



Aldworth Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Planning Meeting

Wednesday 16th June 2021 at 7pm at the Four Points Inn (Village Hall unavailable)

Minute ref: 002/160621/PCPM

Members Present: Cllr. Tim Chapman, Cllr. Donna Roach, Cllr. John Clark
Cllr. Nick Williams

Members Absent: Cllr. Kate Walters

Officers Present: Mrs Fenella Woods (Clerk & RFO)

In Attendance: 2 x Members of Public

Meeting Start Time: 19.02pm

Meeting End Time: 20.06pm

- 028/21 Cllr. Chapman welcomed all to the meeting. Apologies were **received** and **accepted** from Cllr. Walters and quorum was achieved.
- 029/21 Cllr. Williams **declared** an interest regarding planning application ref: 21/01464/HOUSE.
- 030/21 No comments were received from the members of public present. Cllr. Williams informed those present that he lived next door to the applicants who have entered planning application ref: 21/01464/HOUSE. Concerns were raised over the physical aspects of the proposed works as the two houses were attached to each other and the implications of any damage made to his property during the work. Also, the disruption during construction was a concern due to noise during the day, limited space in the surrounding area and access for construction vehicles. Cllr. Williams **agreed** to leave the meeting briefly when voting commenced.
- 031/21 The minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council on 5th May 2021 were **approved** as a true and accurate record.
- 032/21 The clerk advised that she had been unable to reach the Village Hall booking team to schedule in the meetings. Cllr. Williams **advised** he will speak to those concerned and help make contact. It is hoped all future meetings will be back in the village hall.
- 033/21 Planning Application ref: 21/00455/PACOU was **discussed** and the plans were reviewed along with the explanatory notes of Class 0 sent in by WBC. It was **agreed** that as there were no external structural changes apparent on the plans there were

no objections at this point. However, it was **agreed** by all present that it was important to understand the purpose of this change of use and the reasons behind it. E.g., would this just be an extension to living space for the current residents of the part of the block that is already lived in? Would this be an entirely new dwelling? Would this be rented out or become a holiday let? All were **in favour** to inform WBC that although we have no objection at present, we would need to reconvene and discuss the plans in more detail when we have a clearer understanding of the purpose. The clerk will send the Parish Observation Sheet back to the Planning Team with these comments.

034/21

Planning Application ref: 21/01464/HOUSE was **discussed** and the applicant joined us to answer any questions. Cllr. Williams left the meeting during this item. After reviewing the existing plans and the proposed plans the following concerns were raised:

- The incorrect house name had been published on the planning application. It should read 'The Old School', rather than 'The Old School House' which is the adjacent property.
- The house has a place in history within the village of Aldworth (The Old School), circa 1800 and situated in a conservation area.
- Concerns were raised over the impact of light on the neighbouring property with the new extension.
- The building work would impact a party wall between two properties; given the age and historic features of these properties, concerns were raised that problems could occur and damage both properties.
- Logistics – the house is situated on a triangle with small narrow roads around all three sides. Concerns were raised over the impact this would have on traffic flowing through the village, the impact on business at The Bell Inn and both emergency services and farming vehicles with restricted access due to blockage of roads with machinery and builders.
- Drains – since drainage runs underneath the Old School from Ambury Road, the additional bathroom would put extra pressure on the drains, potentially impacting other properties in the immediate area.
- Vibrations – the neighbouring property is attached to the Old School. Vibrations from the building work and noise in general in a rural area would be detrimental to the welfare of the neighbouring properties.

Two councillors objected to the plans. One councillor had no objection which was caveated with concerns that traffic and disruption to neighbours needed to be taken into consideration. Cllr. Williams was not part of the voting. It was agreed to submit our objection using the above bullet points as reasons. The clerk will submit the Parish Observation Sheet to the Planning Team at WBC.

035/21

Cllr. Williams re-joined the meeting. A quotation has been received to clean, strip, repaint and clear the vegetation on the 2 white village gateways for £750.00. The council felt this was **overpriced** and requested that further quotations be sourced. Cllr. Roach has previously had a conversation with Chris Vidler at WBC and would re-engage to find out their costs. This will be **discussed** further at the meeting in July. There were no further questions or comments from members of the public present.

036/21

All councillors present **resolved** to move the meeting into a private session to continue confidential business. Therefore, all members of the public and press were excluded for the remainder of the meeting under section 1, paragraph 2 of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960.

This concludes the public minutes for this meeting. The items discussed during the confidential section will be recorded in confidential minutes but not available to the public. The Chairman thanked those present for attending.

Signed:

Position:

Date:

Actions from the Meeting:			
	Description	Assigned to	Completed
1	Make contact with Aldworth Village Hall for meeting booking	NW / Clerk	
2	Submit the Parish Observation Sheet for 21/00455/PACOU	Clerk	✓
3	Submit the Parish Observation Sheet for 21/01464/HOUSE	Clerk	✓
4	Seek alternative quotations for the maintenance of the village signs	DR / Clerk	