



MINUTES OF MEETING 10.12.2015

Clerk - Gareth Roderick-Jones

Dove House Cottage, Diss Road, Tibenham, Norfolk NR16 1PW

Tel: 07775 277 793

www.palgrave.onesuffolk.net

palgravepc@gmail.com

Minutes of Palgrave Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 10 December 2015 at 7:30pm in Palgrave Community Centre.

Present: Cllrs M Bootman (Chairman), Ms V Pudney, Mrs E Bootman, N Weston, Mrs E Collins, Mrs W Cooper, J Gibbons, Ms M Sneddon.

Also present: County Cllr J Fleming, District Cllr D Burn, Gareth Roderick-Jones (Clerk).

Members of the Public: Approximately 25 including Sarah Roberts (Roberts Molloy Associates, Architects) and Danny Ward (Developer).

12.15.1 Apologies for absence: Cllr Brown, Cllr Charman.

12.15.2 Members Declarations of Interest and Dispensations: none

12.15.3.1 Public Question Time: No questions.

12.15.3.2 Informal presentation by Sarah Roberts, Roberts Molloy Associates, of a proposed housing development off Lion Road. Ms Roberts described the proposed development as falling within MSDC's stated desire to provide smaller infills within villages to make up housing numbers; it would include low cost, affordable and shared equity dwellings and a capital contribution towards school places provision and infrastructure. It would consist in total of 21 houses (including 6 affordable) a play area and footpaths.

Considerable public discussion followed raising questions or concerns. A number were due to a lack of awareness of recent changes to the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF):

- visibility along Lion Road is restricted by the bend at eastern boundary of the site;
- it was explained that the former settlement boundaries are superseded by the NPPF while former exception sites have been superseded by 5-year land supply plans;
- does the development fall within recommended density levels for rural areas?;
- might planning constraints be ignored by MSDC ? (An application may be considered by Planning Committee if enough objections are received);
- given existing rainwater flooding what effect might this development have?;
- current traffic and speeding problems likely to be exacerbated by this development;
- possible effect on existing water supply and pressure (noted by Architect);
- concern that insufficient consideration given to lack of availability of school places for the existing population and the added pressure from additional development;
- loss of view for some residents (it was explained that in planning terms a view is not considered an amenity and consequently there is no right to one);
- has consideration been given to co-operative housing on this site (it was explained this is not yet part of local government thinking);
- if the style of the new housing will be similar to other projects by this developer (Architect: traditional designs and materials would be used);

Clarification was offered of the meaning of 'sustainability' as enshrined in the NPPF and also regarding the 21-day response period and how members of the public can submit their comments to MSDC (the planning authority) - via the website, by email and in person at planning committee meetings - which individuals were encouraged to do.

The Chairman asked if the proposed footway alongside Lion Road be placed inside the verge instead of by the roadside? Ms Roberts responded that County Highways had required it to be adjacent to the kerb. (Cllr Fleming asked to be copied on correspondence relating to pedestrian and/or traffic issues).

With regard to the capacity of the School and its cramped site, the Chairman pointed out that County Highways was examining a scheme for the 'Access Only' road that could cost up to £40,000 whilst the School governors were prepared to spend several thousand pounds in seeking an Order in Council and planning permission to lay an artificial surface on part of The Green. With the changes in planning policy further development will clearly place more pressure on the School. A clear position statement on future plans for schooling in Palgrave is needed and Cllr Fleming was asked to provide this. **Action: County Cllr Fleming**

12.15.3.3 Reports received from:

12.15.3.3.i County Cllr Jessica Fleming:

- Fire and Rescue Service [see minute 12.15.10.1] – comments on this are welcome;
- County Recycling Centres – changes to opening times have been announced;
- Eastern Enterprise Hub - opportunities for tenancies for agricultural enterprises;
- Highways – plans and associated costs for 'Access Only' road in the New Year.

The Chairman reminded Cllr Fleming that to date there had been no response from any officer or member at the County Council regarding a 'Lorrywatch' report of a vehicle that had travelled from the A143 through the 'Access Only' road and entered the 7.5T HGV restriction on The Green. The accompanying letter again pointed out that at no point along that route was there any advance warning of the restriction, nor was there the appropriate sign at the point where the 'Access Only' road entered The Green. This gap in the required signage for the Traffic Regulation Order had been the subject of previous reports that have all been ignored. Cllr Fleming was asked to obtain a response. **Action: County Cllr Fleming**

12.15.3.3.ii District Cllr David Burn:

- The integrated Babergh-MSDC workforce structure was intended as a trial and it is now undergoing further review which will include a reduction in senior officer posts;
- Viability of recycling and waste disposal services is being examined because of the rising cost of disposal coupled with falling returns from recycling. MSDC is looking into supporting the privately-owned facility at Brome;
- Although the gas-fired power station at Eye has been approved by the Secretary of State, whether Progress Power proceed with it depends on its viability – i.e. the price paid for electricity produced. Present low oil prices and the requirement to construct a more expensive type of grid connection mean it is no viable at this time.

12.15.3.3.iii Suffolk Police:

- A very brief report of 1 crime was received from PCSO Faulkner of the local SNT;
- Policing Review: Discussion revealed concern on several points. AGREED a response be sent to the Suffolk Police and Crime Commissioner including the following:
 - ~ Lack of clarity of the proposed structure of the SNTs and areas covered;
 - ~ Lack of warranted police officers, especially having regard to the policing demands on the present sole warranted officer by the St John's secure facility;
 - ~ Lack of clarity about the operational relationship with Norfolk police and how that affects the policing of areas adjoining the County boundary;
 - ~ Need to maintain close relationship with Parish Councils so they can fulfil their legal duty to consider the impact on crime and disorder when making decisions.

