

19th July 2021

At a Meeting of Ashdon Parish Council held on Monday 19th July 2021 in Ashdon Village Hall at 7.30pm.

Present.

Councillors Mike Elsey (Chairman), Steve Hayler, George Smith, John Thorn and Cory Vost.

Mrs. Melanie Horrigan, Ms. Jane Gray (Neighbourhood Plan Group. NPG)

Mr. David Green (Clerk)

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for Absence had been received from Councillors Philip Player, James De Vries (UDC) and Martin Foley (ECC)

2. Election of Vice Chairman for the Civic Year 2021/22

Resolved - not to elect a Vice Chairman for the Civic Year 2021/22. (Cllr. Elsey)

3. Public Representations

Mr. Chris Pardue, Guildhall Way, addressed the meeting regarding the on going dumping of spoil at Byrds Farm/Butlers Lane, Saffron Walden. He repeated his concerns regarding the amount of spoil being moved and the fact that, originally this was to have been the site for fishing lakes. He is continuing to investigate the matter until a satisfactory answer to his concerns can be found. Councillor De Vries continues to investigate this matter with the District Council. It is understood that Essex County Council are also involved.

4. Short address by Cllr. Martin Foley on County Council matters

There was no report from Councillor Foley

5. Short address by Cllr. James De Vries on District Council Matters.

There was no report from Councillor De Vries. It was understood that Councillor de Vries had been delayed in a previous meeting.

6. Declaration of Interests

There were no Declarations of Interests in matters on this agenda.

7. Minutes of the Meeting held on 14th June 2021

Resolved:- that the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 14th June 2021, previously circulated, be signed as a true record (Cllr. Vost)

8. Matters Arising.

i. Playing Fields.

a. Rectory Lane. Two quotations had been received at the time of writing a third would be in hand before the next meeting.

- b. The roundabout at Church Field had been repaired and was now functioning correctly.
- c. Decaying bench at Church Field.

Resolved - that a new circular picnic bench be purchased to replace the decaying bench at an approximate cost of £300.00 (Cllr. Hayler)

ii Highways. Traffic Management.

- a. Water End/Spriggs Lane. Cllr. Smith reported that the Parish Council's bid to the Local Highway Panel for protection measures to be put in place at Spriggs Lane had been unsuccessful
- b. Speeding/Speed Watch. The Chairman was waiting for a date from Cllr. Foley for the proposed meeting with the Police. No action to date.
(Action Cllr. Foley)

iii. Village Hall and White Horse House.

Cllr. Hayler said that most clubs/organisation had now resumed meetings in the village hall which was most encouraging. The hall finances were in good order. The Village Hall Chairman would be kept informed at all stages of developments on the hub/shop/café project. A schedule of works would be provided prior to any works commencing.

The Chairman asked Mrs. Sue Smith, Acting Village Hall Chairman, if the fire protection device in the small hall satisfied the requirements of the village hall insurer's. She assured him that they did.

The surrender document for the old lease had been received from Wade & Davies, Solicitors.

Resolved:- that the Chairman be authorised to sign the surrender document for the old lease for White Horse House. (Cllr. Hayler) (Action Chairman)

iv. Ashdon Neighbourhood Plan.

Steering Group Committee 12th July 2021

Present: Harriet Burrow. Corey Vost and Jane Gray.

Non-attendees: Isabel Blackett, Melanie Horrigan and Jo Wheatley.

Up-date on the Design Code - the edited Code has gone for comment to all Steering Group members, Emma Lauze (BEAMS), Joanna Hill (UDC), all Parish Councillors and the Clerk, and Ian Poole, our planning consultant. No comments received yet. The Design Code will be discussed at the Parish Council meeting on 19th July.

The Design Code will be an important evidence-base document informing the Neighbourhood Plan. We have added a quote for professional formatting of this to the Locality grant application and the finished document should be in the same format as the Plan.

Up-date on the Neighbourhood Plan - Ian Poole has started to edit our rough draft and we expect the entire draft on Wednesday 14th July for our comments. There is a lot of work to be done on this but it should come before the Parish Council for consideration before their meeting on 23rd August.

Regulation 14 consultation - the Village Hall has been booked for the 17/18th Sept with a similar format as at the launch of the Neighbourhood Plan project but being very mindful of social distancing etc. A funding application has been submitted to cover the cost of the publicity and printed material for this event.

Harriet asked if we could postpone if we are not ready by then, however, the Hall is very booked- up so it would be extremely difficult to defer. The Consultation has to run for at least 6 weeks and it would be very good to get this stage over before Christmas.

Planning applications - Church Hill has been withdrawn currently, Radwinter Road have put in some additional information and a suggestion on investigating the spring in the field; there is still

an appeal in place for 5 houses on this site. The two houses proposed at Water End need more consideration.

Next meeting - 16th August, venue to be decided.

Jane Gray reported that the Village Design Code was out in draft form (previously circulated) and was nearing completion. The group is running to a very tight schedule in the run up to the final consultation. A presentation was being planned for the evening of the 17th August and the morning of the 18th in the Village Hall. This was all in preparation to the run up to the Regulation 14 and the final document being submitted to the District Council for approval and acceptance.

Resolved - that the Draft Village Design Code (previously circulated to all Members) be approved. (Cllr. Thorn)

The Chairman reiterated his thanks to all members of the NHPG for their hard work and dedication on behalf of the village and for the presentation of such a professional and fascinating document

v. Community Led Housing

a) Proposed houses adjacent to All Saints Close

The Chairman said that negotiations were progressing slowly with the District Council. A letter dated 9th November 2010 (Appendix i) was in the hands of the Council's solicitors showing that the land is in the ownership of the Parish Council and that the District Council put a 50% claw back clause on the land should it ever be sold for development. The Council's solicitor would write to the District Council seeking the minutes of the Finance and Administration Committee dated September 2010 and a copy of the claw back mentioned in the letter dated 9th November 2010.

The Chairman had read and approved the letter to be sent from Wade & Davies Solicitors to the District Council seeking clarification regarding the claw back clause.

- c) Ground Rent.

Nothing heard to date (ref. meeting 10th May)

- vi. To receive a report on the Village Community Hub.

See item 10 Correspondence

- vii. Superfast Broadband. Councillor Thorn reported that there is a damaged cabinet in Kates Lane and that Church End had not yet been connected. An update would be sought from Gigaclear on these matters.
- viii. Neighbourhood Watch. Cllr. Thorn reported that there are now 109 members on Facebook. There had been minor thefts at Church End and Rogers End. It was hoped to arrange an open morning with the police in the village hall in the Autumn.
- ix. Village Handyman. The system was working well but it was noted that Mr. Marsh would be extremely busy with harvest
- x. Litter. Litter pick organised for September 12th
- xi. War Memorial Gates. The Clerk reported that two quotations had been received, third had been requested.

9. CORRESPONDENCE

Various emails distributed to Members. Members had been requested to raise any matters received by email under correspondence. No matters were raised.

- i. Letter dated 7th July 2021 from Mr. McDermott, Mill View, Radwinter Road in support of the renovation of the Rose & Crown.

Report of the meeting held on Thursday 15th July with the Directors of Ashdon Inns to discuss the future of the Rose & Crown and the way forward with the Rose & Crown and the proposed shop/hub/café in the Village Hall.

The Chairman reported that a meeting had been held on Thursday 15th July at 5.00pm in the Village Hall with the Directors of Ashdon Inns to discuss the future of the Rose & Crown; if they were intending to have a shop and café and seeking updates on the works and restoration.

The meeting had been very amicable, the Chairman stating that the Parish Council were 100% behind the project, this despite rumours to the contrary. The cardinal points arising from the meeting were:-

- a. The Parish Council supports the project 100%;
- b. The Directors of Ashdon Inns said that if there was a cafe/hub/ shop in the Village Hall they would not have such a premises at the pub;
- c. the pub would sell coffee and beverages as a matters of course when providing food.

