

POLSTEAD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held on Thursday 15th July 2010 in Polstead Village Hall

Present: Cllrs Nick Brandt (Chairman), Michael Hackford, Richard Kilshaw and Theresa Ravensdale.

Attending: Dave Crimmin (Clerk), Sue Wigglesworth (Babergh District Councillor), David Yorke-Edwards (Suffolk County Councillor) and one resident.

10/118 Apologies for Absence

Apologies received from Cllrs Baxter, Flather and MacWilson.

10/119 Declaration of Interests

None were declared.

10/120 Minutes of Meeting held on 17th July 2010

The minutes of the meeting were approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

10/121 Reports from County and District Councillors and Suffolk Constabulary

The reports are contained in Appendix A.

10/122 Reports and Question from Councillors

- a. Cllr Kilshaw reported that Suffolk County Council (SCC) were unable to install the recycled gate on the playing field. They have cancelled the invoice and as a good will gesture given PPC the gate to see if it can be used in anyway. The Chairman agreed Cllr Kilshaw's request to notify contractors on clear the gully by the pond after maintenance. The councillors resolved that Cllr Kilshaw's suggestion that the pond railings required a second coat of paint should progress as soon as practicable. **Public Health Act 1936 s 260**
- b. Cllr Ravensdale reported that the Rockalls Road street sign by the Cock Inn had become loose. Clerk to inform Babergh District Council (BDC).

10/123 Reports and Questions from Parishioners

The reports are contained in Appendix A.

10/124 Planning

- a. The councillors reviewed Planning Application **B/10/00563 Hollingside, Stackwood Road** for the erection of one-and-a-half storey detached dwelling and detached double garage (following demolition of existing detached bungalow). After comparing the application with the one submitted previously the councillors resolved to object to the application as there seemed to be very little difference in the proposed dwellings and the previous objections still stood which were:
 - BDC's Local Plan policies are contravened by this proposal
 - the proposal appears to be an over-development of the site
 - the scale of the proposed dwelling and garage, especially in height
 - the applicant has not consulted with the closest neighbour on the development as, in the councillors opinion, this may have overcome some of the neighbour's issues with the proposal.Should permission be granted for this application the councillors would ask that a condition be made for a bat survey to be conducted ahead of demolishing the existing dwelling.
- b. The councillors reviewed Planning Application **B/10/00593 Boxford (Suffolk) Farms, Hill Farm, Brick Kiln Hill, Boxford (Adjoining Parish)** for the permanent erection of poly tunnels for horticultural use up to 9 hectares. After reviewing an article from the Observer newspaper on 4th July 2010 the councillors concluded that the clear implication is that, in some circumstances at least, a Local Planning Authority may need to carry out a balancing exercise between the needs of agriculture and the effect on the environment. The councillors resolved to object strongly to the application and wished to know whether:
 - BDC feel the necessity for an Environmental Impact Assessment for this application

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- such a report either has been or will be commissioned
- we may see the content of such report.

The councillors concluded that in any event they had great reservations in relation to an application aimed at growing a crop which can only be grown on this scale in a wholly artificial environment. Should permission be granted for this application the councillors would ask that a condition be made for screening by hedge and trees.

- c. The councillors reviewed Planning Application **B/10/00652 Mallards, Martens Lane** for the erection of dwelling (to replace existing). Having resolved that they had no objections to the application the councillors are concerned to the reference made to a future application being made for gates as the council will have objections to this proposal if the gates are large. The councillors also recommend that a bat survey should be conducted ahead of demolishing the existing dwelling.
- d. A further planning application had been received by the council after the agenda was posted. The councillors reviewed Planning Application **B/10/00798 Woodfield, Stackwood Road** for the insertion of 2 No. Roof lights to side elevation (to facilitate conversion of loft into additional living accommodation) and resolved they had no objections.
- e. The status of previous applications reviewed by PPC, is as follows:

