

Minutes of the **PLANNING COMMITTEE** meeting held at  
The Parish Office, Station Road, Groombridge on **Monday 28<sup>th</sup> March** at 7.00pm

**PRESENT:** Cllrs Andrew Fane, Robert Gordon-James, Diana Kelly,  
Jennie Paulson Ellis, and Marcus Tarling (Chair)

**In attendance:** Natalie Brett – Assistant Clerk (Minutes)

Members of the public are encouraged to attend 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. ENQUIRE WHETHER ANYONE PRESENT INTENDS TO FILM, PHOTOGRAPH AND/OR RECORD THE MEETING - No**

**2. APOLOGIES** – Cllr Gaukroger, Pope and Pardey.

**3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** – None

**4. MINUTES**

**4.1 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 14<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2022**

**002224** **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> March 2022 be taken as read and signed by the Chairman.

**4.2 MATTERS OUTSTANDING FROM THESE MINUTES.**

Cllr Gaukroger to provide an update on the Defra Consultation to the next meeting.

**5. ENFORCEMENT.**

The Assistant Clerk had circulated enforcement notices issued on Land adjoining Home Place, Blackham.

Wealden District Council Enforcement had undertaken a visit to Beechenwood Farm.

**6. PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

**COMMENTS TO BE RETURNED TO WEALDEN DISTRICT COUNCIL**

**6.1 WD/2022/0346/F CEDAR LODGE, LODGEFIELD FARM, WATCH OAK HILL, BLACKHAM, TN3 9TN** Description: ERECTION OF DETACHED DWELLING AND GARAGE AT SITE OF IMPLEMENTED PLANNING PERMISSION  
WD/90/1014/J Expiry date for comments:  
4 April 2022

Link to documents on web:

<https://planning.wealden.gov.uk/plandisp.aspx?recno=156898>

The committee agreed that this application would sit well within its surroundings and was pleased to see that there would be significant mitigation for protected species. It was noted that the application was a replacement for a previous structure that burnt down. No neighbour objections were noted.

***Withyham Parish Council Supports this Application requesting a condition that materials being in keeping.***

- 6.2 **WD/2022/0277/F** 6 THE RIDGE, WITHYHAM ROAD, GROOMBRIDGE, TN3 9QU Description: NEW PORCH EXTENSION TO FRONT ELEVATION. NEW TWO STOREY SIDE AND PART REAR EXTENSION, TO FORM UTILITY ROOM AND EXTENDED KITCHEN AT GROUND FLOOR LEVEL, AND EXTENDED BEDROOMS AT FIRST FLOOR LEVEL. REPLACE EXISTING REAR CONSERVATORY WITH GREEN FLAT ROOF EXTENSION TO FORM DINING ROOM. Expiry date for comments: 11 April 2022

Link to documents on web:

<https://planning.wealden.gov.uk/plandisp.aspx?recno=156816>

It was noted that a precedent had already been set with neighbouring properties and that no neighbour objections had been made.

***Withyham Parish Council Supports this Application***

7. **APPLICATIONS RECEIVED AFTER AGENDA** - None

- 002225 **RESOLVED** that the observations on the planning issues detailed in these minutes be submitted to the Planning Authority.

8. **DECISIONS** – All Noted  
**REFUSED**

**WD/2020/2420/LB** REFURBISH AND RE-INSTATE THE SASH WINDOWS USING THE EXISTING BOXES AND SASHES AND REPLACING EXACTLY AS EXISTING. THE OLD HOUSE, STATION ROAD, GROOMBRIDGE, TN3 9QX

***The Assistant Clerk was asked to circulate the Wealden District Council decision.***

9. **WEALDEN DISTRICT COUNCIL RESPONSE TO LETTER OF COMPLAINT**

The Assistant Clerk advised that the complaint had been ruled as unjustified and should the Council wish to escalate this to Stage 2 the criteria would be to: “demonstrate sufficient grounds, i.e. there was a fault with the way their complaint was handled initially rather than that they just remain dissatisfied with the answer.”

The Assistant Clerk further advised that Council as a body would not be able to use the Ombudsman as that facility was only available to individuals. This had been further confirmed with a call directly with the Ombudsman.

***The Assistant Clerk to circulate the relevant documents to Committee members and add to the next agenda.***

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

11. **DATE OF MEETING** - noted - the date of the next meeting is on **Monday 11<sup>th</sup> April 2022 at 7.00pm** to be held at The Parish Office unless otherwise notified by the agenda.

The meeting closed at 7.15 pm