

SOUTHWATER PARISH COUNCIL

The Minutes of the **PLANNING COMMITTEE** Meeting held on Thursday, 7th November 2013 in the Council Chamber, Beeson House, Southwater commencing at 7.30 p.m.

Present: **Chairman:** **Mr L. Apted**

Mrs S. Alway
Mr G. Cole
Mr M. Neale
Mrs B Varley

Mr P. Buckley
Mrs P. Flores-Moore
Mr B. Sunderland
Mr G. Watkins

Clerk: **Mrs. J. Nagy**

County Councillor: **Apologies**

District Councillors: **Apologies**

Press: **Not present**

Members of the Public: **None**

P98/11/13 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mr Apted asked those present to turn off their mobile phones for the duration of the meeting, unless in an emergency, when they should go through the chair. In the event of a fire alarm sounding, everyone should evacuate the building via the exits indicated.

There was no member of the press present.

The Deputy Clerk advised that the traffic lights at the junction of Worthing Rd with Fairbank Rd were out, and this had been reported to Highways.

Mrs Flores-Moore reported that yet again there was mud on the road at the Hop Oast roundabout, emanating from the current development at Horsham Golf & Fitness. The Deputy Clerk advised that she had reported this to Enforcement that morning, and has asked that this ongoing issue be resolved once and for all.

Mrs Alway arrived at 7.32pm

Mrs Alway reported that further to a recent planning application for 115, College Rd, another property in the area have put up a similar fence. She will notify to location of this to the Deputy Clerk in due course for this to be investigated.

At this point, Mr Apted proposed the suspension of Standing Orders to allow members of the public to speak. This was seconded by Mr Buckley and agreed by all.

As there were no members of the public present, Standing Orders were reinstated.

P99/11/13 APOLOGIES

There were no apologies. Mr Diamond was absent with no apologies given.

P100/11/13 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest at this point.

P101/11/13 MINUTES

It was proposed by Mr Buckley seconded by Mr Sunderland and RESOLVED by all present that the Minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on Thursday, 10th October 2013 be accepted as a true and correct record of the meeting.

P102/11/13 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr Apted asked Councillors if anyone had a marquee or gazebo that they could lend the Council for the Christmas Festival on 30th November.

Mrs Varley suggested that the Parish Office contact the Holy Innocents church, who has some. Mr Cole also has a small gazebo.

P103/11/13 CORRESPONDENCE

The Deputy Clerk reported the following correspondence:

WSCC West Sussex Waste Local Plan

This plan went to public examination in July 2013, where the Inspector indicated that changes needed be made to make the plan sound and suitable for adoption. The majority of these changes require re-submission of background data to bring this up to date, with the remainder being clarification of data already supplied.

There are no proposals for new sites in the neighbourhood of Southwater.

Members noted this information.

P104/11/13 HORSHAM DISTRICT COUNCIL PLANNING FRAMEWORK

The consultation period for the draft Preferred Strategy is now over, and the comments are being processed by the District Council. It is anticipated that a full report on these comments will be presented at the District Council meeting on 11th December.

Members noted this information.

P105/11/13 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

The Deputy Clerk reported that she had submitted the application to have the parish of Southwater accepted as the designated area for the Neighbourhood Plan. However, the original submission had had to be amended due to the inclusion of the small area of the Bovis site to the south. Although this section is to be included in the parish at the

next boundary review in 2015, it is still currently within the parish of Shipley. If it were to be included in the Plan area, Southwater would have to combine its Plan with Shipley and would have to share any CiL contributions.

The proposed Plan area has therefore been resubmitted to show the current southern boundary. It is going out for consultation for a six week period commencing Monday 11th November. This will be advertised in the local paper, and the Deputy Clerk intends to include links to the consultation documents on the Parish Council website.

The Deputy Clerk is in discussions with the Department for Communities and Local Government as to the implications of not including the proposed boundary, as it could be that Southwater would be the first Neighbourhood Plan to undergo a boundary change during the planning stage.

A draft letter has been submitted to the Steering Group to go to local businesses and community groups to invite them to put forward representatives for consideration for the Steering Group. The remit of the Steering Group as approved by the Parish Council is to have a minimum of ten members. There are six areas of interest defined in the Plan, these being Economy, Infrastructure, Environment, Social & Community, Heritage and Culture, so ideally if two members of the Steering Group were to lead each area, then eight members need to be found, which with the four Council members would make twelve.

The Deputy Clerk is currently engaged with Action in Rural Sussex, and Horsham District Council in order to organise a date for speakers to address a public meeting, ideally on a Friday evening, with a open “drop in” day on the following Saturday, both to be held at Southwater Leisure Centre.

A Facebook page has been created, but not yet gone “live”, and rough drafts for a logo has been created.

The Deputy Clerk will arrange a further meeting of the Steering Group.

Members noted this information

P106/11/13

TREE PRESERVATION ORDERS AND OTHER TREE MATTERS

Tree Warden Course – Fungi and Tree Health, 21st November

The Parish Office has contacted the Council tree wardens in relation to this course, but has received no reply.

