

NORTH WEST FARNHAM RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

COMMITTEE MEETING

Tuesday, 14th March 2017 at 8 pm

Present:

Dennis Banks
Stewart Edge (SE)
Dave King (DK)
Penny Marriott (PM)
Julie Russ (JR)
Stephen Spence (SS)
John Williamson (JW)

Apologies: Keith Miller

Minutes of previous meeting:

The minutes were signed as an accurate record.

Matters arising:

The application for a caravan at 15 Crondall Lane was turned down but has gone to appeal.

Bishop's Square has been turned down and has not gone to appeal yet.

Waverley Borough Council refused to cut the hedges at the Chancies as the property has a joint mortgage with them. JW has approached Farnham Town Council who were going to cut them but decided the job was too big and are getting a quote from a contractor. It then has to be decided who will pay for it. JW will ask the Council to pay but, as a gesture of goodwill, asked if NWFRA would give a small sum towards the cost, eg, £100. It was agreed that the Association should do this but make it clear that this will not set a precedent – each case should be decided on its own merit.

Treasurer's report: (DB)

The balance of the current account is £365.26, down slightly because the CPRE annual subscription has been paid. The balance of the business account is £5,249.69. Collections are proceeding as normal, although one person has not done their patch, but will do so when the next newsletter is distributed.

Communications received and website news

PM has not received any communications and Keith has not reported any website news.

Planning matters (SE)

SE reported that there has been an appeal against the original refusal of the planning application for the house opposite 34 Three Stiles Road and we have sent an objection to this. The closing date for comments is 24th March.

The Jeremy Ricketts application failed on appeal in January. It failed on SANGS which has been rectified and is not on the new application which was scheduled to go to Waverley's Planning Committee on 28th March. However, the residents in the area have engaged an engineering consultant to look at the bridleway to see if it is strong enough for the traffic which will use it. The application will therefore not go to the Planning Committee on 28th March but a later one by which time the Neighbourhood Plan should be even stronger.

Action

**JW
NWFRA**

SE has objected to the temporary application for changing rooms which were erected before the planning application. The application for the car park has been withdrawn by the football club because they are going to use it for commercial purposes. It is doubtful that there will now be sufficient car parking spaces for users of the Hall.

Hopfields

Top Field: SE has not yet written about the open space. The paths on the map are mown areas and there are 2 cross paths, one of which exists at present and one of which does not. Bob Milton has objected and said that it could be completely different but it is really too late for us to change things. SE will say that the new bushes which are shown on the map are not necessary and will increase maintenance, but we are happy with the footpaths as they are. There should be open access at the 3 entrances/exits, ie, no new gates or fences should be introduced.

At the left-hand, south west side of the development there is a strip of land (between the development and the footpath) which has remained as an open space since the first application. The permanent green space of the top field and this strip of land are being dealt with differently, despite the fact that Councillor Potts said they should be dealt with in the same way, as permanent green space. The top left section is in the Section 106 Agreement as permanent green space (in perpetuity). SE feels that Conditions will not protect this south west part of the site sufficiently and it should be protected more strongly, i.e, by a legal agreement. SE will respond to Rachel Kellas' letter and say that a legal agreement is required.

The objection to the Hopfields Development was submitted but JW said this is up in the air again. Comments have been fed back to Taylor Wimpey because it is unlikely that the current proposal will get through the planning committee. It is JW's understanding that Taylor Wimpey will come back with another proposal. The new proposal will appear on Waverley's website and JW will keep an eye on the situation and let us know when it appears.

Neighbourhood Plan

The inspector has reported on the Neighbourhood Plan and proposed changes. If the changes are made the referendum will go ahead on 4th May as long as Waverley Borough Council tick a box to say it can. Planning people belonging to the Farnham Society have looked at the Plan and said that the proposed changes are fairly trivial. The Inspector took no notice of the plea to include land in the AGLV designation so we will have to leave things as they are as it is more important to get the Neighbourhood Plan through. The inspector has made some changes to the wording re the strategic gap between Farnham and Aldershot but has made protection outside the built up area no worse, although protection for this area is not particularly strong.

A majority of the people who vote is needed to get the Plan through and there may not be a minimum number of voters needed. The Farnham Society plan to put out a communication encouraging people to vote and have asked for a contribution from NWFRA towards the cost of doing this for our area. They will also request contributions from other residents associations for their areas. It was agreed, in principle, that we should contribute.

Waverley Borough Plan

The inspector has asked some fairly hostile questions and other questions will follow. The questions were to do with the integrity of the report and Waverley has replied to the first set of questions. The Dunsfold Aerodrome application has been called in by the Secretary of State.

AGM

PM will prepare the posters, etc, and invite the guests. JW said he is able to attend. Pat Frost will no longer be a councillor so will not be invited. PM asked if the Committee could think about speakers for the Autumn Meeting.

SE

SE

JW

PM
ALL

Any Other Business

Library Gardens: SCC have taken over the management of the gardens. The gates are being locked when the library is closed because SCC said that the wrong people are using them. DB has been contacted to see if he can find out if the footpath which goes through the gardens can be registered as a public footpath as it has been shut off. Not long ago it was possible to get through to the water meadows, but not now. No maintenance is carried out and the gardens are now messy. There was discussion on whether the library gardens are in our patch and it was decided that they are. JW suggested getting someone from West Street to join the Committee.

DB

ALL

There was a massive pot hole outside the back entrance to the post office and DK contacted “Fix My Street” and asked them to fix it. However, he has been told that it is a private road but it is not and he is fighting it.

DK

SUDS (DK) Only 3 have been reported when there were 15 and it is not possible to see which ones have been recorded as the plans are blurred.

Judicial Review of Brightwells: The decision on Brightwells reverses all other case law on this, eg, the Winchester case. The judge stated that the challengers did not have sufficient interest to have the review as they would not benefit from the Council re-tendering. It would be possible to appeal the decision and a meeting has been held with legal advisers. It is necessary to make a decision on whether to appeal or not by Thursday and if there is still argument over costs an appeal will probably be made anyway as it is not compulsory to go ahead with it. Waverley Borough Council and Crest Nicholson could load costs on to those challenging Brightwells but if an appeal is made it will take at least another 12 months and this is a lot of money to Waverley.

Date of next meeting: AGM, 14th June 2017.