

Minutes of the **PLANNING COMMITTEE** meeting held at
Groombridge Village Hall, Station Road, Groombridge on
Wednesday 2nd June at 7.00pm

PRESENT: Cllrs Andrew Fane, Robert Gordon-James, Diana Kelly,
Chris Pope, Marcus Tarling (Chair).

In attendance: Debbie Siddle –Clerk (Minutes)

Members of the public are encouraged to come to the meetings and there is a 10 minute opportunity at the start of the meeting for them to address the Planning Committee. There were no members of the public in attendance.

1. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

002094 RESOLVED unanimously to elect Cllr Marcus Tarling as Chairman of the Planning Committee.

2. ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN

002095 RESOLVED unanimously to elect Cllr Jill Pardey as Vice Chairman of the Planning Committee.

3. ENQUIRE WHETHER ANYONE PRESENT INTENDS TO FILM, PHOTOGRAPH AND/OR RECORD THE MEETING: No

4. APOLOGIES – Cllr Jill Pardey

5. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST - None

6. MINUTES

6.1 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 19th May 2021

002096 RESOLVED that the notes of the meeting held on 19th May 2021 be taken as read and signed by the Chairman

6.2 MATTERS OUTSTANDING FROM THESE MINUTES:

It was noted that since the last meeting two neighbouring residents of application WD/2021/0922/F 30 Orchard Rise had written to Withyham Parish Council with objections to the application. A question regarding the siting of the Planning Notice was also raised with Wealden District Council by the Assistant Clerk who confirmed that the site notice was not in place prior to the meeting where the application was discussed. The Assistant Clerk will write to Wealden District Council on the matter.

7. ENFORCEMENT

A LDE is expected to be submitted relating to activity on Gillridge Lane.

8. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

COMMENTS TO BE RETURNED TO WEALDEN DISTRICT COUNCIL

- 8.1 **WD/2021/0873/FR** 46 BALLS GREEN, WITHYHAM, TN7 4BU Description: RETROSPECTIVE ERECTION OF A UPVC DOUBLE GLAZED SINGLE STOREY CONSERVATORY ON BRICK PLINTH WALL. (Expiry date for comments: 8th June 2021)

Link to documents on web:

<http://planning.wealden.gov.uk/plandisp.aspx?recno=153560>

The Committee queried what has prompted this retrospective application and noted that it must have had an adverse effect on neighbours as windows are overlooking. Committee members were also concerned about quality, aesthetics, design and safety aspects, for example there being no step out of a door. It was believed unlikely that it is compliant with Building Regulations.

Withyham Parish Council objects to this application.

- 8.2 **WD/2021/0942/F** TAKSEN, WITHYHAM ROAD, GROOMBRIDGE, TN3 9QT Description: DEMOLITION OF A CONSERVATORY AND GARAGE AND CONSTRUCTION OF A SINGLE STOREY REAR EXTENSION, GARDEN STUDIO, GYM AND CAR PORT (Expiry date for comments: 4th June 2021)

Link to documents on web:

<http://planning.wealden.gov.uk/plandisp.aspx?recno=153653>

Whilst the plans were found to be unclear the Committee felt that the proposal is in keeping with the property and parts may be an improvement on the existing. It was noted that there are no neighbour comments.

Withyham Parish Council supports this application subject to the notice having been displayed and there being no subsequent neighbour objections.

- 8.3 **WD/2021/1247/OH** KOVACS LODGE, WITHYHAM, TN7 4BB Description: TO INSTALL NEW POLES AND AN ADDITIONAL WIRE TO THE HIGH VOLTAGE OVERHEAD ELECTRICITY NETWORK FROM TWO CURRENTLY TO THREE. TO INSTALL A NEW HIGH VOLTAGE POLE AND TWO SUPPORT STAY WIRES WITH THE INSTALLATION OF A 100KVA POLE MOUNTED TRANSFORMER. (Expiry date for comments: 3rd June 2021)

Link to documents on web:

<http://planning.wealden.gov.uk/plandisp.aspx?recno=154036>

The Committee was unclear why this application is back on the agenda. It remains unclear why an additional power supply is required.

Withyham Parish Council objects to this application in its present form.

9. APPLICATIONS RECEIVED AFTER AGENDA - None

002097 RESOLVED that the observations on the planning issues detailed in these minutes be submitted to the Planning Authority.

10. PLANNING DECISIONS

APPROVED

WD/2021/0316/F ERECTION OF A TIMBER DOUBLE GARAGE
CLAYLANDS, CORSELEY ROAD, GROOMBRIDGE, TN3 9PN - noted

WD/2020/2586/F ERECTION OF TWO STOREY EXTENSION OPENING UP GROUND FLOOR OPENING LIVING WITH UTILITY ROOM. EXTRA BEDROOM WITH EN-SUITE AND TWO DORMER WINDOWS TO THE FRONT OF THE HOUSE. AUGUST COTTAGE, LONDON ROAD, CROWBOROUGH, TN6 1TD - noted

REFUSED

WD/2021/0122/LB REPLACEMENT OF EXISTING PORCH CORSELEY FARM, CORSELEY ROAD, GROOMBRIDGE, TN3 9SF - noted

WD/2021/0121/F REPLACEMENT OF EXISTING PORCH CORSELEY FARM, CORSELEY ROAD, GROOMBRIDGE, TN3 9SF - noted

11. MATTERS OF URGENT IMPORTANCE FOR NOTING OR INCLUSION ON A FUTURE AGENDA

The Policy on Preapplication Engagement will be added to the next agenda as the Assistant Clerk was unable to attend this meeting and her input was required to facilitate any questions.

Cllr Tarling notified the meeting that he had attended informal site visits at Back Lane with District Cllr Obbard, the developers and 6 residents, and that an application should be expected within 4 to 6 weeks. He advised other members of the Committee should become acquainted with the topography and has begun investigating the status of Back Lane. The Clerk and other Councillors questioned whether the meetings should have taken place as, although the nuances of the Policy on Preapplication Engagement have yet to be finalised, the guidance within the Policy should have been followed as per advice given by the Assistant Clerk.

12. DATE OF MEETING - to note that the date of the next meeting is on Wednesday 16th June 2021 at 7.00pm to be held at Groombridge Village Hall, unless otherwise notified by the agenda.

Meeting closed at 7.35 pm