

Lindfield Parish Council

Minutes of the **PLANNING AND TRAFFIC COMMITTEE** Tuesday 23rd June 2020

The Meeting commenced at **19:00** and was undertaken using video conferencing.

Present:

Parish Councillors: Mr R Plass (Chair)
Mrs M Hersey
Mrs L Grace
Mrs V Upton
Mr W Blunden
Mr C Wood
Mr M Leach
Mr C Wood

Also present: Two members of the public

In attendance: Mr D Parsons (Deputy Parish Clerk)

165. Apologies

165.1 Received from Mr J Stevens were **accepted**.

166. Declarations of Interest

166.1 None received.

167. Approval of Minutes

167.1 The Chairman noted that the draft Minutes of the Planning and Traffic Committee meeting held on 2nd June had previously been circulated and sought any members comments. Committee **agreed** that the Chair should sign the Minutes as a true record of that meeting as soon as Coronavirus restrictions allow.

168. Planning Applications and other matters referred to the Parish Council by Mid Sussex District Council (MSDC) for consideration

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. For applications where LPS had no comments to make or their view was 'No objection' this is not individually noted against the applications considered.

i. DM/20/1812 – 54 Savill Road

T1 Oak - Reduce crown by up to 2m, lift crown to 3m from current level and thin crown by 20%.

Lindfield Parish Council has no objections to this application.

ii. DM/20/1664 – Cherry Tree Cottage, 2 Backwoods Lane

Proposed two storey rear extension and front porch to include pitched roof to dormer window to connect with new porch roof.

Lindfield Parish Council has no objections to this application provided that the materials used match those in the existing property.

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iii. DM/20/1798 – Linden, 45 West Common

Proposed two storey side extension and 2x single storey rear extension and new timber entrance gates.

Lindfield Parish Council has no objections to this application provided that the materials used match those in the existing property.

iv. DM/20/1912 – Linden, 45 West Common

2 x Lime Trees to front of property. Thin crown by 20%, remove deadwood, raise crown to 5.5 metres to clear road and footpath

Lindfield Parish Council has no objections to this application.

v. DM/20/1916 – Limes Cottage, 105 High Street

Eucalyptus (T1) reduce by 4m.

Lindfield Parish Council has no objections to this application.

vi. 10/7/20 DM/20/1944 – 1 Finches Park Road

Single storey side/rear extension and enclosed porch

Lindfield Parish Council has no objections to this application.

vii. DM/20/1937 – Co-op, 35-37 High Street

Retrospective application for replacement of refrigeration plant at rear of property.

The reviewing Councillor's comments concluded that they had no objection to the replacement of refrigeration plant but noted the unacceptable noise generated by the 'new' equipment, and considered that appropriate soundproofing measures are needed. Mrs Lee and Mr Desmond, who lived nearby, reiterated their comments previously provided to Councillors by email and that 12 neighbours were signing in support of the concerns raised. They advised that the new equipment was installed late in 2018 but did not present any real issues during 2019, even in periods of hot weather, however; since then there had been a noticeable change in the level of sound emitted and questioned whether the equipment had failed in some way or was not being maintained appropriately.

CLr Hersey advised that it was important to communicate with MSDC's Environmental Health team on noise related issues and also encouraged the residents to engage the support of their District Councillors.

Lindfield Parish Council (LPC) has no objection to the replacement of the refrigeration plant, albeit retrospectively. With a great deal of local objections evident to the intrusive sound levels generated by the equipment, LPC seeks appropriate mitigation through a combination of higher surrounding fencing, effective sound insulation and maintenance/repair of the equipment going forward.

viii. DM/20/1962 – High Beech, Roundwood Lane

Remove condition 1 relating to planning application DM/16/1668 allowing the reinstatement of the original rope bridge/walkway.

Lindfield Parish Council has no objections to this application.

ix. DM/20/2033 – Old Dairy Cottage, 1B, Backwoods Lane

Ash (T1) - Crown lift to 3m Sycamore and Chestnut group (G1) - Crown lift to 3m

Lindfield Parish Council has no objections to this application.

169. To receive reports on any significant planning decisions or issues made by MSDC and the Planning Inspectorate and to agree any further action which may need to be taken before the next meeting.

169.1 None

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170. Matters Arising after the preparation of this Agenda, which the Chairman agrees to take as urgent.

- 170.1 Cllr Blunden advised that discussions with a local resident had raised concerns that the land adjacent to the Welkin may be being considered by its owners as a potential development opportunity. Councillors discussed their concerns at the further prospect of larger scale development in and around the village. It was also noted that residents in Spring Lane were investigating the restoration of the old spring and that the Council might want to consider whether this could be designated an Asset of Community Value (ACV) however, it was cautioned that some years ago the Council had looked into taking ownership of the spring and concerns over its impact on nearby properties led to that idea falling away. These developments were **noted** and it was suggested that further investigation be undertaken into the potential ACV.
- 170.2 The Chair advised that MSDC have sought LPC's preference for the allocation of c£22k Local Community Infrastructure funds by 2nd July. In view of the timing, it was suggested that the Deputy Parish Clerk email P&TC members with examples of appropriate usage of such funds from MSDC's policy document, together with potential projects. In the light of members' feedback to this, the P&TC Chair and Deputy Parish Clerk would advise MSDC accordingly. Committee **noted** this approach.

The meeting closed at 19.30.

The **next P&TC Meeting is due on Tuesday 14th July** and is expected to be held online using video conferencing. Full details to follow.