

LINDFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the **Planning and Traffic Committee** held on **06 SEPTEMBER 2012** at the King Edward Hall, Lindfield.

The meeting commenced at 8.00pm.

Present: Mr A Gomme (Chairman)
Mrs Margaret Hersey (Vice Chairman)
Mr W Blunden
Mr M Amor
Mrs J Chatfield
Mr R Plass
Mrs V Upton

Also Present: Mr M Allen (LPC Councillor)
Councillor Christine Field (West Sussex County Council)
Mr J Jesson (Lindfield Preservation Society)
8 members of the public

In Attendance: Mr I McLean (Deputy Clerk)

Absent: Councillors C Snowling and S Hodgson

The Chairman welcomed those present and announced the emergency procedure for the King Edward Hall.

207. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

207.1 Apologies for absence were received from Councillors C Snowling and S Hodgson and the reasons were accepted.

208. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

208.1 Councillor Hersey stated that she reserved the right to express a different opinion from that given at this meeting, when present at meetings of Mid Sussex District Council's (MSDC) Central Area Planning Committee or at any meeting which subsequently considered any matter discussed at the present meeting, having seen the Officers reports and heard representations from members of the public and fellow members.

209. QUESTIONS/COMMENTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

209.1 Councillor Christine Field updated the meeting on the situation with regard to a group of travellers who had been situated on Whiteman's Green in Cuckfield, but who had now just moved on to the Recreation Ground in Hickman's Lane, Lindfield. She indicated that steps were being taken by Mid Sussex District Council to resolve the issue. It was noted that there is no transit site in West Sussex, which makes these matters more difficult to deal with. It was also noted that WSCC has not endorsed any group or organisation concerning driveway re-surfacing or other works.

210. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PLANNING AND TRAFFIC COMMITTEE HELD ON 14 AUGUST 2012

210.1 The Chairman called for approval of the Minutes of the Planning and Traffic Committee meeting held on 14 August 2012. It was **AGREED** to **APPROVE** the Minutes and the Chairman **SIGNED** the Minutes as a true record of that meeting.

211. PLANNING APPLICATIONS AND OTHER MATTERS REFERRED TO THE PARISH COUNCIL BY MID SUSSEX DISTRICT COUNCIL FOR CONSIDERATION

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211.1 For each application, the observations of the members who had specifically studied the plans were read out before any public comments and discussion by the Committee. It was **AGREED**, for the benefit of members of the public present at the meeting, to rearrange the order in which the planning applications were to be considered.

211.2 **1202859/TREE- 3 PORTSMOUTH WOOD CLOSE**

T20 – OAK – REMOVE TOP SECTION OF THE TREE 2M ABOVE THE THICK BRANCH AND RE-SHAPE LOWER BRANCHES TO FORM A NEW SMALLER UNIFORM CROWN

AGREED RESPONSE: No objections.

(Note: All Members declared a personal, non-prejudicial, interest in this application, as the applicants were in fact the parents of Councillor Simon Hodgson)

211.3 **12/02678/FUL – 53 HICKMANS LANE**

CONSTRUCTION OF TWO STOREY REAR EXTENSION

Mr Jesson observed that this was a substantial extension, and represented a big increase in the footprint of the existing building. There was also a possible neighbouring light issue.

AGREED RESPONSE: No objections.

211.4 **12/02694/TCA – PILSTYE, 106 HIGH STREET**

FELL CHERRY TREE IN GARDEN

AGREED RESPONSE: No objections.

211.5 **12/02699/FUL – 18 PORTSMOUTH LANE**

PROPOSED FIRST FLOOR EXTENSION TO SIDE OF PROPERTY

AGREED RESPONSE: No objections.

211.6 **12/02697/FUL – THE OLD BREWERY, 49 HIGH STREET**

PROPOSED GARDEN ROOM TO REAR GARDEN AND COVERED LINK TO HOUSE

Mr Jesson made reference to the fact that the property was a listed building and within the Conservation Area. The area of concern was to the rear of the building not the frontage. Councillor Blunden raised a concern about the horse gin/ring in the garden. It was agreed to add to the Council's response in respect of each of these matters.

