

LUDDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 22nd MARCH 2016 AT 7.30pm

Present: Councillors Hegarty, Hughes and Jones.

In Attendance: J. Madge (Clerk) County Councillor Horner, District Councillor Barnes, District Councillor Giles and 4 members of the public

Apologies: Councillors Harriott, Beeley and Nutt

1. Public Participation:

There was concern from members of the public regarding the possible link road proposed by Cala Homes as part of the development proposals at Long Marston airfield. DCllr Barnes confirmed that 2 settlements proposed in the Core Strategy – Gaydon/Lighthorne, on green field sites, and the brown field site at Long Marston airfield. These were part of the Inspector's consideration of the Core Strategy and his Report was expected imminently, which will be followed by a short period of further consultation on his recommendations. The Long Marston proposal includes a proposed new road which would start with a new traffic island near the old Shire Horse Centre, leading past the proposed new marina near Seven Meadows Road, over the Greenway and over the River Avon by the Racecourse to join the Evesham Road at the bottom of Bordon Hill where it could connect to the new road proposed for the Shutterly development leading up to the Alcester Road and A46 by the Wildmoor and the proposal for a new industrial estate by the A46. The Clerk confirmed he had tried to contact Cala Homes through their website to invite them to clarify how their proposals would impact residents in the Luddington eastern ward, but had not received any response. DCllr Barnes confirmed the person to contact was Jonathan Thompson (07990 778840).

DCllr Giles confirmed that the road from Bordon Hill to the A46 was approved as part of the Outline Planning Application for 800 homes in Shutterly as a service road to access the development and not as part of a by-pass or ring road for Stratford. The precise details of the road are being considered as part of a Reserved Matters application, but there seems to be some doubt as to who is funding the proposed road. On the other hand Cala Homes have made it clear they agree to fund the proposed new road for the Long Marston Development, and it may be prudent to focus on details of its elevation, noise reduction and how it could affect the residents.

CCllr Horner confirmed that as the proposed new road would be part of a Planning Application or Section 106 provision as part of such an application, it was a matter for the District Council to decide on its route. The County Council is only a consultee in the process, and has to limit its response to items within its remit such as speed limits, technical and engineering aspects. Their response cannot include principles as to whether the road is required or where it should be placed. The County Council is not convinced that a by-pass proposal will assist with the traffic problems in Stratford.

It was suggested that the Parish Council's available actions are to:

- (a) Comment on the Core Strategy recommendations made by the Planning Inspector once his Report has been issued.
- (b) Respond to the Planning Application(s) for Long Marston airfield when they are made
- (c) Seek further clarification from Cala Homes and the County Council.

2. Minutes of the Meeting held on the 23rd February 2016 had been circulated and were approved and signed.
3. Matters Arising:
 - (a) Clerk had investigated title to land at Church Close, which is shown at the Land Registry as being owned by Orbit (Heart of England Housing Association), and the Village Green, which is not registered at the Land Registry. The land to the east of the track at the Village Green, which is not included in the Parish Council's Lease, is also not registered at the Land Registry
 - (b) There had been much appreciation of the work done by Cllr Jones in moving the old benches and refurbishing one of them, and for Cllr Jones, David Heyworth, Mitzi Higgins and John Betts for the work in tidying up areas of land at Church Close and around the Village Green. There was a formal vote of thanks.
4. County Councillor's Report: CCllr Horner sent a written report as follows:
 - (a) The Council met on February 23 to allocate an additional one off £3 million transitional to help cushion the additional £10 million per year savings required by the Autumn settlement. A further £10 per year savings will be required in 2017/18 financial year. £540,000 was put into short term reserves, £500,000 went to adult social care, £300,000 for mental health issues of children and young people, £100,000 for road safety education, £108,000 to support libraries, £42,000 for arson reduction patrols and £300,000 for family support work allied to the County's 0-5 strategy.
 - (b) At the same meeting the Council considered an invitation from West Midlands Combined Authority to join as a Constituent member. This would give Warwickshire the same rights and responsibilities as the other founding metropolitan boroughs, such as Solihull and Coventry. If Warwickshire takes up this offer then it would also mean that Warwickshire comes under the jurisdiction of an elected Metropolitan Mayor and this subservience would extend to the activities of the Districts in Warwickshire as well as the County. The Council decided to commission a business case from officers for joining, or not, within six months at which point it would come back to Council.
 - (c) WCC is recruiting school crossing patrol staff (lollipop ladies and gentlemen) but not in our area. However I have discovered that a Parish Council can pay for a crossing patrol even if the criteria does not justify a WCC funded operation.
 - (d) £500,000 of the £1 million allocated by WCC for grants to small businesses has already been used up. For more information and to check the eligibility of a project please visit: <http://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/businessgrants> or contact Warwickshire County Council's Economy and Skills Group on Tel: 01926 412709.
5. District Councillor's Report: DCllr Barnes reported as follows:
 - (a) As detailed above regards the Core Strategy and the imminent Report from the Planning Inspector.
 - (b) There have been complaints from residents in Weston regarding Sandfields Farm as it appears that new mobile homes are being placed on the site, but that the old ones are not being replaced.