12.15.4 Minutes: The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held 22 October were approved and signed as a correct record.

12.15.5 Reports & Representation:

12.15.5.1 Clerk: nil

12.15.5.2 PDCC Executive Committee: NOTED the contents of the written report submitted by Cllr E Bootman.

12.15.5.3 Turbine Working Party: NOTED that, in the absence of confirmation of the tenancy transfer, no meeting had taken place but that a solicitor had been engaged to act for the PDCC. Cllr Weston advised that he had learnt that the transfer had been completed and that more information might be obtained through a Mr R Fairey at Brown & Co.

12.15.5.4 St John's Liaison Meeting: Cllr Cooper reported that she and Mrs Beryl Dyer (for the PCC) had attended the meeting. An update was given by St John's management and a recent art and pottery exhibition had raised £150.00 from the sale of ceramic poppies.

12.15.6 Joint Working Party with PDCC (Play Equipment): NOTED the contents of the progress report submitted by Cllr E Bootman. AGREED that (i) Chairman to sign the locality funding application for £2,500 to the District Cllr, and (ii) to delegate to Parish Councillor members of the JWP authority to agree submission of joint or several applications for funding the play equipment and to report back accordingly to the Parish Council.

12.15.7 Financial Matters:

12.15.7.1 Banking Arrangements: Further to Minute 10.15.7.1.1 authorising Cllr Mrs Cooper, AGREED that Cllr Gibbons be an additional authorised signatory to the NatWest account in place of Cllr Brown or Cllr Charman. **Action: Cllrs M Bootman and Gibbons**

12.15.7.2 Insurance: NOTED that current insurance policy covers up to £5000 of office equipment. Asset Register needs to be updated. **Action: Cllr M Bootman & Clerk**

12.15.7.3 Bank Statements: RECEIVED copies of NatWest statements. Cllr Sneddon was informed by former Clerk, Ms Jones, that she had stopped Barclays statements still being sent to her (Barclays had previously refused to accept a mandate to change the address). Cllr M Bootman to obtain a current statement from Barclays. **Action: Cllr M Bootman**

12.15.7.4 The following Receipts were NOTED:

Debtor	Amount £	Account
NONE		

12.15.7.5 The following Payments [NatWest account] were APPROVED:

Creditor	Amount £	Inc. VAT	Cheque
HMRC - Income Tax deduction for November and December 2015	110.40	-	
G Roderick-Jones - Clerk's salary for November 2015	221.10	-	
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SALC - Tailored Training at Palgrave for Councillors and Clerk	564.00	???	
SALC - Website Beginner and Advanced Training for Clerk	54.00	???	

12.15.7.6 The following Financial Awards/Grants [NatWest account] were APPROVED:

Creditor	Amount £	Cheque
Under Section 137 LGA 1972:		
Borderhoppa	100.00	
Diss First Responders	100.00	
East Anglian Air Ambulance	100.00	
Under Section 38 (SS2A) LGHA 1989:		
Diss CAB	100.00	
Miscellaneous:		
Annual 'Friend' Subscription to Suffolk Preservation Society	30.00	

12.15.7.7 Transparency Fund Grant Application: APPROVED the grant application to SALC for transitional funding to meet the requirements of the Transparency Code funding and AUTHORISED signature of same by the Chairman and Clerk.

Owing to the time spent on the presentation and discussion of the proposed housing development at Lion Road, the Chairman deferred the following items to an additional meeting to be called on Thursday 17th December. That meeting could also formally consider the Council's response to the planning application that was notified to it on 8th December.

12.15.7.8 *To consider the motion submitted by Cllr Gibbons*

12.15.8 *To Receive Reports and Recommendations*

12.15.9 *To note the 2016/17 Precept, Tax Base and Grants*

12.15.10 *County Council and District Council Matters*

12.15.12 *To Consider Matters of Information...*

The following matters were then disposed of.

12.15.11 To Consider Planning Applications and Receive Decisions:

12.15.11.1 Planning Application: 3849/15. T1: oak, crown clean to remove dead, diseased or weak branches and thin out epicormic growth to allow more light to penetrate through the canopy. Reduce the low limb over the bench/garden shelter by 1-1.5 to reduce lever arm stress of the union. T2: oak, crown clean to remove dead, diseased or weak branches and thin out epicormic growth to allow more light to penetrate through the canopy. 4 Burlington Close, Palgrave, IP22 1AU. APPROVED 8th December 2015.

12.15.11.2 Planning Application: 4119/15/TPO. Lime tree: reduce crown and thin to previous points. Silver birch: reduce crown by 20%. Contorted Willow: thin crown by 20% and reduce height by 1.5m. Lombardy Poplar: fell. The Limes, Priory Road, Palgrave, IP22 1AJ. RESOLVED to SUPPORT.

12.15.11.3 Planning Application: 4134/15. Lime A & B – 2 very large mature trees. General pruning 20% of both trees. Reducing crown and thinning to previous pruning points undertaken in 2004. Dead branches currently falling at random. Yew A – mature tree, pruning and reduction of crown to level of sister tree on right hand side of drive (Yew B). Linden Rise, Priory Road, Palgrave IP22 1AJ. RESOLVED to SUPPORT.

12.15.13 Next meeting: Additional meeting 7.30pm on 17th December at Palgrave Community Centre.