AGREED RESPONSE: The Council feels unable to support this application as it is of the view that it is out of character with the existing buildings. It feels that it is not sympathetic with the listed buildings that are in close proximity. Further, the proposal is within the curtilage of a listed building and is within the Conservation Area, so it would appear to be inconsistent with Planning Policies B10 and B12. The Council is also concerned that part of the building will go over the historic horse gin/ring in the rear garden area.

211.7 **12/02740/FUL – 27 SAVILL ROAD**

TWO STOREY REAR ADDITION AND ALTERATIONS AND IMPROVEMENTS TO PORCH

AGREED RESPONSE: No objections.

Councillor Blunden commented generally on the Government's very recently announced plans to relax the planning regulations, particularly as regards extensions. After discussion it was agreed that, once the full facts become known, the Clerk should in consultation with the Chairman and Councillor Hersey, respond to any formal consultation that comes forward, or write expressing the Parish Council's concerns.

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212. PLANNING APPEALS

212.1 Appeal: 11/02587/COU – 102 THE WELKIN

AGREED RESPONSE: The Council stands by its previous comments and so no further representation is necessary.

212.2 Appeal: 12/00563/FUL – 107 HIGH STREET

AGREED RESPONSE: The Council stands by its previous comments and so further representation is necessary.

213. TO RECEIVE REPORTS ON ANY SIGNIFICANT PLANNING DECISIONS MADE BY MSDC AND THE PLANNING INSPECTORATE AND TO AGREE ANY FURTHER ACTION WHICH MAY NEED TO BE TAKEN BEFORE THE NEXT MEETING

213.1 The Deputy Clerk reported on the fact that the application regarding the former Blackthorns Nursing Home had been withdrawn (12/01543/FUL). He also reported that the application at St Ann's, Black Hill had been granted but with conditions that very much reflected the Council's comments (12/02493/LBC).

214. TRAFFIC ISSUES IN THE HIGH STREET – PETITION TO WSCC

214.1 The issue of speeding traffic in the High Street was brought to the Committee's attention. A discussion followed on the best way of alleviating the problem and whether that might be done through the provision of a proper controlled crossing. Mr Jesson said that he supported a 20 mph speed limit. There was concern about urbanising what is currently very much a village high street. Councillor M Allen believed that the problem was more Hickman's Lane and the Lewes Road. Councillor Blunden said that the police did not generally support speed restrictions because of the problems of enforcement. Councillor Gomme reminded the meeting about previous action on signage, speeds, and crossings. The general view was that more up-to-date information would be needed before an informed decision could be taken, and so the Committee resolved to ask the Clerk to arrange for a new speed check survey to be undertaken in the High Street.

(Note: With the agreement of the Chairman, this item was taken at the start of the meeting under matters raised by the public)

215. EXPENDITURE INCURRED IN RESPECT OF NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

215.1 It was agreed that in accordance with the recommendation and summary set out in the Agenda, the Committee's budget for professional fees be utilised for the purposes of paying the printing costs of the questionnaires, posters and leaflets, and any additional printing costs that may arise in the future.

216. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING UPDATE

216.1 The Chairman reported on the preparations for the exhibitions/workshops on 15th September at the KEH and on 22nd September at the Millennium Centre, and said that he had brought a display stand with him, already prepared, for viewing after the meeting. It was noted that a few people had refused to accept delivery of the Questionnaire. There was general satisfaction with the degree of publicity for the events, and particularly the banner, which Councillor Blunden had now put up.

217. TO CONSIDER ACTIVITY ON THE LIMES DEVELOPMENT, ANY DOCUMENTS RELATING THERETO AND AGREE ANY ACTION WHICH MAY NEED TO BE TAKEN BEFORE THE NEXT MEETING

217.1 The Deputy Clerk reported that although he had written to the Head of Economic Promotion and Planning as directed at the last meeting, there had still been no response from the planning officer

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concerned. Councillor Hersey said that she would take this up directly at MSDC level. Councillor Upton raised the issue of the blocking of the stream through the Wilderness Field, and said that this matter would need to be addressed in addition.

218. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

218.1 None reported.

The meeting concluded at 8.45 pm.