

**MINUTES TAKEN BY THE CLERK AT THE MEETING OF FISHTOFT PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 18<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2021 VIA VIDEO CONFERENCE <sup>1</sup> COMMENCING AT 7.00PM**

**PRESENT:** Cllrs. E. Armstrong (Chairman), J. Williams, R. Lenton, P. Skinner, J. Skinner, H. Crawford, Cllr. M. Ordway joining the meeting during the public forum.  
Mrs. Victoria Clark, Clerk to the Council

Also present Boston Borough Cllr. J. Noble (Joining the meeting during item 6) and 9 members of the public

**PUBLIC FORUM** <sup>2</sup> The Chairman opened the public forum at 7.04pm and all attending were invited to speak

- Four residents gave their views and objections on planning applications B/20/0488 & 0489 to include:
- The intended field would be at risk of flooding, this and nearby properties already have a problem with flooding
- The area is unsustainable with no medical facilities, shops, public transport, nursery and with only one infant school
- Lack of paths for walkers and narrow roads for cyclists lead to a danger for children going back and forth to school and other destinations
- There are no facilities for children of any age which may lead to unsociable behaviour within the community
- Roads are very small & not fit for purpose certainly not for large vehicles
- The Infrastructure is not suitable for extra traffic during the build or afterwards if it were passed
- The intended site is of archaeological interest including Roman, Saxon & the 1<sup>st</sup> Mayor of Boston had connections to this land.
- There was a sink hole at the top of Gaysfield Road near the Red Cow public house
- In 2015 a planning application for 1 house behind the Red Cow Pub was refused with, increase of traffic, flood risk, the village lacked facilities and the development was unsustainable being some of the reasons for refusal.
- Concerns over scope creep.
- Lack of clarity over where the 20 affordable housing properties will be.
- The fact that this is a greenfield site, whilst alternate brownfield options do not appear to have been exhaustively considered.
- The development is out of character with the village at large.
- The new build would overlook existing properties denying reasonable levels of privacy without erection of obtrusive visibility screens.
- Impact on local wildlife (swift bricks notwithstanding)

**THE MEETING STARTED AT 7.18PM**

**1. CHAIRMANS REMARKS**

- The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and giving their views

**2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** To receive and accept apologies where valid reasons for absence have been given to the Clerk prior to the meeting

- No apologies received

**3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** (if any) To receive declarations of interest under the Localism Act 2011 – being any pecuniary interest in agenda items not previously recorded on Members' Register of Interests

- Cllr. P. Skinner declared an interest in item 6 as he is on the Planning committee at the Borough Council

**CHAIRMAN:** .....

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**4. NOTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS HELD ON 14<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2020** - To resolve as a correct record and to authorise the Chairman to sign the official minutes

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<sup>1</sup> Video conference under "The Local Authorities (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority Meetings) (England) Regulations 2020"

<sup>2</sup> Members of the public and press were invited to join the meeting by using the link or contacting the clerk before 3pm on the day of the meeting.

- The Chairman had previously asked for a change in wording for item 8.
- On Proposal from Cllr. P. Skinner and seconded by Cllr. Crawford, with no objections all resolved to accept the notes of the 14<sup>th</sup> December 2020 as a correct record of the meeting and gave permission for the chairman to sign them

**5. FINANCE**

- a) Approve payment of accounts
  - Payment list had previously been sent to all members - On Proposal from Cllr. Lenton and seconded by Cllr. Williams, with no objections all resolved to authorised the above payments
  - Cllr. Ordway later in the meeting asked that the payment list be changed to show a donation of £50 to come from the Chairman’s fund. After a vote of 6 to 1 for, it was proposed by Cllr. Ordway, seconded by Cllr. Armstrong, all resolved this – Cllr. Lenton voted for it to come from the Donations fund.

**ACTIONS:** The Clerk to alter the payment list

- b) Budget update & bank statement – To approve
  - All members had been sent these ahead of the meeting - On proposal from Cllr. P. Skinner and seconded by Cllr. Lenton, with no objections all resolved to accept them as correct.

**6. PLANNING MATTERS – Town and Country Planning Act 1990 - To consider and make observations on all planning applications received and to note planning approvals, refusals, enforcement complaints and appeal decisions advised by the Borough Council - To include applications received between 7/12/2020 & 14/12/2020**

- a) Solar Park – Land at Boston Landfill
  - With no objections the only comments were that it was a good use of a brown field site and it would produce free energy
- b) B/20/0475 - Erection of an industrial building (Use Class B8) on the existing car park, creation of a new car park and formation of a hardstanding at Metsa Wood, Fishtoft Road, Fishtoft, Boston, PE21 0BJ
  - No objections

**ACTION:** The Clerk to inform the planning department of the comments for the above applications

- c) B/20/0488 - Outline application for 46 residential dwellings and associated works with all matters reserved for later approval at Land adj & to the rear of, Fishtoft Scouts, Gaysfield Road, Fishtoft, Boston, PE21 0SF
- d) B/20/0489 - Proposed residential development of 20 affordable dwellings and associated works at Land adj and to the rear of Fishtoft Boy Scouts, Gaysfield Road, Fishtoft, Boston, PE21 0SF
  - The members gave their views and objections to items 6c & 6d and agreed with those views of the residents:
    - It was mentioned that the presentation from the residents was good
    - There had in the past been near miss accidents in this area and because of this Anglian Water had been instructed not to use vehicles in this area during school peak times.
    - To date the planning department had received 33 responses from residents
    - The submission of the application date was Christmas eve giving little time for discussion
    - Concerns of access which is on a corner by the scout hut
    - Concerns of being near a primary school and the dangers of extra traffic to children that would bring
    - The question was raised as to whether the Scouts had been informed
    - The extra flood risk to near-by properties, existing residents already have a problem with flooding
    - Lack of public transport
    - No Secondary school
    - Those attending were informed that both applications had been called in
    - The area for the affordable housing outside the local plan
    - The Parish Councils policy is not to take on any more grass cutting or maintenance so therefore any new developments would need a plan for these areas
    - The question arose as to why developers are not constructing sustainable/green buildings
    - We should be keeping arable land in an effort to be self sufficient
    - If planning is given it should only be for bungalows
    - Would normally agree to affordable housing however this area is not sustainable with no facilities so therefore should not be built.

