

ASHWICK PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD IN OAKHILL VILLAGE HALL
ON 23rd OCTOBER 2019 AT 7.00PM

Present R Battagel (RB), P Briscoe (PB), D Hine (DH) and D Thorley (DT).
In Attendance S Vaillant (Clerk) and 2 parishioners.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Action

279/19 Apologies were received from D Barlow (DB, Chair) and E Lewis (EL).
District Cllr J Burr advised that he would not be able to join the meeting.

ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN FOR THE MEETING

280/19 In the absence of the Chair and vice-Chair, DT proposed (RB seconded, unanimously agreed) for Phil Briscoe to chair the meeting.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

281/19 DT declared an interest in Planning Application 2019/2496/TCA.

PLANNING

282/19 Planning Application 2019/2427/FUL; Change of use from agricultural to campsite with 20 pitches and associated hardstanding & retrospective cabin for use as holiday let and other buildings on campsite; Land at 363533 147725 Bath Road, Oakhill – Mrs Alvis was in attendance and explained the reason for the application. RB proposed (DT seconded, unanimously agreed) to recommend approval for the following reasons:

The site has already been used for the purpose of a campsite for 4 years under a licence obtained via the Camping & Caravanning Club. The change of use of the land would allow the business to apply for their own permit to have more pitches on site (from 15, up to 20) for both tents and caravans, which is a modest alteration.

The proposals of a new wooden construction shed is in keeping with the area and there is an argument in favour of cabins which are natural.

The business will bring more trade to the village; the local pub was opened longer hours in the summer due to the increase in footfall and visitors also use the shop in Binegar. The Parish Council is keen to encourage local businesses and diversification ahead of Brexit.

283/19 Planning Application 2019/2433 & 2434/LBC; Removal of roadside wall to create vehicular access and associated driveway; Daronell, High Street, Oakhill – Mr Parsley was in attendance and explained the reason for the application. DT proposed (DH seconded, unanimously agreed) to recommend approval for the following reasons:

The Parish Council acknowledges that unfortunately, Mr & Mrs Parsley were directly affected by the installation of the new crossing at the top of the High Street and its associated double-yellow lines, which run directly in front of their property. As a result, Mr & Mrs Parsley, along with other parishioners in the vicinity, are unable to park outside their property any longer due to the safety improvements and parking has become difficult.

This loss of parking space is problematic due to the applicant's disabled daughter. The solution to create on-site parking appears reasonable, and is one which the Parish Council would like to support.

The Parish Council is aware that the property is in a conservation area and that the District Council would be keen to preserve the character of the street, however, it is noted that the character has already been altered due to the Highway improvement: installation of a crossing and the double yellow lines right outside the property.

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Perhaps, the removal of a section of wall to create vehicular access should be considered as part of the improvements. It will also take a car off the road in an area that gets very congested and where parking is problematic.

It was also pointed out that the installation of the double yellow lines will provide more visibility to enter and exit the property via the created access.

MDC had recently declared a Climate Emergency. If the District Council is going to support green and/or renewable energy, it must think to the future and to allow parishioners access to park near their homes where electric chargers would be sited. If such a solution is achievable by vehicular access, this must be considered as part of the 'Climate Emergency status'.

Finally it was noted that Mr & Mrs Parsley were long time residents in the village seeking a solution to a recent problem, and not developers looking to add value to a property for resale.

- 284/19 Planning Application 2019/2274/LBC; Replacement of 18 windows and front door, and renovation of 5 windows; Pooh Corner, High Street, Oakhill – After review of the planning documents and consideration, it was unanimously agreed to recommend approval (DH proposed, RB seconded) as the proposals are to replace old fashioned and aesthetically not pleasing 70's windows and will bring uniformity to the property. It is thought to be essential upkeep more in keeping with the listed aspect of the property and which will keep it in good condition for future generations.
- 285/19 Planning Application 2017/2496/TCA; Proposed to trees in a conservation area: Black Pine: fell due to condition; Lawsons Cypress: fell due to condition and potential damage to wall and grave; Sugar Maple: fell as tree is dead; Church of All Saints, Bath Road, Oakhill – Following review of the proposals, DH proposed (RB seconded, PB agreed, DT abstained) to leave the decision to the Tree Conservation Officer but would like to be involved if there is further discussion about the proposed works between the officer and the applicant, or if a site visit is carried out.