and National Planning Policy Framework para.55.

In further support for refusal, Councillors are aware that, in 1988, this site was granted a Licence, ref 12/79, under the Caravan Sites & Control of Development Act 1960 as a site for 3 caravans. The mobile homes and caravans which have occupied the site since then form part of a linear development of such accommodation largely occupied by members of the Travelling community. Such sites are in shorter supply than demand requires and the stringent constraints upon new mobile site accommodation for Travellers make the existing stock the more valuable. To reduce the facility of this site to house its full complement of mobile homes runs counter to Core Strategy Policy CS10 which says that *the Council will ensure the delivery of sufficient good quality residential pitches to satisfy the unmet need specified in the Suffolk Cross-Boundary Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment.* Paragraph 3.75 of the same document confirms that, *'...existing sites that meet the criteria for suitable and appropriate locations will be safeguarded.'* Clearly, having served its community for 30 years, this site demonstrates that it meets relevant criteria and should be allowed to continue so to do.

18.07.12

Resolved:

That the Clerk makes known the Council's comments on the above Planning applications to the Professional Lead for Growth & Sustainable Planning at Mid Suffolk District Council.

- 18.07.13 **Noted:**
The following further Planning business:
13.1 The Clerk confirmed that, as notified to all councillors, as of 11.07.2018, MSDC considers that it can demonstrate a five-year housing land supply and has begun reviewing all of the current undetermined Planning applications where a five-year land supply may be material.
13.2 The Meeting agreed that the Clerk should pursue the possibility of comment on the retrospective Planning application made on behalf of SCC at Lawn Farm Quarry for the installation and operation of a concrete batching plant, ancillary facilities and access, with a view to reinforcing Council's previously expressed concerns regarding the Applicant's repeated failure to address the problems of dangerous deposits of mud from lorries leaving the site.
13.3 The Meeting agreed that any formal approach from Wetherden Parish Council for a joint bid for CIL money towards providing a pedestrian and cycle route between the 2 villages would be positively considered.
- 18.07.14 **Resolved:**
That Elmswell Parish Council supports the ElmsFest family fun day event at Blackbourne on 2nd September with a grant of £300.00.
- 18.07.15 **Proposal: Cllr Pallett;**
That, under Standing order 10.1 (d), the business of Agenda item 15 be moved to follow Agenda item 23.
Seconded: Cllr. Pratt

Proposal carried
- 18.07.16 **Noted:**
That public concerns re the recent reduction in opening hours at Elmswell Post Office have prompted correspondence between the Clerk and Jo Churchill MP seeking to establish the business case for the move on the part of the Agency concerned towards taking further the community view that the changes are not justified.
- 18.07.17 **Noted:**
The Meeting's support for a proposal, with funding offered, from the Elmswell Gardening Club for the siting of a seat for public use at Crown Mill which the Clerk is pursuing.
- 18.07.18 **Noted:**
Authorised payments made and income received as per Appendices B and C, and indicative financial overview as at 30.06.18.
- 18.07.19 **Resolved:**
That proposed payments, scheduled as Appendix D, be authorised.
- 18.07.20 **Noted:**
The Balance as per Appendix E and the Chairman's confirmation that the relevant bank statements and computer report verify the published figure.
- 18.07.21 **Noted:**
The following when public comment or questions were invited on matters relevant to Council business:
21.1 There was support expressed for the initiative to try to reverse the hours reduction at Elmswell Post Office.
21.2 The applicant in a recent planning Application spoke to suggest that Council's decision to recommend refusal was ill-founded.
21.3 A resident spoke to reinforce earlier comments regarding the poor state of the highway verges at the entry to the village up Church Hill. It was pointed out that this, as with other verges in the village, is the responsibility of Suffolk County Council.

18.07.22

Noted:

The following when further business from Councillors or the Clerk for information, to be noted, or for inclusion on a future agenda was invited:

- 22.1 The HGV restriction signage recently purchased for installation at Newson's Corner will be installed before the September Council meeting.
- 22.2 Cllr Mrs Taber will bring forward a Proposal for the extension of the Village Warden's hours to the next meeting.

18.07.23

Noted:

That the next meeting of Council was scheduled for Monday 17th September 2018 beginning at 7.30 p.m. at the Blackbourne.

18.07.15

(as deferred)

Proposed: Cllr Pallett;

That, under Standing Order 26.1, in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted it is advisable in the public interest that the Public be temporarily excluded and they are instructed to withdraw.

Seconded Cllr Pratt;

Proposal carried

The Public left the Meeting at this point

There was discussion regarding the process by which the BWMA had engaged in the exercise of briefing architects expressing an interest in the scheme to refurbish the Wesley chapel and site for community use.

Proposal: Cllr Burch;

That Cllrs Barker, Hawes, Pallett, Schofield & Mrs Taber be asked to join the Clerk as a Task & Finish Panel to determine a preferred option for an architect to develop the Wesley refurbishment project, with delegated powers to ask the Clerk to appoint appropriately.

Seconded Cllr Friend

Proposal carried

The Meeting was re-opened to the Public at this point

18.07.24

Noted:

That the Meeting closed at 10.10pm.