



Stratfield Mortimer Parish Council

Minutes of the Planning Committee Meeting held online on Thursday, 23rd June 2022 @ 7.30pm

Present:

Councillors:

Cllr. D. Morsley (Chairman), Cllr. M. Dennett, Cllr. C. Lewis, Cllr. M. Lock, Cllr. A. Marsden, Cllr. J. Wells and Mr. N. Kiley (co-opted)

For the Clerk:

B. O'Reilly

Public/Press:

There were five members of the public in attendance.

Part I

22/0035 Public Session (for agenda items only)

Members of the public were present to state some of their arguments on the access and amenity issues related to the appeal lodged against the refusal of planning application 21/00563/FULD. The Chairman invited the public to stay and listen to the Committee's discussion on the matter under item 22/0041.

The residents were advised to submit their specific comments on the applicant's appeal documents to the Planning Inspectorate in writing. The issues they raised in relation to the proposed development could then be considered by the Planning Inspector alongside comments submitted by the Stratfield Mortimer Parish Council from this meeting.

22/0036 Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllr. N. Carter and Cllr. S. Hill.

22/0037 To receive any declarations of interest

None.

22/0038 Minutes of Last Meeting

The Minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on 9th June 2022 were received and APPROVED for signature by the Chairman as a true record of the meeting.

Comments Cllr. Carter had proposed to the minutes were considered but not included in the approved minutes.

Cllr. Lock gave apologies and advised the Committee that due to a misunderstanding she had not attended the meeting on 9th June.

22/0039 Items to be taken into private session

None.

22/0040 Current Projects

To receive any updates on current projects and consider any recommendations for resolution as reported:

a. Tower House Farm (previously referred to as MOR006: Land south of Tower Gardens) Planning Application

An update would be considered under item 22/0041 below.

b. Tower House Farm (previously referred to as MOR006: Land south of Tower Gardens) Biodiversity and Green Space

There was no update to report.

c. Mortimer Station Car Park

Cllr. Morsley confirmed that data collected from the car parking count for evidence of use had now been submitted to Mr. Edward Goose at Great Western Railway but that he was currently away from the office.

Mr. N. Kiley advised that, as Mr. Goose had indicated he wanted to meet with him, he would follow up and schedule a meeting and include at least one Councillor from this Committee.

A fifth member of the public arrived at the meeting.

22/0041 Schedule of Planning Applications

The following planning applications were considered for comment:

APP/W0340/W/22/3293964: Land at 72 Windmill Road, Mortimer Common, Reading

Appeal relating to refusal of planning application 21/00563/FULD: Proposed new dwelling.

Cllr. Morsley stated that the parish council supported West Berkshire Council's decision and outlined a summary of the history of planning application 21/00563/FULD. The Committee reviewed the issue of the sub-standard access to the proposed site and the loss of amenity to neighbouring properties as raised by members of the public present at the meeting and by the West Berkshire Council's Planning Officer in their decision report of October 2021.

Cllr. Morsley proposed that, as the Chairman of the Committee, she would review the parish council's response from the notes discussed and, with the Clerk, finalise them for submission to the Planning Inspector.

Seconded by Cllr. Dennett
AGREED unanimously

SMPC Comment: (see appendix attached).

22/01422/RESMAJ: Land South of Tower Gardens, The Street, Mortimer Common, Reading

Approval of reserved matters following Outline Permission 19/00981/OUTMAJ [Section 73: Variation of condition 6-approved plans of approved application 17/03004/OUTMAJ: Matters seeking consent: Appearance, Landscaping and scale (Phase 2b).

SMPC Comment: The Committee had no objections in principal but, with regard to the proposed composite timber garages on plots 51 and 58, would want a condition imposed that the home office spaces, as shown on drawing 21-1009-130-A, shall not be used at any time other than for purposes incidental to the residential use of the dwellings known as Plot 51 and 58.

22/0030 West Berkshire Minerals and Waste Local Plan

Cllr. Dennett advised that, after reviewing the West Berkshire's Proposed Main Modifications to the Minerals and Waste Local Plan as agreed at the last meeting, he recommended that due to lack of relevant expertise, the Committee was not in a qualified position to comment on the legal compliance of the main modifications.

The Committee unanimously agreed with this decision and no comments would be submitted to West Berkshire Council.

22/0031 Items for information only

a. Minor matters for information.

The new barber signage at the arcade of shops on West End Road has raised enquiries from residents but it was considered that the shop signage was within the guidelines under Class 5. It was noted that should the sign be illuminated, this would then require planning permission. Cllr. Morsley advised that she had approached West Berkshire Council for clarification on the signage and was awaiting a response.

Cllr. Morsley advised that several members of the public had contacted her in relation to their opposition to the proposed solar farm in the adjacent parish at Bloomfield Hatch Farm (22/01330/REG3: Land North of Bloomfield Hatch Farm). They were advised to contact Wokefield Parish Council who, it was understood, have not yet submitted their response to West Berkshire Council.

22/0032 Communications

None.

22/0033 Future Agenda Items

None.

22/0034 Exclusion of Press and Public

Not required.

Close

The meeting closed at 8.40pm.