

DEERHURST PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the virtual Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday, 28 April 2021 by Zoom

Present: Len Attard – Chairman
Ben Oldham
Jim Pollard
John Rutter
Jonathan Smith (partial attendance)
Fiona Wallbank – Clerk

Parishioners: 1 (partial attendance)

1 APOLOGIES: BC McLain, CC Awford, Councillors Bromberg and Wilkes.

2 MINUTES OF MEETING: The minutes of the meeting held on the Wednesday, 24 March 2021, having been circulated with the agenda were agreed and signed by the Clerk.

3 DECLARATION OF INTEREST: None

4 REPORTS FROM COUNTY COUNCIL AND DISTRICT COUNCILLOR: Neither present

5 PUBLIC COMMENT: Received regarding application 21/00318/FUL.

Councillor Smith joined the meeting.

6 PLANNING:

6.1 Applications:

21/00054/OUT 1 Court Drive Apperley: Outline application for the erection of a single dwelling, all matters reserved except access reserved for future consideration

Comments to Tewkesbury Borough Council:

The Parish Council objects to this proposal. Relevant policies:

1. NPPF Paragraph 70. Plans should consider the case for setting out policies to resist inappropriate development of residential gardens.

2. Tewkesbury Borough Local Plan, Policy LND3

The policy map confirms that the Landscape Protection Zone applies to the whole of Deerhurst Parish.

“The Landscape Protection Zone seeks to protect, enhance and conserve the riparian landscape of the river valley including the floodplain, tributaries lined with trees, adjacent hills and areas of visual and ecological importance, such as woodland, orchards, copses, hedgerows, key wildlife sites, parkland areas and examples of traditional vernacular architecture, all of which contribute to the overall landscape quality and character of the area.”

This site is a residential garden from which hedgerow and trees have been removed.

3. Tewkesbury Borough Local Plan, Policy HOU3

Proposals Maps, Apperley Inset 3

The site is outside the residential development boundary and not adjacent to the boundary.

Infilling applies only within this boundary.

Despite Policy HOU3, the Borough Council has given planning permission for properties adjacent to the residential development boundary but rejected other applications not so connected. Consistency with previous decisions is considered important by the Parish Council.

21/00318/FUL Land adjacent to Apperley House, School Road, Apperley: Erection of 3 single storey dwellings including associated landscaping parking and access

Comments to Tewkesbury Borough Council:

The Parish council **strongly objects** to this application for the following reasons:

1. The land on which it is proposed to build the three dwellings is higher than the land on which the neighbouring Pink Cottage is built. The conservatory at Pink Cottage was flooded after heavy rain in July 2007. By reducing the area of open land by building on it, the risk of flooding is increased.
2. In Summer, the existing trees provide screening that is not evident during Winter. Although the proposed dwellings are single storey, on land higher than neighbouring properties, they would still overlook both Apperley House and Pink Cottage.
3. The trees between the land and School Road are designated as “Important Open Space”, as well as being the subject of a tree preservation order. This is shown on a map that was published in the Tewkesbury Borough Plan to 2011 (Apperley Inset 3) and is also listed (without a map) in the latest Borough Plan. The Green is the most important accessible open space in the village.
4. For future reference, it is vital that no damage is caused to The Green or to the War Memorial during any building work in this area. It should be a condition of permitting any application that no vehicles are allowed on The Green.”
5. The proposal is on land that is outside the Residential Development Boundary marked on the map (Apperley Inset 3). Inside the boundary, building is defined as infill for the village Apperley. Outside the boundary, therefore, the land must be in a landscape protection zone. Affordable houses supported by the community have been built outside the Residential Development Boundary. These include Moores Ground and Oaklands, the latter as a result of the Parish Plan 2002.
6. To provide enough space for vehicles entering and leaving the site, and to provide the visibility required to leave the site safely, the access road would have to be much wider than shown and blended with the edge of School Road. The appearance of the access would have a significant effect on The Green.
7. If completed as proposed, there will be insufficient parking space. Both School Road and The Green are definitely not suitable for regular parking.
8. The distance from the centre of the land to Apperley House (Grade II listed) is approximately 50 metres. This is not indicated on any of the maps.
9. Small buildings, trees and bushes can be seen on maps and aerial photographs of this land. These are not reported in any survey because all were removed.
10. School Road at this point is very narrow and potentially dangerous for both pedestrians and drivers, especially at School drop-of and pick-up times. Adding further traffic turning onto and from this narrow road can only increase the danger.”

21/00407/FUL Rofield Barn, Lower Apperley: Erection of an outbuilding for the storage of agricultural equipment

Comments to Tewkesbury Borough Council:

The Parish Council has no adverse comments to this application.

Councillor Smith declared an interested in the following two applications:

21/00411/FUL Land West of Manor Cottage, Walton Hill: Erection of a single residential dwelling (c3) and associated operational development (Plot 1) Defer to the May meeting

21/00412/FUL Land West of Manor Cottage, Walton Hill: Erection of a single residential dwelling (c3) and associated operational development (Plot 2) Defer to the May meeting

6.2 Decision: None

Appeal Decisions: None

6.4 Neighbourhood Plan (NP): Councillor Pollard confirmed that the first draft of the questionnaire would come to the Parish Council first for approval.

