

HEATHFIELD AND WALDRON PARISH COUNCIL

HIGHWAYS, PLANNING & STREET LIGHTING COMMITTEE

TUESDAY 26 MAY 2009 AT 7.30 P.M.

At Heathfield Community Centre

PRESENT: Mr Baker, Mrs Clark, Mrs Gander, Mrs Holmwood, Mrs Kentish-Barnes, Mr Kerby, Mr Newnham (Chairman) and Mrs Oakes.

The Clerk was in attendance.

Two members of the public were also present.

WD/2009/1046/F

The owner of a neighbouring property spoke to the Committee regarding concerns about the impact of the proposed building on their property.

WD/2009/1016/F

Following discussions with Wealden District Council, the applicant explained the latest amended plans to the Committee.

The meeting commenced at 7.42 pm

09/135 **APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN AND VICE-CHAIRMAN**

Mrs Kentish-Barnes took the Chair and thanked Mr Newnham for his dedication and hard work on behalf of the Committee. She then nominated Mr Newnham as Chairman once again, seconded by Mrs Oakes. A vote was taken and Mr Newnham was unanimously re-elected.

Mr Newnham re-took the Chair and invited nominations for Vice-Chairman. Mrs Oakes nominated Mrs Kentish-Barnes, seconded by Mr Newnham and following a vote, Mrs Kentish-Barnes was unanimously re-elected as Vice-Chairman.

09/136 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence had been received from Mrs Archer, Mr Bassingthwaighe, Mr Hart and Dr Rayner.

09/137 **MINUTES**

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 11 May 2009, having been previously circulated, be confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

09/138 **DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST IN MATTERS ON THE AGENDA**

Mrs Holmwood disclosed a personal interest in respect of WD/2009/1046 as an employee of a business based at Silveroaks Farm.

Mr Newnham disclosed a personal interest in respect of WD/2009/0976 as a friend of the owners of a neighbouring property.

All Members of the Committee disclosed a personal interest in respect of WD/2009/0946 as one of the applicants, Mr Woodhouse, was a Parish Councillor.

09/139 **MATTERS ARISING**

WD/2009/0834/F

A copy of a letter from the agent to Wealden District Council had been sent to the Parish Council. The agent was querying the recommendation for refusal from the Parish Council as a previous application had received support. The Committee considered that the comments had been made based on the information available at the time and that they were not “misguided”. It was agreed that a letter should be sent to the case officer at Wealden District Council explaining this.

09/140 **ESCC - WD/2783/CC – ALL SAINTS & ST RICHARDS CE PRIMARY SCHOOL, SCHOOL HILL, HEATHFIELD**

The Committee, whilst not objecting to the design and siting, did have concerns about the effects of ionising radiation on pupils and staff of the School and sought clarification of the need for a completely separate communications system.

09/141 **ESCC - WD/2796/CC – PUNNETTS TOWN SCHOOL, PUNNETTS TOWN, HEATHFIELD**

The Committee, whilst not objecting to the design and siting, did have concerns about the effects of ionising radiation on pupils and staff of the School and sought clarification of the need for a completely separate communications system.

09/142 **WDC – WD/2009/0971/PO – TANNERS FARM, DERN LANE, WALDRON**

The Committee could see no reason for removal of the agricultural tenancy restriction and further information regarding the applicants’ justification for this would be sought.

09/143 **WDC – TREE WORKS – CHURCH COTTAGE, LITTLE LONDON ROAD, CROSS IN HAND**

The Committee noted the above.

09/144 **ESCC - WD/2786/CC – HEATHFIELD COMMUNITY COLLEGE, CADE STREET, HEATHFIELD ESCC**

The Committee supported and welcomed the proposed solar panel installation.

09/145 **WDC – TREE WORKS**

The Committee noted information regarding tree works at Maple Cottage, Mutton Hall Hill and 7 Thorntree Close, Heathfield.

09/146 **PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

WD/2009/0946/F

BEECHWOOD HOUSE, BEECHWOOD LANE, HEATHFIELD TN21 8QQ. Change of use from residential class C3 to class D1 non-residential institutions. The entire building to be for Nursery School use.

