

## LINDFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the **PLANNING AND TRAFFIC COMMITTEE** held on **TUESDAY 15 OCTOBER 2013** in the King Edward Hall, Lindfield.

The meeting commenced at **8.00 p.m.**

**Present:** Parish Councillors: Mr A. Gomme (Chairman)  
Mrs M. Hersey  
Mrs J. Chatfield  
Mr M. Amor  
Mr W. Blunden  
Mr S. Hodgson

**Also present:** Councillor Mike Allen, Councillor Chris Hersey (MSDC), John Jesson (Lindfield Preservation Society), and one member of the public.

**In attendance:** Mr I. McLean (Deputy Clerk)

**Absent:** Councillors V. Upton, C Snowling, and R. Plass

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

### **370. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.**

370.1 Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Upton, Snowling and Plass, and the reasons were accepted.

### **371. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

371.1 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 Planning Committees, or at any meeting which subsequently considered any matter discussed at the present meeting, having seen officers' reports and heard representations from members of the public and fellow Members.

371.2 In respect of item 4(iii) on the Agenda, Councillor Hodgson declared a personal interest as he lives close by to the property in question.

371.3 In respect of item 4(i) on the Agenda, Councillor Gomme declared a personal interest as he lives in the road in question, but as the application was for a Lawful Development Certificate, this was not a significant matter.

371.4 Councillor Allen said that he was mainly present for item 4(ii) on the Agenda, as he was a resident of Old School Court, but that as he was not a member of the Committee he was free to speak on the matter.

### **372. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PLANNING AND TRAFFIC COMMITTEE (PLANS ONLY) HELD ON 24 SEPTEMBER 2013.**

372.1 The Chairman called for approval of the Minutes of the Planning and Traffic Committee meeting held on 24 September 2013. It was **AGREED** to **APPROVE** the Minutes and the Chairman **SIGNED** the Minutes as a true record of that meeting.

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

373.1 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.

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- 373.2 13/03183/LDC – 29 FINCHES PARK ROAD  
TWO STOREY HIPPED ROOF EXTENSION TO SIDE OF HOUSE, SINGLE STOREY PITCHED ROOF EXTENSIONS TO REAR OF GARAGE. THIS IS AN APPLICATION TO ESTABLISH WHETHER THE DEVELOPMENT IS LAWFUL: THIS IS A LEGAL DECISION WHERE THE PLANNING MERITS OF THE PROPOSED USE CANNOT BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT.

Mr Jesson observed that there was no documentation on MSDC's planning web page for this application, which was an unsatisfactory state of affairs. He also raised a general administrative point in that the response dates for planning applications were inconsistent. The Deputy Clerk responded that he had already sought clarification from MSDC on the matter, and that a response was awaited.

**AGREED RESPONSE:** "As this is a request for a Lawful Development Certificate for the development, there are no reasons for legal, valid, objections as far as Lindfield Parish Council is aware."

- 373.3 13/02406/TCA – COMMUNAL GARDEN, OLD SCHOOL COURT  
1 HAWTHORN - FELL.

Mr Jesson commented that the tree was in the Conservation Area, and that no attempt had been made to straighten it. It did not present any danger, and should therefore be given a second chance. Councillor Allen expressed his agreement with those comments, and additionally said that the consultation on the application had not appeared satisfactory. Councillors Chatfield and Hersey said that the tree appeared to have been planted in the wrong place, i.e. that it was too close to the path. It was noted that the comments before the Committee is that there are no objections to the application. However, an alternative option was put, suggesting that a replanting condition ought to be attached to any consent, reflecting the comments of the Tree Warden. On a show of hands, the first option was lost, but the second option was won by four votes to one, with one abstention.

**AGREED RESPONSE:** "There are no objections to this application, subject to a condition which requires the replanting of an alternative suitable tree within the communal garden area, but in a more appropriate area (i.e. not too near the footpath)."

- 373.4 13/03254/FUL – 6 PORTSMOUTH WOOD  
A GARAGE CONVERSION INCLUDING SMALL EXTENSION TO FRONT OF GARAGE AND NEW DETACHED TIMBER FRAMED DOUBLE GARAGE WITH SIDE STORAGE.

Mr Jesson observed that there were two significant trees close to the garage, but that the protective measures proposed should deal with any risk issues.

**AGREED RESPONSE:** "There are no objections to this application."

- 373.5 13/03262/TREE – THE WITCH INN, SUNTE AVENUE  
POLLARD ASH (T1) – CROWN REDUCTION, REMOVAL OF OVERHANGING BRANCHES AND REDUCE TREE HEIGHT BY 30% TO ALLOW LIGHT INTO THE PROPERTY AND PREVENT ROOTS INVADING DRAINS.

**AGREED RESPONSE:** There are no objections to this application."

- 374. 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.**

- 374.1 The Deputy Clerk reported that planning application, reference number: 13/02750/FUL, for 1 The Wilderness (ground floor and first floor extensions) will be determined by MSDC's Planning Committee B on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> October 2013. The application is recommended for refusal. This application was considered by the Planning & Traffic Committee at its meeting on 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2013, which had raised objections to the proposals.

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### **375. TRAFFIC ISSUE PETITION**

- 375.1 The Committee formally received and noted a petition in respect of a request to support various traffic calming measures at the junction of Portsmouth Land and High Beech Lane, Lindfield. This had been received on 25<sup>th</sup> September 2013.
- 375.2 It was noted that the matter is already on the list of traffic management issues of West Sussex County Council's Mid Sussex County Local Committee for consideration.
- 375.3 Councillor Blunden mentioned that the matter should be raised at a forthcoming meeting with Lindfield Parish Council's new Principal Community Officer at WSCC, and that this may need to be included as part of a local speed-check proposal.

### **376. BUDGET REPORT 2013/14 AND DRAFT FOR 2014/15**

- 376.1 In the circumstances, it was agreed to defer this item to the next meeting in order to allow Members further time in which to study the budget papers and to consider the position.

### **377. ANY OTHER BUSINESS.**

- 377.1 There was none.

The Meeting concluded at 8.20 p.m.