

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE HELD ON 12TH MARCH 2018 IN THE ROSE ROOM OF THE COMMUNITY CENTRE AT 7.00PM.

PRESENT: Cllrs Hindler (Chairman), Davies, Josephson, R Lewin, T Lewin, Melson, Moore & Miller

APOLOGIES: None

NOT PRESENT: Cllr. McKinney

IN ATTENDANCE: The Clerk and Asst Clerk

359/18 PUBLIC QUESTIONS

None

360/18 APOLOGIES

None were received.

361/18 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The Minutes of the meeting held on 20th November 2017 were proposed by Cllr. Josephson, seconded by Cllr. T Lewin and signed as a true record.

362/18 TO DECLARE ANY INTERESTS PERTAINING TO THE ITEMS BELOW None

363/18 DATES OF NEXT WEALDEN PLANNING COMMITTEE NORTH MEETING.

- 5th April 2018 at 10.00am
- 3rd May 2018 at 10.00am

NOTED

364/18 REPORT FROM DISTRICT COUNCILLOR ON PLANNING MATTERS

No report.

365/18 DECISIONS TAKEN UNDER DELEGATED AUTHORITY PRIOR TO THE MEETING

The list of decisions taken under delegated authority prior to the meeting had been previously circulated and was **NOTED**

366/18 WEALDEN DISTRICT COUNCIL – PLANNING DECISIONS RECEIVED

The list of planning decisions had been previously circulated and was

NOTED

367/18 PLANNING APPLICATIONS –

Application Number & Address	Proposals	Comments
WD/2018/0163/F & WD/2018/0164/LB SHOVELSTRODE FARM, HOMESTALL ROAD, ASHURST WOOD	FOLLOWING DESTRUCTION BY FIRE ERECTION OF MATCHING TIMBER CLAD BARN. LOWERING OF GROUND FLOOR LEVEL TO LEVEL OF EXTERNAL GROUND LEVEL AND REMOVAL OF RAISED GROUND LEVEL ADJACENT.	Provided Listed Building regulations are adhered to, we have no objections as long as previous approvals and concerns are met.

Cllr. Moore joined the meeting at 7.18pm.

368/18 TO COMMENT ON PLANNING APPLICATIONS RECEIVED AFTER CIRCULATION OF AGENDA

Application Number & Address	Proposals	Comments
WD/2018/0417/F 12 KIDBROOKE RISE, FOREST ROW	CONSTRUCTION OF SINGLE STOREY GARDEN STUDIO EXTENSION TO DETACHED DOUBLE GARAGE	We have no objections provided this has no adverse effect on the neighbours.
WD/2018/0390/F HOME MEADOW, CANSIRON LANE, ASHURST WOOD	CONSTRUCTION OF EQUESTRIAN ARENA	No objection to this application for this added facility.

369/18 TO CONSIDER HOW TO PROCEED ON STRATEGIC PLANNING INITIATIVES & RESOLVE AS APPROPRIATE

The issue of the Council engaging in a strategic planning initiative including a Neighbourhood Plan & Community Land Trust has been under discussion for some time and it was felt that the Council's planning committee was the appropriate forum in which to focus this discussion for a decision by Full Council.

The following points were made during this discussion.

- The process of drawing up a strategic plan would be good for the village by raising awareness, and promoting co-operation and 'people power'. However, one had to recognise that the village is not homogeneous: it contains several 'sub-communities' whose approaches are quite different, and it was important that any strategic planning process did not create more division.
- Some Members felt that a plan (in particular a Neighbourhood Plan) would help to keep developers at bay. However, others felt the fact that an NP had to identify areas for development might actually open the door to unwanted attention from developers (as against the current situation where there is a total embargo on development).
- Concern was also expressed that if we had to specify zones for potential development these would tend to end up in the Ashurst Wood ward.
- It was generally agreed that the need in Forest Row was for affordable housing for locals, not for more 'executive homes'. The problem was how to achieve this goal without attracting hostile attention from speculators. The Community Land Trust route was a possibility for this, being simultaneously more focused but less detailed. The listing of 'Assets of Community Value' was another procedure which could be made use of to earmark properties for appropriate housing use.
- It was felt generally that information-gathering was a necessary first step towards seeing what option(s) should be pursued. To this end, a smaller group should be formed to 'kick-start' the process of seeing what the most appropriate way was of achieving the real goals of the community.

Cllr. R Lewin proposed that Council explores ways of developing a strategic plan for Forest Row Parish with full community involvement and financial implications. This was seconded by Cllr. T Lewin and AGREED.

370/18 CORRESPONDENCE

None

371/18 ITEMS FOR FUTURE CONSIDERATION BY THIS COMMITTEE OR FULL COUNCIL

None

The meeting closed at 8.13 pm.

Signed.....
Chairman

Date.....