

PULBOROUGH PARISH COUNCIL

A meeting of the Planning & Services Committee was held at the Sports Pavilion on Thursday, 5th October 2006 at 7.30 pm.

PRESENT: Mr D Boulton (Vice Chairman)
Mrs J Botting
Mr J Denison
Mrs A Lawson
Mr M Longridge
Mr J Noble

In Attendance: Seven members of the public were present.

1. APOLOGY FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Mrs C. Barnett, Mrs H. Black and Mr. B. Donnelly.

2. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

There were no declarations of interest

3. MINUTES

RESOLVED: that the Minutes of the Meeting held on 7th September 2006 be received and signed.

4. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

5. PUBLIC SPEAKING

The meeting was adjourned for public speaking at 7.32pm.

Having given formal notice, Mr Andy Moore, Mr Kevin Green and Mr Mike Mulligan were all given two minutes to speak on agenda item 6.

The meeting was reconvened at 7.37pm.

6. Planning & Services Meeting – 7th September 2006

The Committee discussed the procedures followed on the 7th September 2006 at length. As one of the public speakers had stated that the two-minute rule was new, Mr Boulton queried when it had been brought in. Mrs Botting replied that it had been policy for many years. Mr Noble told members that it was a policy followed by Parish Councils nationwide and was actually a Government recommendation. Mr Denison thought there had been misunderstanding on both sides with regard to procedures.

Mrs Botting advised members that she had spoken to Andrew Frost, the head of Planning at HDC and to Mr Davidson from the Legal Department, both of whom said that correct procedures had been followed. She also told the Committee that Mrs Black was very new to planning, whilst she had previously been Chairman for many years and

had been giving Mrs Black advice on procedures on that occasion. Her declared interest was personal, as she knew the applicant and not prejudicial, therefore she did not have to leave the room when the application had been discussed.

RESOLVED: that due to misunderstandings on procedural matters, HDC would be approached to see whether the Committee could reconsider their response on this occasion only.

7. Nutbourne Common Recreation Ground – Charity Commission

Mrs Lawson raised the question as to whether Councillors could be held personally responsible for any accident that might occur at Nutbourne Common Recreation Ground, if they were Trustees. It was agreed that a dispensation should be sought from the Charity Commission to exclude Trustees names from the annual report.

Members also discussed the erection of a 5 –bar gate with padlock at the entrance to the Recreation Ground. The Clerk was instructed to obtain three quotes from local contractors for this work.

8. Update on the New Planning System

The Committee received a report from the Clerk on the recent new planning system seminar, which she had recently attended. A copy of the report was distributed amongst members and Mrs Botting thanked the Clerk for her hard work in putting it together.

9. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

The Committee considered the following planning application:

DC/06/2143 – Badger’s Croft, Nutbourne Road, Nutbourne, Pulborough

Demolish existing extension & construct a two-storey extension, incorporating garage block. Convert garage to increase annexe accommodation.

NO OBJECTION – Subject to velux windows rather than dormers being installed on the south-east side of the building, to protect the privacy of neighbours.

10. PLANNING APPLICATIONS DECISIONS

The Chairman reported the decisions received and Appeals lodged. It was noted that the applicants for Coppice Hanger were appealing against the decision to refuse planning permission. The Clerk was instructed to write to the Inspectorate with the Committee’s views.

11. ADDITIONAL ITEMS

Pulborough Local Action Team – Traffic Calming

Members were asked to select a sub-committee to discuss the Pulborough LAT traffic calming scheme. It was agreed to put this item on the next agenda.

11.1 Monkey Hill

Mr Denison suggested that a sign stating the footpath was called 'Monkey Hill' should be erected. Members agreed this should go on the next agenda for discussion,

Mr Denison reported that the handrail needed extending and the top of Monkey Hill resurfacing.

11.2 Parking Problems for Residents of Lower Street

A resident of Lower Street with young children was finding it increasingly difficult to park and had approached HDC for a parking permit in the Lower Street car park. Unfortunately, permits are only for businesses and not for residents or the disabled. The resident asked for Council backing to have two tyre rows in her front garden. Whilst sympathetic to her predicament, it was felt this could set a precedent and members agreed a site visit was needed before making any decision, especially as her house was a listed building. This should be raised as an agenda item at the next meeting.

11.3 WSCC Minerals & Waste Development Framework.

Members noted receipt of the document.

11.4 WSCC Statement of Community Involvement – First Review – Submission Stage

Members noted receipt of the document.

12. PAYMENTS

RESOLVED: that the following payments be made and cheques drawn:

Horsham District Council	£396.24
Pulborough Social Centre	£455.70
Ash Reid Design Ltd	£182.13

13. CORRESPONDENCE

Members received the news release – 2Wheels+ - from HDC, concerning short term loans of mopeds for 16 – 19 year olds to help them travel to and from their place of education, training or work. Whilst agreeing it was a good idea, concerns were raised about misuse. The Committee instructed the Clerk to suggest to HDC that the mopeds be distinctive and only to be used for travel as stated.

The Committee noted the contents of another letter from Mr C.R.S. Mills and requested a letter be sent to him re-iterating members 'record their views as to what is best for the village and ideally are not professionals'.

14. URGENT MATTERS RAISED BY COUNCILLORS

Mr Denison advised members that he had received a telephone call from a resident of a neighbouring parish concerning planning application DC/06/2197 – the erection of a 22metre

telecommunications mast. It was agreed that an objection should be sent to planning department at HDC, as it was felt the mast was too high & in an area that was often flooded.

Mrs Lawson reported that the potholes in Stream Lane, Nutbourne were now so bad as to be a cause of concern for cyclists and motorcyclists. The Clerk was also instructed to report that the tarmac on the recently completed drainage trench had dropped.

Mrs Botting advised members that a disabled friend had been unable to climb the steps leading into the car park as the top two steps had only short railings. The Clerk was instructed to contact HDC to request longer railings.

The meeting closed at 9.52 pm

..... Chairman

..... Date