

Parish Council of Waresley-cum-Tetworth

Minutes of a Planning Meeting Thursday 28 July 2020, 8.00pm, Held Via Zoom

Present: Councillors Eleanor Jack, Jonathan Lawton, Richard Jerman & Malcolm Gordon. District Councillor Richard West & Clerk Rod Kerr. Also present: Richard Price (applicant) & Alan and Rona McCormick (neighbour).

1. **Apologies for absence.** Councillor John Archer & County Councillor Julie Wisson
2. **Declaration of disclosable pecuniary interests:** None declared.
3. **Planning Permission Consultation - Highfield Farm Drewels Lane Abbotsley (ref 20/00862/FUL) Proposal: Demolition of 3 No. outbuildings, a change of use and conversion of 6 No. outbuildings and land contained within the red line from agricultural to B1(a) use and the erection of a new replacement building to serve a B1(b)/ B1(c) use and associated landscaping.**

The councillors had studied the detailed plans and Councillors Jack & Gordon had visited the site. It was agreed that the planned developments would improve the site – the buildings to be demolished were an eyesore and the more historic buildings would be restored. There was good access to the Gamlingay – St Neots road and 34 parking spaces will be provided. The only concerns raised had been the increase of traffic to the area and lack of security. Alan McCormick had been worried that cars may be turning in front of his house. Richard Price said these concerns will be taken into consideration and addressed – the farm house on the site will be occupied. Councillor Gordon's only concern was that there could be future retail development on the site – it was pointed out that this would have to be subject to a separate planning permission and was not part of this application. After further discussion, the councillors agreed to APPROVE the application by 4 votes to nil – the reasons given were:

- The site is currently in a poor state, none of the buildings are listed and the proposed renovations will enhance and preserve the historic agricultural buildings.
- The buildings due for demolition are also in a poor state and of no architectural or historical importance.
- The proposals are environmentally friendly.
- The development will enhance the possibility of providing employment in a rural area.

EJ
31/9/2020

4. Update on Jubilee Lamp repairs

A quote from Quince's is still awaited – we already have two quotes received. The Clerk has been looking into grants to cover the costs but at present, there are very few options open to us. The minimum grant available via the Landfill Grant scheme which is being utilised by the Cricket Club & Village Hall is £5000 which exceeds the quotes received so far. It was suggested that we include the Jubilee Lamp as part of a project to repair the stonework on the pumps in the village and a more comprehensive repair to the base of the Lamp. If we were successful, the Parish Council would have to contribute 11% towards the cost. There are concerns over the state of the lettering on the Lamp and that it could deteriorate further if not addressed before the winter. The Clerk will continue to pursue the quotes and enquire about the grant further.

5. Finances

Payments – The following payments were approved –

- i. All Phase Electrical Services install light and defibrillator £155.54;
- ii. E-On Electricity Bill to 30/06/20 - £99.69

Proposed by Cllr Gordon & seconded by Councillor Lawton.

6. AOB

Councillor Archer was thanked for his efforts in obtaining the 40mph buffer Zone and repainting of the white line which has now been carried out.

Councillor Jerman wondered if it was a good idea to keep the Telephone sign on the old phone box to deter thieves taking the defibrillator. He noted that the light is on for 24 hours a day – there have been no complaints about this so far but this may change in the winter when it will be more noticeable.

Councillor Jack will purchase litter pickers and bags – a provisional date for the end of August was suggested to carry out the village litter pick. Councillor Jack will look into this and advise.

Richard Price updated the meeting with a brief summary of his latest contact with East-West Rail – he was thanked for his comments.

7. Date of Next Meeting

The meeting was declared closed at 21.00 and the date of the next meeting remains provisionally set for 3 September 2020.

W Jack
3/9/2020