

DEERHURST PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the virtual Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday, 24 June 2020 by Zoom

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

Parishioners: None

1 APOLOGIES: Councillor Wilkes, BC Mclain and CC Awford.

2 MINUTES OF MEETING: The minutes of the meeting held on the Wednesday, 27 May 2020, having been circulated with the agenda were agreed and signed.

3 DECLARATION OF INTEREST: None

4 PUBLIC COMMENT: None

CC Awford gave an update on the grass cutting carried out by GCC.

A lengthy discussion took place regarding the verge cutting carried out by Ken Preece. Clerk to send the map she has on file to Councillor Oldham to reduce in size. GCC currently pay 4p per square metre. Perhaps the PC needs to review the grant received from GCC for the cutting of the verges.

5 PLANNING:

5.1 Applications:

The Parish Council submitted comments to the following application:

20/00364/FUL 1 Notcliffe Cottages, Walton Hill: Demolition of 2 no. existing cottages and erection of 2 no. replacement detached dwellings and associated garages.

Summary of main concerns:

- the size of both properties in comparison to those that they are replacing is of concern. Each plot is a similar size to the previous two cottages put together.
- Plot 2 is a ‘mock Tudor’ pastiche which is not in keeping with the hamlet. A revised, simplified design for this plot, which is more like Plot 1 would be more in keeping with surrounding houses.
- Both houses are of considerable size, and because of their elevated position, risk dominating long distance views.
 - a reduction in the height of the buildings, building closer to the level of the road and careful shielding (with hedges on all sides including the rear of the properties) would ensure that long distance views are respected.
- the outbuildings are of considerable size and will dominate the street scene.
 - The garage of plot one would benefit from being set back behind the building line.
 - The garage for plot two would benefit from having a reduced roof height

To view the full comments submitted go to <https://publicaccess.tewkesbury.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?activeTab=documents&keyVal=Q9AHA2QDIL800>

20/00366/FUL Land to the Northwest of 5 & 6 Westview, Apperley: Application for technical details consent pursuant to 19/00791/PIP for the erection of 1 infill dwelling

Comments to Tewkesbury Borough Council:

Considering the Parish Council’s previous comments re 19/00791/PIP they have no adverse comments to this application

5.2 Decision:

19/00774/FUL Green Orchard, Walton Hill, Deerhurst: Demolition of detached garage/outbuilding and erection of a two-storey side extension - **Refused**

5.3 Appeals: 19/01166/PIP Land off School Road, Apperley: PIP for the erection of 1 dwelling – Planning Inspectorate needs additional comments by 1 July. The Councillors agreed not to send any further comments as their original comments have been submitted.

Appeal Decisions: 19/00575/OUT 1 Cooks Green Cottages, Lower Apperley: Outline application for the erection of 1 dwelling and provision of associated vehicular parking area, with all matters reserved for future consideration except for access (re-submission) – Appeal dismissed.

It was agreed that the Clerk would write to TBC stating a lack of consistency in their approach when applying policies

5.4 Neighbourhood Plan (NP): Councillor Bromberg gave a short update on progress made and said there was a meeting on Monday 29 June.

6 FINANCIAL MATTERS:

6.1 Accounts for payment and receipts:

Mrs F J Wallbank –

Salary for 1-30 June 2020	348.12		
Less Tax	<u>69.60</u>	278.52	Via Bank Transfer

Inland Revenue – Refund due to Clerk	69.60		Via Bank Transfer
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Countrywide:

Carrying out playing field cut on the 4.6.20	150.00		Via Bank Transfer
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Total:	£498.12		
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Receipts:

Allotment Rent	50.00		
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Groundwork UK NDP grant	2435.00		
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Total Receipt:	£2485.00		
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6.2 Financial Statement: Circulated with the agenda. The Councillors agreed for the Clerk to sign this.

6.3 Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2020 – Consider Internal Auditors Report: Defer to the July meeting as the internal audit not completed

6.4 Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2020 - Agree and sign Governance Statement: Defer to the July meeting

6.5 Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2020 - Agree and sign accounts: Defer to the July meeting

6.6 Salary review: The Clerk left the room whilst this matter was discussed. It was agreed:

- 1) Move to the NJC scales and move Fiona to the new level 19 which paid £12.89 per hour from 2019-20.
- 2) Adopt the agreed pay increase once announced later this year. It is proposed to be 2.75% and hoped to be agreed in August. This will be backdated to April 2020.
- 3) Increase the home working allowance from £50 pa to £200pa.

7 MATTERS ARISING

7.1 Apperley Village Hall: Future Meetings in the Village Hall: It was agreed that if there were no further cluster outbreaks of Covid 19 the Parish Council would resume holding meetings in the Village Hall as from 23 September 2020.

Councillor Oldham reported that the Village Hall were unsuccessful in getting a grant to assist with loss of income due to the fact they are run as a Charity.

Play Area: Still closed.

Allotments: The Clerk said one of the allotments may be available for relet however she has someone on the waiting list. The Councillors agreed to leave this matter with the Clerk.

Playing Field: Councillor Oldham said that he had been approached by Empire Gym at Highfield asking if they could use the field to hold organised exercise classes with up to 6 people in total with social distancing criteria being followed. It was agreed to leave this matter with Councillor Oldham.

7.2 Highways: Councillor Pollard gave an update on various problems he had reported - some had been dealt with including getting the drains and gullies in full working order.

Highways have been approached to provide an official Bus Stop in Saw Pit Lane - awaiting a response.

7.3 Public Rights of Way: Councillor Pollard will clear more vegetation where required.

7.4 Provision of Defibrillator for Deerhurst, Deerhurst Walton: The Chairman confirmed that he had taken delivery of them that day. Councillors Smith and Rutter to collect. Deerhurst would go on Mr Leeke's garage wall and Deerhurst Walton one will go on the wall at The Groves. An electrician would have to connect both the defibs to an electrical supply.

7.5 Horse Chestnut Tree Sawpit Lane: Councillor Pollard said he had this matter in hand and would meet with Jan Natrass.

8 MATTERS RAISED FOR NOTIFICATION:

Website: The Clerk reported there was new legislation regarding PC Websites. The Public Sector Bodies (Website and Mobile Applications) Accessibility Regulations 2018 require local councils to make reasonable adjustments to their website so that they can be easily accessed by people with a varying range of abilities. PCs need to be compliant by 23 September 2020. The website must have an Accessibility Statement on the website stating how we have met the requirements of the legislation. Earlier in the meeting Councillor Bromberg had said that the PC should have its own standalone website and perhaps Ben Davies who had designed the NDP website might be willing to design a website for the Parish Council. Charlotte Forbes would be able to advise on website compliance. It was agreed that Councillor Bromberg would speak to both parties.

Cycle/Walking/Riding Path: Councillor Smith put forward an idea of creating a path alongside the B4213 but inside the field tight to the hedge to minimise disruption to farming. It might need to be fenced. This would allow access from Apperley by Wightfield to Deerhurst Walton and then on to the shop/bus stop via Duckpool Cottage without going on the busy road. It was agreed to put on the agenda for the July meeting to discuss further and Councillor Smith would produce a map.

9 DATE FOR NEXT VIRTUAL MEETING: Wednesday, 22 July 2020 commencing at 7.15pm.

The meeting closed 8.57pm.