Mrs Alway, Mr Cole and Mr Watkins said that they are checking whether available on this day.

Recent Storm

The Clerk and Deputy Clerk walked all parish land the day after the recent storm and found little damage to trees. Emergency work was carried out to two trees on land bordering Roundstone Caravan Park, and other minor fallen branches were removed off open spaces.

Since this inspection, a tree did fall blocking the public right of way off Southwater St, and onto a private wooded garden. The tree has now been cleared off the path, and

the Deputy Clerk is in discussion with the land owner in relation to the logs etc.

Tree in Roberts Close

It was reported that Roberts Close was closed and a tree on the verge was being felled yesterday. The Deputy Clerk enquired of the District and County Council but neither knew of this. On speaking direct to the contractor, it appeared that it was being felled on the instruction of the County Council, as it was in a dangerous condition due to storm damage.

P107/11/13 PUBLIC OPEN SPACE

Skate Park

The order has been placed for the remaining works to the ramp as agreed at last week's Full Council meeting. The contractor is currently on site, and the Deputy Clerk will meet there on Monday, to sign off the work. Both Councillors Cole and Watkins said that they would be available to assist.

The Deputy Clerk reported that she had contacted the insurance help line to enquire about the possible increase in risk due to the tarmac surface not being level. Zurich advised that if this had always been the case, there was unlikely to be an increase in risk. The Deputy Clerk advised that a risk assessment was carried out after every repair etc., and one would be carried out on Monday.

The ramp is inspected every week with every other Council-owned playground, so the situation relating to levels will be monitored.

P108/11/13 HIGHWAYS, DRAINAGE, STREET NAMES, FOOTPATHS AND RIGHTS OF WAY

Church Lane

Resurfacing work was completed today on Bonfire Hill, so the diversion signs through the village will be removed.

Remembrance Sunday

A reminder that the section of Station Rd outside the Surgery will be closed this Sunday, due to the Remembrance Service commencing at 10.45am.

Other Highways matters

Mrs Flores-Moore reported that there was no flooding in Blakes Farm Rd under the bridge, and the Clerk should be congratulated for sorting out the problem with Highways.

P109/11/13 NEW PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Application	Applicant	Reason	Recommendation
DC/13/1969 Mrs Varley	Mr & Mrs Green 5, Beechwood, Southwater	Prior notification for a single storey rear conservatory extending 7.7m beyond rear elevation with an eaves height of 2.43m and a maximum height of 3.3m	No objection
DC/13/2011 Mr Cole	WSCC Land to the east of 5-11, Woodlands Way Southwater	Surgery to 2 x Oak trees	No objection
DC/13/2051 Mr Buckley	Mr and Mrs J Kemp 1, Netherton Close Southwater	Two storey front extension	No objection

P110/11/13 PLANNING APPEALS

There have been no appeals lodged since the last meeting.

P111/11/13 DISTRICT COUNCIL PLANNING DECISIONS

Application No	Address		Parish Recommendation	HDC Decision
DC/11/1394	Land West of Worthing Road	Residential development of up to 500 dwellings with associated vehicular, cycle and pedestrian access, drainage, landscape works, provision of land for a new secondary school and sport/recreation facilities (Land west of Worthing Road) (Outline Planning Permission)	Object	Withdrawn
DC/11/2502	Easteds Barn Easteds Lane Southwater	Single storey extension to existing building & variation of Condition 10 of SQ/61/95 (Use of building for meeting room purposes only), to facilitate use of overall premises for general D1 (Non residential Institutions) & D2 (Assembly and Leisure) purposes at Easteds Barn	In Office	Permitted
DC/12/2048	Jackerell Bungalow Reeds Lane Southwater	Amendment to previously approved application DC/12/0935 (Demolition of existing bungalow and erection of replacement dwelling) involving re-arrangement of the internal layout of the property, previously approved under DC/12/0935, to create two semi-detached dwellings	Object with comments	Permitted
DC/13/1465	115 College Rd	Retention of Boundary Fence	Object with comments	Refused
DC/13/1565	38 Millfield	Provision of mock parapet roof over existing flat roof to front elevation	No Objection	Permitted
DC/13/1712	1 Windsor Close	Conservatory to rear elevation	No Objection	Permitted

Berkeley Homes – West of Worthing Rd

The Deputy Clerk reported that the Berkeley Homes application has been withdrawn, but she expects that a new application will be lodged once the Preferred Strategy document is approved by the District Council.

Parish Council Recommendations

As requested, the Deputy Clerk has compared Parish Council recommendations with District Council decisions since January 2013 and has found that 72% of the time, or 61 out of 85 recommendations, these agreed.

Mrs Flores-Moore said that it seemed on some applications that the District Council went against its own policies.

P112/11/13 PLANNING COMPLIANCE ACTION

Horsham Golf & Fitness

The Deputy Clerk has reported the mud on the road on and around the Hop Oast roundabout again, stating that this is an ongoing issue.

P113/11/13 DATE OF NEXT MEETING –

The date of the next meeting is Thursday, 5th December 2013

The meeting closed at 8.10 p.m.