- (c) It is thought that the refusal of Planning Permission for the proposed 10 new homes on Luddington Road might be appealed, but possible that the appeal could be dealt with by an Inquiry rather than by written representations.
- (d) SDC's Chief Executive will be leaving on 24th March having been made redundant. His redundancy package totals £360,000.00.

6. Finance:

- (a) The Community Account stood at £5,631.03.
- (b) The following bills were passed for payment:
 - (i) £156.60 for HCB Solicitors for stationery and postage
 - (ii) £516.25 for Clerk's salary and HMRC for January to March 2016.
 - (iii) The wording and engraving of the inscription for the new bench ordered last month meant that the total bill was £618.36, which was £19.36 more than the cheque previously provided. The cheque was therefore returned and cancelled and a new cheque for £618.36 provided for PJ Bridgman & Co.
- (c) Cllr Hughes had not attended the WALC Annual Briefing Day and therefore the cheque for £50.00 was returned and cancelled.

7. Specific Agenda Items:

- (a) EU Debate – it was agreed to consider arranging a debate for residents to inform them through speakers for “In” and “Out” sides prior to the forthcoming EU Referendum.
- (b) Village Design Statement – the Sub-Committee have produced an initial draft Village Design Statement and are continuing to look closely at current designs and compiling photographs to illustrate them. There will then be a further Open Day to consult on the draft Statement.
- (c) Proposed New Road linking Long Marston developments to Evesham Road – already discussed above. It was agreed to contact Cala Homes after the Inspector's Report is published if this includes recommendations relating to the Long Marston proposals.
- (d) Co-option to fill Vacancy on the Council – Cllrs to consider any suggestions for co-option at the next Meeting.

8. Correspondence:

- (a) DCllr Barnes – Affordable Housing Newsletter
- (b) Ben Twomey – Warwickshire Police & Crime Commissioner candidate
- (c) WCC – Transport and Highways Update Spring 2016
- (d) Alcester Police Safer Neighbourhood Team update.
- (e) WALC – New expenditure limit for Section 137 expenditure for 2016-17 of £7.42 (increase of 0.8%)
- (f) WALC – Audit procedures for 2017-18. Recommendation not to opt out of Smaller Authorities Audit Appointment. This will mean that from 2017-18 a Council with an annual turnover less than £25,000 does not have to have a limited assurance audit unless the Council voluntarily calls for one if there is a concern about their Accounts for a particular year, but simply needs to send an exemption certificate.

9. Planning:

- (a) Nicolas (16/00638/FUL) – 105 Luddington Road Stratford on Avon: proposed replacement conservatory to rear. No comment.
- (b) Betts (16/00722/LBC) – Arthurs Seat 194 Luddington Road: Proposed replacement of 4 windows. It was agreed to support the application.
- (c) Heyworth (16/00669/TREE) – 204-205 Luddington: Fell 5 conifers and reduce height of 4 conifers by 1.00m. No comment.
- (d) Cayzer (16/00658/TREE) – Boddington Farm Luddington: Fell various (8) trees and reduce height of various (3) trees. It was agreed that Cllrs Hegarty and Hughes would visit the site in order to formulate the Council's response.
- (e) Cayzer (16/00840/TREE) – Land south of Boddington Farm Luddington: Thin crown of willow by 30% and repollard willows back to previous pollard points. No objection.

10. Business for Future Consideration:

- (a) Co-option to fill Vacancy on the Council

Next Meeting scheduled for Tuesday 19th April 2016 at 7.00pm followed by the Annual Parish Meeting

Meeting closed at 9.46pm.