

HEMPNALL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 11th June 2013 at 7:30pm in The Mill Centre

ACTION

Present

Chairman Mr Geoffrey Moulton Mr David Hook, Mrs Debbie Ashford, Mr Mike Turner, Mr Peter Workman and the Clerk Mr Ian Nelson.

Members of the public present

County Councillor Alison Thomas.

Apologies

Apologies were received from, District Councillor Windridge, Mrs Liz Allen and Mr Pointer.

Declarations of Interest

Mr Moulton declared an interest in the wind turbine matter.

Minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes of the meeting on 21st May 2013 were approved and signed.

Public Participation

Mrs Thomas apologised for not being able to attend the July parish council meeting. She was pleased that the parish council's application for funding of the highway improvements around the school had been successful.

The Kings Lynn waste incinerator project remains under consideration.

Mrs Thomas is now the Shadow Cabinet Member for Public Health and Public Protection.

Mr Moulton said that the crossroads of the A140/B1527 and the Long Stratton bypass seemed to be linked to the 1,800 new homes in Long Stratton. Mrs Thomas stated that they are independent schemes and she hoped that the crossroads would be dealt with much sooner than the bypass.

Mr Hook asked Mrs Thomas to assist with the biodiversity issue re the Wind Turbine application. He stated that Biodiversity offsetting was being advocated by Nick Bolton but this could not apply as bats are a protected species. Unfortunately Mr Bolton seemed not to be taking this point on board. The clerk to send Mrs Thomas a copy of our comments to Mr Bolton and she will support the point.

IN

Mr Hook took the chair.

Wind Turbines - Application 2013/0105

Letter of thanks

The clerk had sent a letter of thanks to Bill Blackledge of 2B Landscape Consultancy Ltd.

Wind Turbine Biodiversity Offsetting

The clerk and Mr Hook had written a letter to the case officer and to Mr Bolton pointing out the errors and stating DEFRA's view.

Bats

Mr Vine had supplied his response.

General Update

The clerk and Mr Hook had responded to TCI's response of May 2013. Mr Hook and the Clerk were thanked for all their work on this matter.

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There was an announcement in Parliament on 6th June about changes to planning law which will ensure local residents affected by wind farm proposals will actually have a proper say in whether wind turbines are sited in, or near, their communities.

In essence, new planning guidance (expected in July) supporting the planning framework from DCLG will make clear that the need for renewable energy does not automatically override environmental protections and the planning concerns of local communities. It will also give greater weight to landscape and visual impact concerns.

Mr Workman proposed, Mrs Ashford seconded and it was unanimously agreed that the clerk, assisted by Mr Hook, should write to Richard Bacon MP to confirm details of the guidelines and which applications they apply to. A letter is also to write to Mr Windridge to ask him to support the weight being given to this matter and to Gary Hancox to make him aware of these issues. The letter to be circulated to councillors prior to submission.

IN/DH

Mr Moulton re-took the chair.

Planning Applications

New applications since the last meeting:

Mr P Ellis, Land West Of Queens Head Mill Road Hempnall Norfolk – Partial demolition, alterations and extensions, erection of garage and ancillary works. It was agreed to reiterate approval subject to the concerns re the trees subject to the tree preservation orders.

IN

Mr M Rudling, Meadow Farm Silver Green Hempnall Norfolk NR15 2NL - Proposed detached car port, wood store and play room – Recommended approval.

IN

Applications approved since the last meeting:

Mr M Burroughs, Mon Abri Field Lane Hempnall Norfolk NR15 2QZ - Amendment to approved scheme of planning application 2012/2304/H to insert a side facing window to the WC compartment.

Response re. The South Norfolk Plan, Development Management Policies, Development Plan Document, Preferred Options (Regulation 18) Consultation.

The clerk had emailed the response to SNC. The clerk to chase up a response to the letter of 18 May 2013.

IN

A140/B1527 Cross Roads

There was concern that there were no changes shown as part of the Long Stratton bypass plans to the A140/B1527 cross roads as the bypass ended closer to Long Stratton. It was noted that this junction would be even more dangerous with the increased housing in Long Stratton. Please see comments above under public participation. Mr Workman proposed, Mrs Ashford seconded and it was unanimously agreed that the clerk write to Highways highlighting the concerns and asking for the roundabout to be included in the NCC works programme as soon as possible.

IN

Planning Policies

The clerk had finalised the policy schedule.

White Lodge – Topcroft Parish Council

The clerk write a general letter of support to Topcroft PC and copy Murray Gray.

Long Stratton Area Action Plan - Preferred Options Consultation

Mr Hook proposed, Mr Moulton seconded and it was unanimously agreed that the clerk write to SNC reiterating to the effect of the proposal on Hempnall.

IN

Items for next agenda

Parking Old Market Way – DA

IN

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Date of next meeting

The Parish Council main meeting will take place at 7.30pm on 16th July 2013.

There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 8:59pm.

Signed _____ Date 16th July 2013