

Greatham Parish Council Planning Committee.

Minutes of meeting held In the Church Hall on Tuesday, 12th January, 2010.

1. Open the meeting

The meeting was opened at 7.30pm by Chairman Alan Booton. Also present were Councillors A Bridgman, C Rudd and Mrs T Whelan (clerk).

2. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received on behalf David Redman.

3. Announcements

The Chairman pointed out the fire exits.

4. Declarations of interest

The Chairman reminded members of their responsibility to declare any personal or prejudicial interest.

Carole Rudd said she had a personal interest and left the room for Planning item 2 and therefore only discussion as not quorate.

5. Minutes of 10th November and matters arising

The Minutes of the meeting of 13 October were read and after amending paragraph 6, 3rd paragraph line two word 6 from 'many' to 'make' they were Proposed by Alan Bridgman and Seconded by Carole Rudd and then signed by Cllr Booton

There were no matters arising.

6. Planning applications

1. 33041/001 2, Hares Close Cottages - 2storey extn.

Alan Bridgman looked at the plan and it appears straight forward. Propose to write to say no problems

2. 52190 re 5, Bakers Field amended application.

Carole Rudd left the room. There was a discussion regarding the proposed space between the other side of the semi, No6, and the new build. Alan Booton had spoken to the neighbours. Some of the objections are understandable but not planning related. Alan Bridgman was concerned about the strengthening of the original party wall. There is a letter on the website dated June 87 by a builder explaining how to go about splitting a semi by building a completely new wall for No6. Alan Booton referred to the 1991 Party Wall Act in relation to this type of build and doubts if this legislation is in keeping with the 1987 builder's letter. He said the new plan is a bit wider and does not like it. One detached may be OK but a pair of semis will overpower the other semis which have a lot of space around them. Alan Bridgman suggested another site visit. Alan Booton to check final date for response and discuss at full Parish Council Meeting 01.02.10. Meanwhile a visit was agreed. Cllr Rudd returned with Mr Jerrard.

3. 27086/024 West Fork Caravan Sales - amended application.

Alan Bridgman explained that 20ft had been taken off the proposed extension to the shop and that he cannot see any reason to object Alan Booton agreed it was a nice set up servicing a purpose – caravan storage site. He suggested writing back to say that it is OK. Proposed by Carole Rudd and Seconded by Alan Bridgman.

4. 52064 Teasel Cottage, Church Lane. - extension.

No one had visited the site as it is snow laden. Alan Booton explained that they had asked for a 70% increase and the planning officer said that this was too much so they have reduced it to 50.8% increase. Note 50% is a normal maximum increase. He had been down there and was not averse to a greater than 50% increase as previously the cottage did not have an inside bathroom which now needs to be accommodated. He recommended acceptance. Carole Rudd Agreed . Alan

Bridgman said he would like to make a site visit but on the basis of the plans he is happy to accept. This was accepted subject to a site visit.

7. Any Other Business

A member of the public has proposed writing a letter regarding Mr Clutterbuck's planning application 543001 and 543003 in connection with Fern Farm land. This is for 15 houses and if granted would give access via the bridal way at Wolfmere lane. We need to see the application on paper under the Freedom of Information Act. He read out another member's letter to Chris Murray. Carole Rudd said that as a Parish Council we should have been informed. The member said that file 50346 refers to an 001 file. Alan Bridgman agreed to send a letter and after the response a decision as to what to do can be made. It does not serve any purpose to receive an application and keep it secret. This was unanimously agreed.

A member said that EHDC say they could not find a gypsy site. So why did they purchase the land at Headley under a Compulsory Purchase because there was not enough green amenity in the area. This is now to be a cemetery. Why could they not put the gypsies there? Alan Bridgman considers that as SDNP comes into being in April 2011 EHDC will do nothing till then and pass this to SDNP. Therefore GPC should keep agitating and keep up the pressure to find a permanent site otherwise local families make hay while the sun shines. Carole Rudd said that the people on the conditions of Fern Farm are not living there and that he has been required to put it back as it was – how will he replace the trees unless these are planted now. It was agreed to write to the Conservative and Liberal Democrat candidates requesting a change in the legislation and outlining our problems, the evidence and the district council attitude and how this is destroying the village community.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting closed at 8.20pm.