7 FINANCIAL MATTERS:

7.1 Accounts for payment and receipts:

Mrs F J Wallbank –			
Salary for 1-30 April 2021	363.07		
Tax	<u>15.00</u>	348.07	Via Bank Transfer
Inland Revenue		15.00	Via Bank Transfer
Information Commissioners Office: GDPR Data protection fee renewal due 8.5.21 refund due to Clerk		40.00	Via Bank Transfer
Countrywide			
GAPTC: Annual subscription due 1 April 2021		258.00	Via Bank Transfer
UK Mobility Store Refund due to Clerk Purchase of 2 batteries for the VAS			
Signs	65.98		
P&P	4.99		
	<u>VAT 13.20</u>	84.17	Via Bank Transfer
Countrywide: Carrying out three cuts on 1,16 & 31 April	535.71		
	<u>VAT 107.14</u>	642.85	Via Bank Transfer
County Building Supplies: Playpit sand	68.33		
	<u>VAT 13.67</u>	82.00	Via Bank Transfer
Brian Lovey: Refund of various materials For play area repairs		69.44	Via Bank Transfer
Shirley Fowler: Fee for carrying out internal Audit		50.00	Via Bank Transfer
Total:		£1589.53	

Receipts:

Precept for 2021/22	9000.00
Allotment Rents	235.00
Go Espresso	5.00
Total Receipt:	£9240.00

7.2 Financial Statement: Circulated with the agenda. The Councillors agreed for the Clerk to sign this.

7.3 Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2021 – Agree certificate of exemption: As the income or expenditure does not exceed £25,000 for the financial year ended 31 March 2020 it was agreed that the PC would certify themselves as exempt from a limited assurance review. The Clerk and Chairman to sign.

7.4 Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2021- Agree and sign Governance Statement: The Clerk took the Councillors through the Annual Governance Statement – it was agreed it would be signed by the Chairman and the Clerk.

7.5 Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2021 - Agree and sign accounts: The accounts were agreed and would be signed by the Chairman and the Clerk.

7.6 Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2021 – Internal Audit report: Clerk reported that Shirley Fowler had completed the Internal Audit and reported as follows:

- Applied the tests as set out in Appendix 8 of the Practitioner’s Guide Governance and Accountability in Local Councils in England and Wales and found them to be satisfactory.
- Confirmed that Risk Management procedures currently in place are completely appropriate, sufficient, and very well monitored in accordance with the Risk Management file.
- Tested payment procedures as against receipts/invoices, cheques drawn and bank statement entries and found these to be satisfactory, also leaving a good audit trail.
- Understands that no Petty Cash system operates within the Parish Council

Mrs Fowler therefore completed and signed Annual Internal Audit Report section of the accounts. She had submitted her invoice for these services.

8 MATTERS ARISING

8.1 Apperley Village Hall: The use of the Hall is still restricted, and bookings are not being taken. Not planning to restart until the 21 June.

Carpark: Coffee Van had their fourth visit.

Where the bin is sited, there is vegetation around the bin - some tree limbs will need to be removed. It was agreed that the Chairman would take a look.

Play Area: Councillor Oldham reported as follows:

- Reopened.
- The Hags equipment has been painted at a cost of around £1000.
- The rest of the major risks are complete however a couple of medium risks still need to be done.
- Just received an additional grant for the Covid Fund from TBC for £800
- Total income £6,600 spent under £4,000 leaving £2,500 left in the funds less £2,000 of work already allocated.
- Now need to have a ROSPA inspection carried out.
- Rotten wood on the picnic tables - found a source able to supply a replacement wood.

Councillors wanted to have it minuted that their sincere thanks go to Brian Leeke and to Councillor Oldham and to the Duke of Edinburgh volunteers who helped revamp the equipment.

Playing Field: First and second cuts carried out. First cut was poor. Councillor Oldham will give the contractor a map of the areas that should be cut.

Another two Bookings for Football Pitch have been received over Saturday mornings – Councillor Oldham said he would manage the bookings.

Allotments: Rents were due 1 April 2021.

8.2 Highways: Sawpit Lane: The road surface is poor and has been reported by Councillor Pollard.

B4213 Highways have surface dressed the road however they have managed to full in several important gullies – Councillor Pollard has reported this.

The Department of Transport has deployed a Video camera which will be situated between the main road and Wick Lane – if anyone spots a camera on a post, please advise Councillor Pollard.

VAS Sign: Clerk had purchased the batteries and delivered to Councillor Pollard.

Gullies School Road: These are still full.

Councillor Pollard has copied in County Councillor Awford on the above matters.

8.3 Public Rights of Way: Councillor Pollard reported that he had not received a helpful response from Hilary Grace regarding the 2026 project

8.4 Parish Council Website: Nothing to report.

8.5 Proposed Path: Defer

8.6 Annual Parish Assembly: The Clerk explained that as from the 7 May Parish Councils can no longer meet virtually however, the PC must have an Annual Parish Meeting between the 1 April and the 1 June, and the Annual Council Meeting has to be held in May it was felt that whilst abiding by one set of restrictions we are breaking another set of regulations. It was agreed to hold the Annual Parish Meeting on Wednesday, 26 May at 6.45pm followed by the Annual Council Meeting.

9 CORRESPONDENCE: Any Other Correspondence:

Email received from Ivan Gazzard has been passed to the Village Hall for their attention.

Fly Tipping at Wainlode Lane: The Chairman reported that some of the fly tipping has been removed but not all of it. Clerk to report to Pete Tongue again.

10 MATTERS RAISED FOR NOTIFICATION:

Hope for Tomorrow Charity: Councillor Oldham confirmed that the Chairman of the Village Hall said it would not be a problem to have a clothes bank at the Village Hall.

11 DATE FOR NEXT VIRTUAL MEETING: Wednesday, 26 May 2021 commencing at 7.15pm.

The meeting closed 8.49pm