

WALTHAM ST LAWRENCE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of Waltham St Lawrence Parish Council on Tuesday 8 January 2013 in the Neville Hall at 7.00pm

Present: Clive Scott-Hopkins - (Chairman)
Katie Sarsfield
Stuart Craig
Jenny Baish
Martin Hayes
Sandy Quinn
Sally Burtenshaw - (Clerk)

In attendance: 87 members of the public, Simon Hurrell Head of Planning & Property Services from RBWM, Borough Councillors Maureen Hunt & Carwyn Cox were all in attendance

ACTION

Public Question Time:

- Mrs Smith from Neville Close asked the Parish Council what could be done about residents of the Parish letting their dogs foul in the Halls Lane Burial Ground and not picking it up. Sandy Quinn advised that the path through this area is not a designated footpath so dog owners should not really be walking through. It may be necessary to ban dogs from the area completely.

1. Apologies:
Received from the Vice Chairman
2. Minutes:
The minutes of a meeting held on 4 December 2012 were approved by the Council and signed by the Chairman
3. Matters Arising from the Minutes:
There were no matters arising
4. Travellers update:
Two planning applications had been received for Five Oaks Farm. Simon Hurrell addressed the audience and advised of the RBWM's stance on the sensitivity of this issue. He advised that the RBWM have the power not to determine these applications. The unauthorised travellers still need to leave the site as of 11 February as instructed by the Secretary of State.. He advised of the alternative sites that the travellers could be moved to :
 - Datchet Mill Place – currently has 16 pitches there is local opposition against extending the site. An e petition currently has 625 opposing and 250 supporting
 - Pool Lane – this site has been withdrawn
 - Horton – this site has also been withdrawn
 - Private site in Horton – it is a matter for the landowner as to whether this site is feasible

Mrs Eastwood one of the applicants advised that her daughter goes to the local school and her mother relies on the Twyford surgery backup for her treatment and care

Several residents asked Simon Hurrell questions – David Crawley-Boevey asked if the current planning applications were either refused or not determined by 11 February what would happen if the applications went to Appeal. The Enforcement action should prevail. Another resident asked if the unauthorised travellers are paying Council Tax and paying for school dinners, the applicant Mrs Eastwood said that her family were.

A representative of Radius advised that they would be happy to help residents questions for written responses to RBWM

5a **Planning Applications:**

12/03428/ & 12/03541: Five Oaks Farm, Waltham St Lawrence

The Parish Council objected to these two applications:

these 'change of use' applications which are retrospective do not change the situation which exists, namely that the Appeal against enforcement action failed in the Secretary of State's decision in August 2011 on harm to the Green Belt occasioned by 'visual intrusion', 'loss of openness', 'encroachment into the countryside' and 'clear conflict with guidance on flood risk'. Further, 'that very special circumstances do not exist to justify development in the Green Belt even for a limited period of time'. This is supported by 'Planning Policy for Traveller Sites' published in March 2012 to be read in conjunction with the NPPF ('as with previous Green Belt policy, inappropriate development is, by definition, harmful and should not be approved'). Accordingly, these similar situation applications should be rejected by the Borough

It should be noted that the scale proposed of 17 caravans and 17 vehicles already exceeds what currently exists on the site

12/03246: Great Martins, Shurlock Row

The Parish Council had no objection providing that the applicant is prepared to sign a legal agreement that the stables will be removed at the end of each 6 month period and completely at the end of 2 years not 3 in order to protect the openness of the Green Belt. Also we are not satisfied that the bund extensions have the benefit of planning permission

12/03215 Long Stuart, Shurlock Row (Amended Plans)

The Parish Council had no objection to the amended plans but would prefer the field to retain agricultural status for grazing failing which removal of PDR

12/03370: Long Stuart, Shurlock Row

The Parish Council supported this application

12/03531: Land east of Shurlock Road, Waltham St Lawrence

The Parish Council supported this application

12/03318: Runabouts Ltd, Broadmoor Road, Waltham St Lawrence

The Parish Council object to the removal of Condition 1 to protect the amenity of the immediate neighbour

(J-U)

12/03302: Kentwood House, Waltham St Lawrence
All the Parish Councillors declared an Interest as the applicant is a Parish Councillor

12/03503: Milley Road Bridge, Waltham St Lawrence
The Parish Council had no objection

5b Trees in a Conservation Area:
No applications received

5c Plans that have arrived within the last couple of days:
None received

5d. District Planning Agenda/Other Planning matters
12/03331: Certificate of Lawfulness received for 4 Orchard Cottages,
Waltham St Lawrence – the Parish Councillors made no comment

5e. Enforcement Notices & Appeals:
The Chairman advised that the appeal decision for Beenhams Farm
has not been received yet and the Inspector site visit had only just
taken place

6 Neighbourhood Plan update:
The Chairman advised that he and the Vice Chairman continue to
regularly attend the relevant committees

7 Reports from Representatives:

- Katie Sarsfield advised the Christmas tree lights have not worked well since they were put up, they keep shorting. The lights will be taken down and returned to the place of purchase for a refund and a new set will be purchased and erected
- A discussion was held in relation to dog fouling. It was agreed that the owners of the witnessed offenders should be spoken to.
- Martin Hayes advised that some deep potholes had been filled in recently but only patched so it is feared will not last long.
- Stuart Craig advised that the Parish had not been successful in securing £2,000 but had due to help from Cllr Hunt received £750 which will be used to pay for ditch clearance. It is understood that Mark Pottinger had now purchased the machine, but estimate of cost of use needs to be obtained

KATIE SARSFIELD

CHAIRMAN

STUART CRAIG

8 Date of Next Site Visits:
Saturday 2 February at 9.30am

9 Finance:

- The cheques issued in December 2012 were agreed and signed by the Chairman
- The Clerk asked the Parish Councillors if they required a dispensation regarding their disclosable pecuniary interest in relation to the precept. They all affirmed this and the Clerk granted this for 4 years. Discussions were held about setting the Precept figure for 2012/2013. The Councillors unanimously agreed that this

would remain at the same level as the previous year £14,000. The Clerk will complete the necessary forms and send them into RBWM.

CLERK

- It was agreed that Barrie Dancer would prepare the Parish accounts for the Internal Audit

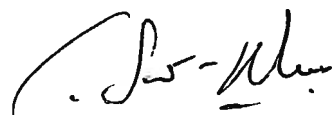
10. Correspondence:
Nothing received

11. A.O.B.
Martin Hayes had been approached by Alistair Brooker about the messy triangle at the top of Halls Lane. Alistair Brooker will sound out the local residents to see if they would like it removed or reinstated

MARTIN HAYES

12. Next meeting: 5 February 2013 at 7.00pm in the Neville Hall

The meeting closed at 22.10 & the Confidential meeting commenced



J-2-13.