OBSERVATIONS: The Committee welcomed and supported the application.

WD/2009/1016/F

MERIMAC, SWIFE LANE, BROAD OAK TN21 8UR. Erection of a replacement dwelling within existing curtilage.

OBSERVATIONS: The Committee supported the application and considered the size and appearance to be in character in the locality.

The landscaping proposals were considered to be excellent and the Committee supported the green initiatives incorporated into the design.

In consideration of the needs of the applicant's disabled grandson, Members welcomed the provision of a physiotherapy room together with the level access arrangements.

WD/2009/1046/F

HOLMS FARM BARN, HOLMS FARM, HAWKHURST COMMON, WALDRON. Proposed boiler and wood store building.

OBSERVATIONS: The Committee objected to the application because it would have an adverse effect upon neighbours by means of over-shadowing and lack of privacy. It would have a negative visual impact and may lead to nuisance from noise and fumes.

WD/2009/1050/MAJ

89 HIGH STREET, HEATHFIELD TN21 8JA. Demolition of existing buildings and erection of a mixed use development comprising retail and 21 no. 2-bed apartments.

OBSERVATIONS: The Committee supported the application which represented a great improvement over the existing buildings and would have a positive visual impact.

Members welcomed the proposed car parking arrangements, the provision of affordable housing units and the retention of trees. It was considered that the development would provide an important gateway feature and investment in the town.

It was requested that the following comments be taken into account when determining the application:

- 1) The whole of the frontage area should be transferred to ESCC Highways and paved to match the High Street scheme. The footway should continue to the post box, which should be retained.
- 2) The division of the retail area into smaller units must be feasible
- 3) Developer's contributions must be sought towards traffic calming in the Tilsmore area, improvement to public transport, library services and Doctors' services.
- 4) A suitable pedestrian route to Mill Road must be provided as this is well used by children walking to Cross-In-Hand School
- 5) Adequate arrangements for the disposal of surface water (off-site) and foul water must be made taking into account the known problems in this area
- 6) Clear and unrestricted access for the Fire Station must be retained
- 7) The stability of the Heathfield Tunnel must be ensured.

WD/2009/0952/F

MEADOW COTTAGE, (NOW LITTLE LONDON STUD), LITTLE LONDON, HEATHFIELD TN21 ONU. Stables.

OBSERVATIONS: The Committee supported the application and considered the size and appearance to be suitable. No external lighting should be installed.

WD/2009/0973/F

GREENACRES MANOR, LITTLE LONDON, HEATHFIELD TN21 0BA.
Proposed stable block and store to replace previously approved store.
Amended layout of building Drawing No.2178/09/1 Rev. A Date Stamped 11 May 2009.

OBSERVATIONS: The Committee supported the application and asked that the buildings be tied to the property and used for the stated purposes only, ancillary to the dwelling.

WD/2009/0976/F

HEFFLE COURT, STATION ROAD, HEATHFIELD TN21 8DR.
Proposed change of use converting existing social services office area into care bedrooms to be linked into the existing Nursing Home south east elevation of the Social Services block

OBSERVATIONS: The Committee supported the application and considered the size and appearance to be suitable.

09/147 **BACK LANE, CROSS IN HAND – TRAFFIC SPEEDS**

The Chairman reported that a Petition was being circulated regarding traffic speeds along Back Lane. Local residents were forming a Committee to progress the matter.

09/148 **DATE, TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be held on Monday 8 June 2009 at 7.30 pm in the Ian Price Room, Heathfield Community Centre, Sheepsetting Lane, Heathfield.

09/149 **MATTERS RAISED BY COUNCILLORS HAVING BEEN PREVIOUSLY NOTIFIED**

There were none.

09/150 **CRIME AND DISORDER ACT SECTION 17 TO CONSIDER EFFECTS (IF ANY) ARISING FROM ITEMS ON THE AGENDA**

There were none.

09/151 **RISK ASSESSMENT IMPLICATIONS OF MATTERS ON THE AGENDA**

There were none.

The Meeting closed at 9.12 p.m.

Signed:

Chairman

Dated: