



WALSHAM-LE-WILLOWS PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

MINUTES of meeting Tuesday 8th August, 2017

PRESENT Cllrs. Barber, Belson, Bloomfield, Dunn , Lunken, Roberts, and 4 members of the public. **APOLOGIES** Cllr. Kinnair.

1 **AGENDA**

1.1 **Apologies** - Noted above.

1.2 **Minutes of the last meeting** held on Tuesday 11th July, 2017 were confirmed and signed.

1.3 **TO RECEIVE PECUNIARY AND NON PECUNIARY INTERESTS OF MEMBERS** - Cllr. Maggie Barber declared a non-pecuniary interest.

1.4 **TO CONSIDER APPLICATIONS FOR DISPENSATION** - None

1.5 **PUBLIC OPEN FORUM**

Planning Application Linton House DC/17/0378 Tom Stebbing for the architects of planning made a presentation of the rationale for the proposed development which in summary covered the issue of changing the streetscape as result of demolition and the principle of balancing harm and benefit. It was acknowledged that the approach taken in the plans is a modern design with 'traditional articulation', using a mix of materials.

He advised that change of use has been accepted in the past by the Local Authority for applications where the property has not been a viable commercial unit for some time. Also off street parking was now a non-negotiable MSDC requirement for residential development and that this would be the case regardless of demolition. Highway safety is now seen as higher priority than heritage by SCC. The proposal would increase height by 1.25m whilst narrowing and setting back the existing frontage to open up for car parking which allows drive in and drive out without reversing into the road, hence the use of a turntable.

Concerns were raised by neighbouring residents. In summary issues were raised about the flint wall which was deemed of historic importance to the street scene; the current building is single storey with a plaster barrel vaulted ceiling overall the building having modest and low impact; demolition was previously rejected; access to light for the Old Bakery will be affected; the 7m high gable ended building will have a cavernous space underneath. The supporting pillars and existing telegraph pole were mentioned as potential obstructions to visibility from the Old Bakery drive creating blind spots for vehicles and pedestrians. Point was made that similar development and in the village of commercial property involved no change of use with the existing property being restored for commercial use. It was asked why the change of use should be allowed which involves an "ambitious, complicated and contentious proposal". Visibility from neighbouring driveway was also raised as an issue.

Councillor's took into consideration the 15 years the building has not attracted any commercial interest and has been unused.

Pavement repairs from Old Bakery up to Blue Boar and particularly just outside Clive House were raised as a trip hazard for pedestrians.

❖ **ACTION: Clerk to follow up again with relevant authority**

PUBLIC OPEN FORUM CLOSED

1.6 **Jessica Fleming's Report** – none this month – Jessica gave her apologies.

2 PLANNING APPLICATIONS TO BE DISCUSSED plus any received after the publication of this agenda

Application. No: DC/17/02827

Householder Planning Application - Erection of single storey rear extension

The Bungalow Alandale The Street Walsham Le Willows Bury St Edmunds Suffolk IP31 3AA

The Parish Council made no comment

Application. No: DC/17/03078 (Cllr. Richard Belson chaired consideration of this application)

Change of use from Class A2 (Financial and professional services) to Class C3 (Dwellinghouse) and

Erection of 1 storey detached dwelling (following demolition of existing building)

Linton House The Street Walsham Le Willows Bury St Edmunds Suffolk IP31 3AZ

The Parish Council made no comment

3 PLANNING OUTCOMES

Application - 1352/17 - Land West Of Wattisfield Road Walsham Le Willows IP31 3BD

Outline application with all matters reserved except access for the erection of up to 60 dwellings

NO DECISION

Application - 1785/17 - Adjacent Holmwood The Street Walsham Le Willows IP31 3AZ

Application under section 73 of Town & Country Planning Act (1990) to remove/vary

Condition 3 relating to 3323/15 - Operation Times

GRANTED

Application for works to trees in conservation area - DC/17/02515

Proposal: Notification of Works to Trees in a Conservation Area – Remove 1 no. Cherry Tree

Location: Coopers, The Street, Walsham LE Willows, Bury St Edmunds Suffolk IP31 3AZ

RAISE NO OBJECTION

Application - DC/17/02683

Proposal: Householder Planning Application - Conversion of garage and erection of single storey rear extension to form annex (linked to main dwelling)

Location: Ashvale, Crownland Road, Walsham Le Willows, Bury St Edmunds Suffolk IP31 3BU

NO DECISION

Application for outline planning permission - DC/17/02783

Proposal: Outline planning application (with all matters reserved) - Erection of up to 22 dwellings.

Location: Land Opposite, Broad Meadow, Walsham Le Willows, Suffolk

In principle the Parish Council supports development on this site for the following reasons:

NO DECISION

REPORTS

4.1 Play Area

Parish Councillor's discussed the long meeting that took place on Tuesday 25th July from which it was ascertained that no fundraising has yet been organised by the Play Council. The responsibilities and liabilities of the Parish Council and the Play Council were discussed. Parish Councillors proposed that PC take over the responsibility of the VERTAS contracts for grass cutting and tree inspections, and for the upkeep of hedges and ditches. Tom Hunter's maintenance work would also become the responsibility of Council. This would leave the Play Council free to concentrate on increasing their committee membership, advise on play, organise ROSPA inspections, and fundraise for further additions to equipment and any necessary repairs and maintenance. The Parish Council would seek to combine the Insurance for the Play Area with the Parish Council Insurance.

