

Fawkham Parish Council

Draft minutes of the Extra Parish Council Meeting held remotely by video link following agreed legislation on Thursday 6th May 2020 at 7.30 pm to transact the following business.

Laura Marchant
Clerk to Fawkham Parish Council

Members of the Parish Council:

Cllr Laura Evans (Chair), Cllr Alun Evans (Vice Chair), Cllr Duncan Harker, Cllr Maxine Fothergill, one vacancy

Parish Council Meeting Agenda

During the period of Government restrictions due to Coronavirus, agenda items are being limited to those that are critical and/or can be actioned under the restrictions.

1. Apologies for Absence:
D Cllr F.Parkin

2. Declarations of Interest for items relating to the Agenda:
Councillors to make any declarations that may be required by virtue of the Parish Council's adopted Code of Conduct.
Comment: Cllr L.Evans declared an interest to the planning application 20/01145/ARGNOT

3. Members of the Public:
The Council's meetings are open to the public, however, only the first half hour is given for members of the public to raise any matters and partake in discussions. There are no further opportunities for members of the public to speak during the full Parish Council meeting. At the end of the agenda items the public will be asked to leave if the council will be discussing confidential matters.
Noted: Kent County Cllr D.Brazier and District Cllr L.Harrison both attended the meeting virtually.

Note: Cllr L.Evans was not virtually present for the following planning discussion

4. Planning applications:
Ref: 20/01145/ARGNOT
Site: Land North of Scudders Farm Valley Road Fawkham Kent
Development: Steel Framed Barn.

Cllr. M Fothergill raised the point that the developer has put in applications for four identical barns in four different locations. It was also stated that this application has been put through as an agricultural application even though the land is believed to have to been used for an agricultural purpose since the early 1970s. The land is currently privately rented and used for an equestrian purpose.

Cllr A.Evans noted that the site access on the plan is not clear. It is believed the land proposed for access to the site is not owned by the developer but owned by a neighbouring property. In order for further access to be created onto valley road a hedgerow would need to be removed. This land is Greenbelt.

It was commented by the council that this application is now the 2nd application in our small village from this developer during a time of national pandemic. We do not feel it appropriate that such applications are still currently being dealt with when our whole community is in lockdown. FPC are concerned that SDC currently does not have the resources to effectively deal with the weight and complexity of the applications forwarded

Resolved: FPC resolved to object to this development. Clerk to return comments to planning at SDC.
All in Favour

Note: Cllr L.Evans rejoined the meeting virtually at 8.09pm

5. Planning Updates:

Ref: SE/20/00882/OUT

Site: Salts Farm Depot, Fawkham Road, Fawkham, KENT, DA3 7BJ

Development: Outline planning application for the erection of 26 dwellings with some matters reserved.

Cllr L.Evans outlined the responses received from the statutory bodies.

Cllr D.Harker questioned if Network Rail had been consulted as the proposed development is very near the railway track.

Cllr L.Evans noted that there had been several public comments in favour and against the development.

It was noted that a reply would be sent to Tom Billings following a post on social media with regards to the development.

Resolved: Cllr L.Evans/Clerk to flag with SDC to determine if network rail has been consulted.

Resolved: Cllr L.Evans to draft a reply to be sent to Tom Billings

All in Favour

6. Dates for the year 2020:

Parish Council Meeting - Thursday 14th May 2020, 7.30pm held virtually via Zoom. Link to participate sent out with the Agenda for the meeting.

The Annual Council Meeting (ACM) will be held once face to face meetings resume.

Meeting Closed at 8.42pm