| Application Reference | Address | Planning Details | PPC Minute | Parish Council Comments | Babergh DC Comments |
|----------------------------|--|---|----------------------|---|--|
| APP/D3505/A/09/2115876/NWF | Darcy Cottage Rockalls Road Polstead | Appeal against refusal of B/09/00567/FUL | 09/029 b | No further comments but requested copy of decision. | On appeal, the Planning Inspectorate has granted permission. |
| | Sprott's Farm Holt Road Polstead | Proposed diversion of sections of Footpath 8 and 32. | 10/049 a 10/109 c | Agreed with second proposal | |
| APP/D3505/A/10/2124559/WF | Brendacot Heath Road Polstead | Appeal against refusal of B/09/01506/FUL | 10/067 a | No further comments but requested copy of decision. | |
| B/10/00277/FUL | Bower House Farm Bower House Tye Polstead | Erection of extension to existing cattle shed. | 10/067 b | No objections | Permission Granted 22/06/2010 |
| B/10/00464/FHA | Polstead Mill Mill Lane Polstead | Erection of greenhouse and kitchen garden. | 10/089 a | No objections | Permission Granted 14/06/2010 |
| B/10/00328/FUL | Part side garden of Rushbeck White Street Green Polstead | Erection of single-storey dwelling with detached garage. Erection of cartlodge to Rushbeck. Alterations to existing vehicle access. | 10/089 b | Objected to application. | Application Withdrawn |
| B/10/00508/FUL | Land north of Spring Hill Rockalls Road Polstead | Erection of agricultural building for storage of animal feed and machinery. | 10/089 c | No objections | Permission Granted 16/06/2010 |
| B/10/00562/FHA | Justice Wood Barn Kersey Road Polstead | Extension to Justice Wood Barn to form single storey annex accommodation. | 10/107 a | No objections | Permission Granted 01/07/2010 |

10/125 Finance

- a. All cheques signed and due for signing, as itemised in Appendix B, were authorised by the councillors. The councillors also noted the income received since the last meeting and reviewed the Statement of Accounts against the budget and the Bank Statements against the reconciliation.
- b. The councillors resolved to make a donation of £73 to Hadleigh Fishing Club (HFC) with regard to junior members living in the village. The Clerk to confirm with the HFC how many junior members living in the village have membership in 2010. The Chairman will place an article in the newsletter inviting any juniors wanting to join the HFC to contact the Clerk.

10/126 Highways and Footpaths

- a. Footpath 35 has now been cleared overhead.
- b. Carse pond to be cut back but avoiding plants that need to be given a chance to grow.
- c. The councillors authorised the Clerk to raise an invoice on SCC now that all the footpaths had received the first cut.

10/127 Hog Roast

All aspects of the plans for the Hog Roast were on target. The councillors agreed that the Temporary Event Licence should now be sent to BDC and the Police. The Clerk to prepare a leaflet for the Hog Roast for the informal meeting on 29th July 2010 at 7.30pm.

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10/128 Correspondence Received (Appendix C)

There were no further actions required after reviewing the correspondence.

10/129 Chairman and Clerk's Reports (Appendix D)

The Chairman updated councillors that Polstead finished 5th of the 6 entrants in BDC's Village of the Year competition. He will now consult with BDC to see in what areas Polstead needs to improve in order to be more competitive next time. Following a review of the Clerk's Report the councillors noted that the Clerk has now also taken up a similar role with Great Waldingfield Parish Council. The Chairman and Clerk will also review the condition of PPC's wooden assets and report back to the next meeting. The councillors noted PPC's obligations and duties under the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 as outlined in the Clerk's Report.

10/130 Future Agenda Items

- Hog Roast until further notice
- Carols on the Green
- Update from the working group looking at options for the bus shelter on the Village Hall site.

10/131 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be on the Thursday 16th September 2010 in Polstead Village Hall starting at 7.45pm.

The meeting closed at 9.58pm.

Appendix A County, District and Suffolk Constabulary reports and Public Forum

PCSO Amanda Coleman reported that there had been no crimes reported in Polstead since the 17th June. It was felt that all crimes, no matter how small, should be reported to the Police as it helps them to identify trends across the district. David Yorke-Edwards updated the meeting that everyone at SCC is busy with the financial targets being set by the new government. He also updated councillors on the Locality Budget. Sue Wigglesworth outlined her attendance at the Local Government Annual Conference and the plans for the new Localism Bill to come into force in December 2010. She also outlined two consultations that BDC were about to undertake, over the holiday period, with regard to the Local Development Framework and the BDC / Mid Suffolk merger. Resident issues relating to the Hollingside planning application were also discussed.