



HERNHILL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held online on Thursday 13th August 2020 from 7:30pm to 8:10pm.

Present:

Cllr. J Geliot (Chairman) Cllr P. Couzens Cllr C. Page
Cllr S. Castle Cllr S. Edgington Cllr A. Rumble

Also Present: Mrs R. Parr (Clerk).

166 APOLOGIES

Cllr P. Heller Cllr Bowles (KCC)

167 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

None.

168 MINUTES

A. The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on the 30th July 2020 (160-165) having been circulated to all Members, were taken as read, confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

169 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

A. 20/502407/FULL *Land South East Of A299 Slip Road Off Thanet Way Highstreet Road Hernhill Kent.*

Cllr Couzens outlined the history and background to the site in that they want to replace the previously approved lorry park and facilities with 15 more commercial units. Cllr Couzens discussed that the need for a lorry park was a vital resource and many lay-bys are being used with little or no toilet facilities. Given that the other commercial units had yet to be built, they had not demonstrated the need for more units. Cllr Edgington was unclear as to how much effort had been undertaken by the applicant to find a viable end user for the lorry park. Cllr Edgington considered that the additional 15 units was overdevelopment of the site and would prefer if it went ahead for there to be the removal of units 47-49 and more landscaping. Cllr Page added his concerns regarding the amount of traffic associated with the site and that there was not enough parking. As a result people were likely to park in the country lanes nearby, which are unsuitable. Cllr Rumblefelt it was unclear whether the applicant had properly investigated the finding a viable lorry park user and Cllr Castle agreed that the site would be overdeveloped and also had concerns regarding traffic. Cllr Page mentioned there were no details with respect to S106 and green transport. Cllr Jeliot also had concerns regarding traffic and parking. A vote then showed that all attending councillors objected to the application.

Reason: The PC feel that the lorry park and accompanying facilities at the site should be retained as this is a much needed vital resource for the area. The proposal to replace the lorry park and facilities with more units is considered to be over intensification of the site, without proven need as the other part of the site has yet to be developed. There are concerns that there is not enough parking available at the site for this number of units and certainly no space allocated for visitor parking leading to concerns of over spill from the site into nearby country lanes. If the Local Planning Authority wishes to approve the application, then the Parish Council would like to suggest further landscaping in lieu of units 47-49. In addition, more detail is required in consideration of green sustainable transportation and storage.

170 OTHER BUSINESS

A. It was mentioned that the footpath on Church Hill by the old shop was overgrown rendering the pavement unusable. It was agreed for the Clerk to write to the landowner at Summer Lees to ask them to clear the overgrowth.

B. Cllr Couzens mentioned that the stocks were still located on the village green and was concerned that should there be an incident that the PC would be legally liable. The Chair mentioned that she had spoken to the pub who would mention it to the owner Michael White. However, it appears nothing has been done. It was agreed for the Clerk to write a letter asking for their removal in 28 days.

Cllr Castle left the online meeting room due to technological issues.

C. Cllr Page raised the issue of the proposed development of 1700 houses in Dunkirk. It was discussed that this was still at a very early stage and did we know what the reaction of Dunkirk PC was and whether it was appropriate at this early stage to take a view. It was agreed for the Clerk to contact Jeff Tutt to ascertain. The item is to be added to the agenda for the main PC meeting at the end of August for an update.

D. Cllr Page mentioned that he had noticed a large number of lorries with rubble visiting George Bell Farm. The Chair mentioned that she had been contacted by a parishioner with the same concerns. They were encouraged to report it to Swale Planning Enforcement and the Environment Agency. In addition, the situation had been raised with Ward Cllr Gould who confirmed that he had received notice from the enforcement department that they were opening a case on this site.

There being no further business, the Chairman declared the Meeting closed.

CHAIRMAN