- d. a programme of works had been agreed with the District Council and regular updates would be given to the Parish Council. Progress would be promulgated to the village to keep the parish updated on progress.

The meeting concluded at 5.55pm

10. NEW ITEMS. There were no "New Items"

11. NEW PLANNING APPLICATIONS

- i. UTT/21/1524/FUL. Proposed erection of three detached dwellings complete with garages and private garden areas.
Land south of Church Hill

Object. Letter on file. Since Withdrawn

- ii. UTT/21/1754/DFO. Details following outline approval UTT/18/1429/OP for the erection of 4 no. dwellings - details of appearance, landscaping, layout and scale
Land to west of Radwinter Road.

Object. Letter on file. Application amended 5th July.

Members had studied the revised application and concluded that there were minor changes only. They were still very concerned about the drainage from the site; the run off to the river; the run off to Radwinter Road. This particularly in light of the recent very serious floods in Northern Europe. They reiterated that this point must be made to the planners and the developers and an acceptable solution found. They stated that the promised follow up meeting with the developer and his drainage engineers had not yet taken place. It was also noted that some aspects of the development were contrary to the draft Design Code i.e. Juliet balconies and the fact that developments should fit in with the vernacular. They believe that sustainability of the proposed development is questionable there being no footpath to the village and no improvements planned for Radwinter Road.

Resolved - that Cllr. De Vries be asked to call the application in should it be put forward for approval by Officers. (Cllr. Elsey)

UTT/20/2009/FUL. 5 Dwellings, land west of Radwinter Road.
The above was refused. The District Council has confirmed that an appeal has been lodged on this application. No details have been received to date. This is the same site as the current application

- iii. UTT/21/1942/HHF. Proposed two storey and single storey rear extension, first floor extension above existing garage dormer window to replace velux to front.
Coppers, Radwinter Road

No Comment

- iv. UTT/21/2047/FUL. Change of use from agricultural to residential and light industrial, erection of 1 no. detached dwelling and 1 no. glassblowing workshop and gallery.
Land west of The Vales, Radwinter Road

Object. This is substantially the same development as the previous application. It is not sustainable as there are no footpaths to the village making a car necessary; it is urbanisation of the countryside; will affect the environment and obstruct views contrary to the Government guidelines

- v. UTT/21/2049/FUL. Change of use from agricultural to residential and erection of one in no. detached dwelling and associated single-storey garage/hobby room. Land east of Fairfields, Spriggs Lane

Object. This is substantially the same proposed development as the previous application. It is not sustainable as there are no footpaths to the village making a car necessary; it is urbanisation of the countryside; will affect the environment and obstruct views contrary to the guidelines

12. PLANNING APPLICATIONS DETERMINED. There were no Planning Determinations.

13. ACCOUNTS for PAYMENT

Resolved - that the Accounts Appendix ii be approved for payment (Cllr. Vost)

14. ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA.

- i. HM The Queens Platinum Jubilee 2022

Signed
Chairman

Date

Appendix ii

**PARISH COUNCIL MEETING MONDAY 19TH JULY 2021
14th JUNE to 19th JULY 2021**

Monies Received	£ Nil
Monies for Payment	£
Alison Farmer Ass. Notes on planning application	156.00 Ch.No.102631
MD Landscapes. Grass 2 cuts June	763.20 Ch.No.102632
John Thorn. Zoom meetings April/May	9.12 Ch.No.102633
D. Green. Telephone/Broadband	21.00 Ch.No.102634
RCCE. Annual subscription	72.60 Ch.No.102635
E.ON. Electricity May, June accounts	60.37 Ch.No.102636
Balances at Bank on 19th July 2021:-	
Current Account:-	£10,807.20
Saver Account:-	£1,071.24
Saver Account:-	£61,485.38

