

Minutes of the Planning Committee Meeting

Held on Thursday 23rd July 2020 via Zoom

In attendance: Cllr Richard Turner (Council Chairman) Cllr Margaret Crompton, Cllr Johnny Denis, Cllr Clare Herbert, Cllr John Kay, Cllr Gavin May, Cllr Sarah Phillips, and Cllr David Terry.

Also, in attendance:

Karen Crowhurst – Clerk/RFO
Corinna Goward – Assistant Clerk

Members of the public: 2

Item No	Minutes
1.	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE
1.1	Apologies were received from Cllr Booth, Cllr Harper, and Cllr Whitlock.
2.	DECLARATION OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS AND DISPENSATION REQUESTS
2.1	No declarations of Members' interests were received. Nor were there any dispensation requests.
3.	TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 25TH JUNE 2020
3.1	It was resolved to accept the minutes of the Planning Committee Meeting held on 25 th June 2020 as a true and accurate record of the meeting.
4.	PUBLIC QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS - This item shall last not more than 15 minutes or at Chairman's discretion and no contribution shall last more than 3 minutes.
4.1	There were no questions or comments from members of the public in attendance.
5.	ACTION POINTS – UPDATES, PROGRESS AND TO AGREE ANY OTHER ACTIONS
5.1	a) There are no outstanding actions which are not covered on this agenda
5.2	The Clerk informed Members that there are no outstanding actions not covered on the agenda.
6.	CORRESPONDENCE
6.1	a) To consider any correspondence after this agenda has been published
6.2	There was no correspondence for consideration.
7.	PLANNING APPLICATIONS
7.1	LW/20/0400 Downsview Farm Laughton Road Ringmer East Sussex BN8 5UT Erection of an agricultural barn extension

- 7.2 **Comments and observations**
Ringmer Parish Council fully supports this application.
- 7.3 This was proposed and seconded, all were in favour.
- 7.4 **LW/20/0372 Brickyard Farm Green Lane Ringmer East Sussex BN8 5AD**
Restoration of old clay pits to reclaim a parcel of land to be put back into agricultural use
- 7.5 **Comments and observations**
Ringmer Parish Council fully supports this application and request that a condition be imposed if approved to keep the Ancient Hedgerow and this will not be destroyed. Council would also like to see a condition imposed and adhered to regarding lorries only using the
- 7.6 This was proposed and seconded, all were in favour.
8. **PLANNING CONSENTS, REFUSALS & APPEALS RECEIVED** – further information regarding consents, refusals & appeals recorded in appendix 2
- 8.1 LW/20/0265 Pilon Danes Laughton Road Ringmer – **Permission granted**
LW/20/0262 6 Corner Green Lewes Road Ringmer – **Permission granted**
- 8.2 Members noted the decisions made by Lewes District Council.
9. **EAST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL LOCAL CYCLING AND WALKING INFRASTRUCTURE PLAN 2020 – 2030** – To consider whether the Parish Council should comment on the plan
- 9.1 It was **resolved** 1) That Ringmer Parish Council does comment on the plan. 2) Cllr Denis will draft a response and send to all Members to agree any amendments. 3) For the Clerk to submit the response on behalf of Ringmer Parish Council.
10. **NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN DEVELOPMENT**
- 10.1 a) Modifications to existing Neighbourhood Plan
- 10.2 Cllr Kay advised that this is ongoing and provided a verbal report on any proposed amendments and agreed that the final document should be ready by the next Planning Committee Meeting.
- 10.3 Members discussed the future of the existing Neighbourhood Plan; some felt the plan needs reviewing or re writing and suggested that this be placed on the next Planning Committee Meeting Agenda. There was further discussions about the Council needing to be proactive so the Neighbourhood Plan would be influential, housing totals which may be imposed by the District Council, the plan not just being about housing, the fact that the 3 year protection on Ringmer Neighbourhood Plan has now expired.
- 10.4 The Clerk reminded Members of the previous and still with standing resolution which agreed for Cllr Kay and the Working Group to work on minor amendments being grammatical or spelling to the Neighbourhood Plan, as any other types of amendments could change the fabric of the plan.
11. **ANY REPORTS (BY LEAVE NOT DISCUSSION OR DECISION) ON PLANNING MATTERS**
- 11.1 This item was taken after item 13 on the agenda.

- 11.2 Reports were received regarding:
- Bovis has now removed the hoarding and scrub . New fencing and turf have been installed at the site. Concerns were expressed about the hedgerows and if they have removed any ancient hedgerow in addition to scrub.

12. ITEMS FOR REFERRAL TO NEXT AGENDA OR APPROPRIATE COMMITTEE

12.1 This item was considered after item 13 on the agenda.

12.3 There was one item for referral which is the appointment of a Councillor to the Caburn Field Action Group to the next Parish Council meeting.

13. URGENT ITEMS AT THE CHAIRMAN'S DISCRETION REQUIRING DECISIONS WHICH CANNOT BE HELD OVER UNTIL THE NEXT MEETING

13.1 Cllr Denis suggested making a decision regarding appointing a Parish Council representative to the Caburn Field Action Group.

13.2 A request for the Clerks advice was made. The Clerk advised that appointments of Members to external bodies should only be made at a Parish Council meeting and not a Committee meeting. The Clerk highlighted if this type of decision is made at this meeting it could be seen as not being fair to other Members who may wish to be considered as well as the Councillor who has been approached. If at this meeting the decision was made to appoint a representative it will not be lawful therefore, the decision may not carry any weight leading to the appointment not being valid. The Clerk advised that she has advised the District Councillor and the Councillor concerned that the Councillor can attend the first meeting but not in the capacity of a Council representative and suggested the Councillor be introduced by name and stating " he is also a Parish Councillor" which would appease the situation. The Clerk advised that placing any Councillor in this type of position by a District Councillor is not helpful and suggested that communication with the office may be beneficial in the future.

13.3 A request was made to know the power a Council Chairman can use or has. The Clerk informed Members that the only power a Parish Council Chairman has is to exercise a casting vote.

13.4 As there were concerns regarding the legality of proceeding with any decision relating to the above it was agreed to refer the appointment to the next Council meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 7.50pm

Date of the next Planning Meeting 24th September 2020