Decision of Parish Council: That in principle the Parish Council would be willing to take on responsibility for contracts and payment through the Parish Council bank account. A question was raised about cancelling the outstanding cheque for £2555. In order to progress a handover, all the historical paperwork needs to be transferred to Clerk to Parish Council, including any contracts for grass cutting, ditch clearing and tree inspection and insurance policy to include an inventory of the property/equipment that is covered by the insurance policy, value etc. Nothing can happen until this is done.

- ❖ **ACTION: Chair to contact bank to stop cheque if it has not yet been encashed**
- ❖ **ACTION: Clerk to contact Quentin Cass to advise of decision.**

4.2 Footpath Warden - Nothing to report. Question about replacement of Finger Boards on Rights of Way.

- ❖ **ACTION: Clerk to check minutes for reference to this (about 2 years ago).**

4.3 Tree Warden – Nothing to report but it was mentioned by Cllr. Bloomfield that a hedge was growing into the road from the Play Area. Hedges are not the responsibility of the Tree Warden.

- ❖ **ACTION: Cllr. Fred Bloomfield to inspect on behalf of Parish Council.**

4.4 Clerks financial report and request for payments

| # | Payee | Chq No | Amount | Description |
|---|-------------------------|--------|---------|---|
| 1 | Parish Council Employee | 002051 | £109.92 | Street cleaning |
| 2 | Parish Council Employee | 002052 | £404.66 | Clerks wages & expenses |
| 3 | Parish Council Employee | 002053 | £21.00 | Namesco Email inboxes bbmax - reimbursement |
| 4 | Maggie Barber | 002054 | £44.99 | Bungee Cords - reimbursement |

- Chair to resign reconciliation for y/e 2017 and for April to July 2017 – **postponed pending advice from Auditor on b/f balances from April**
- Audited Accounts exercise public rights ended 26th July - **noted**
- Asset Register Discrepancy Outcome – **Qualified issue will be raised - noted**
- Progress on Outstanding Audit **Recommendations** – **no further progress apart from initial enquiries - noted**
- Cleansing Grant £347.18 received - **noted**

- Footpaths Grant Invoiced to SCC - **noted**
- Agenda and minutes format – **discussed and changes agreed to be reflected in agenda and minutes for next meeting**

5 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THE 11th JULY 2017

- 5.1 **Community Pay Back Team** – work within the village
Cllr. Barber reported that this done and had been paid.
- 5.2 **Community Emergency Plan** - ongoing
- 5.3 **Local heritage listing** - Cllr. Belson noted a meeting has been arranged with Joe McCann to discuss approach.
- 5.4 **Water in Wattisfield Road**
No known problems at the moment. It is assumed that this has been dealt with.
- 5.5 **Neighbourhood Plan** - Kick off meeting arranged for 22nd September at 7pm in the Memorial Hall. Bill Newman and Jessica Fleming will be making presentations.
- 5.7 **Weedkilling of base of churchyard wall**
Nothing has been heard other than email to acknowledge that this is in hand.
❖ **ACTION: Clerk to clarify with Highways that this also include the base of wall on The Causeway**

6 CORRESPONDENCE

- 6.1 **Tour of Britain** – email from Community Council re payment for Welcome to Walsham le Willows banner that can be used by the village for other events – PC agreed to payment but CC will have to complete application.
- 6.2 **Second External Auditor Query** – box 7 on form not ticked. This can be dealt with as Qualified Issue or the return can be corrected and resubmitted at cost of £20. Clerk explained implications of Qualified Issue. Agreed that we will advise auditor to raise a Qualified Issue.

7 OTHER ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

- 7.1 **Litter Pick** – PC agreed on 20th August as this is nearer to Gardens Weekend so gives more time for hedge trimming to be completed.
❖ **ACTION: Maggie Barber to make arrangements**
- 7.2 **Old Parish Council Photocopier** – PC agreed that Averil could keep this in return for a donation.

8 ANY OTHER BUSINESS/QUESTIONS TO THE CHAIRMAN

- 8.1 **Signing of bank mandate** to change correspondence address on bank statements – Cllr's Barber and Belson duly signed this document.
- 8.2 **Damage to posts at Grove Road end of Avenue** – Not a Parish Council responsibility.
- 8.3 **Mobile mast** – possible that O2 will be the operator as their name on the plans. Clerk advised that member of PCC had advised they thought it would be a 'shared' mast.

9 MEETING CLOSED AT: 21:20

Kevin Boardley - Proper Officer & Clerk to Walsham-le-Willows Parish Council

Signed:

Maggie Barber – Chair - Walsham-le-Willows Parish Council