

BARTESTREE WITH LUGWARDINE GROUP PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 19 AUGUST 2014 AT 7.30 PM IN BARTESTREE VILLAGE HALL

Present:

Councillors: D Greenow; G Davies (Vice-Chair); N Shore; R Williams; Mrs L Hoppé; Mrs F Matthews and M Wilson.

In Attendance:

Mrs E Wilson (Parish Clerk/RFO)

Members of the public: 6

1. To Accept Apologies for Absence

Cllrs Mrs W Soilleux (Chair); J Colley; Mrs J Karayiannis; Paul Wargent

2. To Receive Declarations of Interest and Applications for Dispensations

Item 3 – Cllr M Wilson declared a non-disclosable pecuniary interest, as his stepson owns development land nearby

Resolved: Interests Noted

3. To consider the following Amended and Additional Planning Application:

140926 Land to South of A438, Parcel No 0008 and Part Parcel No 2308,
 Bartestree
 Outline proposal for the erection of 60 dwellings, including 21 affordable
 houses and a change of use of land to form community open space

Comments: The Parish Council noted that the major change to the original application is to the footpaths and frontage. The implications for the natural environment and rural setting are serious and major.

In order to construct the footpath a large section of mature hedging would have to be removed. Whilst new hedging may be re-planted, this would not protect the natural environment nor add to the existing natural character and rural feel within the village. The Parish Council noted and agreed the Senior Conservation Officer's observation that the removal of the hedging will ruin the rural aspect of Hagley Court and Hagley House. It would take many years for any replacement hedging to establish. It is considered that the proposed footpath creates a more suburban setting rather than rural.

It is noted that the footpath does not have right of way across the drive of Hagley Court, whose owners have refused permission. It is unclear whether the footpath has right of way as far as the shop and pedestrian crossing.

The access point to the west is badly situated, as it is only 20m from Hagley Orchard and will cause great inconvenience to residents travelling from there and trying to turn right onto the busy A438.

The Parish Council also noted that when the applicants first presented their proposed application, they said that they wished to work with the community and present a full picture of their scheme. Since then the matter has drifted on and this is still an outline application dealing with the frontage and access of the proposed development. Therefore, whilst the applicants did engage in a consultation, they have to date taken no notice of the public's view. Their original commitment to retain the natural hedgerow has been abandoned, as has any detailed description of the intended development.

Before voting the Councillors stated that they had attended this meeting with an open mind on this matter

Resolved: Cllr M Wilson did not vote. Cllr D Greenow abstained from voting. All the remaining Councillors did not support this application. The Parish Council's previous objections stand and the application and amended application are not supported.

4. To consider and elect a Councillor to represent the Parish Council at the forthcoming Planning Committee Meeting in the absence of the Chair of the Planning Committee

Comments: The Vice Chair suggested that in his absence Cllr W Soilleux should represent the PC at the forthcoming Planning Meetings. Cllr Soilleux had volunteered to do so. At the request of Cllr Wilson the Vice Chair explained to the Parish Council his reservations in the Vice Chair of the Planning Committee representing the Parish Council at the forthcoming meetings. His comments were not meant to be a slight on Cllr Wilson. However, the Vice Chair perceived a lack of support by the Planning Vice Chair in the Parish Council's aim to represent the majority of the residents' wishes to control development within the guidelines of the Core Strategy. Cllr Wilson disputed the perception and made it clear he was unhappy about the comments made. He also made the point that this could be a conduct code matter.

Resolved: It was agreed 5 votes to 0 that Cllr W Sollieux should represent the Parish Council. Cllr M Wilson abstained from voting.

Meeting concluded at 8.05 pm

Signature of Chair

Date: 9 September 2014