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- It is a site of archaeological importance

- Fishtoft Parish Council has previously stated that any new housing development should not build houses immediately behind existing bungalows but should build bungalows to retain privacy for existing residents

**ACTION:** The Clerk to inform the planning department of the comments for the above applications and those from the public forum

## 7. CLERK'S REPORT ON OUTSTANDING MATTERS

- A16 speed calming (joint request with Sibsey P.C) – Update
  - No update from the highways department, Cllr. P. Skinner stated that there was a back log of approximately 18 months however he would keep letting them know that it was in the system
- Overgrown hedges Pilleys Lane & A16 – Reported on Fix My Street ref: 380943
  - The reply from fix my Street was that it required no urgent action and so no further action would be taken

**ACTION:** Cllr. Crawford would send pictures of the footway and hedges to the Clerk

**ACTION:** The Clerk to report again with pictures

- Parking on Church Green Road – Update
  - LHP have replied stating that most of the properties are now privately owned and not by them

**ACTION:** The Clerk to write to the owners of the properties

- Church Green Road Footpath Ref: 4153606
  - No update
- Signage at the junction of Rochford Tower Land, Priory Road an Eastwood Road, Fishtoft – Reported on Fix My Street Ref:380952
  - The report from Fix my street stated that there was sufficient signage and no further action would be taken
  - Cllr. P. Skinner has requested an Archers report and will keep us informed on this
- Reported overgrown trees on Saddlers Way – Reported on Fix My Street ref: 380941
  - The report from Fix my street stated that a neighbour had offered to safely remove debris on behalf of the property owner and that no further action would be taken
- Vandalism around the Pavilion and CCTV
  - The committee have not sent in the costs involved
  - The neighbourhood team have had no reports of vandalism
- Maple Road Play Area
  - If residents would like to start a playground committee then the Parish Council would be behind them and give advice

## 8. MEMBERS REPORTS

- Fishtoft 400 & Fun Day
  - The Chairman updated those attending on the next 2 items
  - Fun Day is not progressing due to Covid-19, there is a deadline of March 31<sup>st</sup> to report back on where the grant money has been spent, hopefully because of the pandemic there will be an extension.
  - Due to lost deposits the fund is depleting so no more can be given out until a more definite date is known
  - The base for the buoy cannot be constructed in bad weather so this should happen in spring
- Communities leaders briefing – Covid-19 meeting summary
  - 1 in 3 people with Covid have no symptoms could will pass it on to other
  - 20% of people that contract Covid will get it seriously
  - Factors in area that assist with a high infection rate are the numerous H.M.Os, sharing of transport, schools and food industries
  - Individuals with no symptoms need to be encouraged to use the community rapid testing centres available from 8am – 8pm, 7 days a week at the Peter Paine Centre and Tollfield Road Campus, Haven High. No booking necessary and available until the 14<sup>th</sup> February
  - There is a government grant of £500 available to those on a low income that have too self-isolate

## 9. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

- None received that isn't covered elsewhere on the agenda

## 10. VIEWPOINTS ON QUESTIONS/STATEMENTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC DURING THE FORUM

- Covered under planning

**CHAIRMAN:** .....

**DATE:** .....

## 11. REPORTS FROM BOSTON BOROUGH COUNCIL & LINCOLNSHIRE COUNCIL MEMBERS

Cllr. Noble

- Financially the Borough is looking OK due to Central Government funding, however this could change for the next financial year
- Council tax income is only 2% down on the expected amount. Council tax will be going up
- People with no Covid symptoms are being encouraged to use the free rapid testing centres as per Item 8b
- There is a payment of £500 for those on low income that have to self-isolate
- The 1-hour free parking in most of the Borough owed carparks will continue until March 31<sup>st</sup> and will be reviewed
- From funding from central government there will be a language lab at Haven High will open with dual language persons taken on to help to encourage integration

**Cllr. P. Skinner**

- With the new industries opening there will be work opportunities locally and when people are earning, they are more likely to spend which hopefully will help town centre businesses
- A letter has been written to Priti Patel asking that tobacco should be licenced
- The Borough has received £38mil from Central Government which will help town centre for improvements
- Traffic works due 17<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> February by Anglian Water

**Cllr. J. Skinner**

- A working group should soon be formed to find solutions for the fly tipping problem
- Due to anti-social behaviour and licencing, a letter has been written to Central Government with recommendations that sectors work together, the Police and Council would be able to give support to Parish Councils. Also suggesting increasing the fee for applying for a licence so that officers could be more pro-active to police this.

**12. POLICE REPORT**

- None received

**13. HYBRIDE MEETINGS – Discussion**

- No information on the government site
- Halls are closed due to lock down
- No-one stated that they are finding video conferencing difficult now

**14. FUTURE MEETINGS & NEXT MEETING – ~~Monday 16<sup>th</sup> February 2021 at 7pm~~ Changed to Monday 8<sup>th</sup> February 2021 at 7pm**

- Due to confliction of dates for some members it was suggested that the meetings move from the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday

**ACTION:** The Clerk to send a list of dates to members for approval

**THE MEETING CLOSED AT 8.45PM**

**CHAIRMAN:** .....

**DATE:** .....