

PRESTON ST MARY PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of an Additional Meeting of Preston St Mary Parish Council held at 7.30p.m. on Wednesday 22 August 2018 in the Village Hall

Present: Cllrs McGrory, Bardzinski, Hanlon, Luck, Martin and Tasker and Parish Clerk, Nicola Smith. District Cllr Mr Clive Arthey was also present, together with 16 members of the public.

1. Apologies

- i. Cllr Bisson was unable to attend. The Parish Council gave their sincere condolences to Cllr Bisson on the recent passing of his wife, Peggy Bisson.
- ii. Cllrs did of course accept Cllr Bisson's apology for not being in attendance, and hoped that they would see Cllr Bisson back at meetings as soon as he was able to.

2. To receive Members' Declarations of Interest

- i. Cllr Martin declared a pecuniary interest in Agenda item 6, the planning matter at land adjacent to The Street, this followed on from the Clerk obtaining advice from the Monitoring Officer in this regard.
- ii. No gifts of hospitality received;
- iii. No requests for dispensation for pecuniary interests.

3. Public Forum

- i. Parishioner commented that she would like it minuted that she was appalled at the conduct of some people at the previous meeting when the planning matter for the 6 new homes behind The Six Bells was discussed. She felt that both the Minutes for that meeting and the feedback from her Architect who was present at the meeting led her to believe it was a very aggressive attitude towards the Architect, and she found remarks from certain people who were neighbours, and who she had considered to be friend, to be very hurtful. Chair Cllr McGrory commented that she was sorry that her Architect felt that way about the meeting.

4. Correspondence: (General correspondence had been circulated by email)

Cllrs had all been provided with a copy of an email received from Anglia Press Agency Ltd regarding a story that they stated they were writing about the possible closure of the Six Bells Public House, following an email that had been sent to some residents in the village.

Following receipt of the email from Anglia Press Agency Ltd, the Parish Council had been provided with an email from a resident in the village, who was not a Cllr, which showed that the email referred to by Anglia Press Agency Ltd had come from that resident's email account.

Signed.....

Dated.....

The Clerk has made the Monitoring Officer aware of the communication both from Anglia Press Agency Ltd and from the resident. The Clerk was awaiting some further information.

Following discussion Cllr Hanlon proposed and Cllr Bardzinski seconded that for the time being no response should be given to Anglia Press Agency Ltd. Motion carried.

5. Cllrs Reports (if any)

Chair Cllr McGrory asked people to note that on 24 September 2018 Whelp Street will be closed for the day (there will be vehicular access for residents of Whelp Street). The railings on Whelp Street have become undermined and investigative works need to be carried out before any design for a retaining wall to rectify the problem can be carried out. A marked diversion route will be in place.

Clerk gave details of James Cartlidge MP Constituency Surgery which will take place at Alpheton Village Hall on Friday 14th September 2018, but it was strictly by appointment only and appointments could be made by contacting Ian Stephens on ian.stephens@parliament.uk or by telephoning 020 7219 2081. Details are on the village notice board.

6. Planning Application

Planning Application DC/18/03511 – Application for planning permission without compliance of condition(s) – Application under Section 73 of the Town and Country Planning Act – Outline Planning application (including access, all other matters reserved) – Erection of 9 No residential dwellings with associated garages, parking, roads, and accesses to The Street – Variation of Conditions 3 – (Approved Plans and Documents), Condition 7 (submission of a copy of the EPS licence for Great Crested Newts), condition 8 (Compliance with the recommendations of the Ecological Report) of Outline Planning permission DC/18/00161 to allow for revised ecology proposals.

Land adjacent to The Street, The Street, Preston St Mary, CO10 9NG

Cllr Martin left the meeting before any discussion commenced in relation to this planning matter.

Clerk advised Cllrs that in relation to Condition 7 (submission of a copy of the EPS licence for Great Crested Newts), Places Services who provide ecological advice on behalf of Babergh District Council had submitted a letter dated 22 August 2018 which stated the following:-

*“We have reviewed the Great Crested Newt Survey and Mitigation Strategy (Liz Lord Ecology, December 2017) and the Natural England Comments (August 2018). These details **do not** provide certainty to the Local Planning Authority that an EPS Licence for Great Crested Newts has been submitted. Therefore, further evidence is still required before Condition 7 can be discharged.”*

Signed.....

Dated.....

Clerk further advised that Place Services had commented in relation to Condition 8 (Compliance with the recommendations of the Ecological Report) as follows:-

“We have reviewed the Extended Phase 1 Survey Report (Practical Ecology, September 2014), Great Crested Newts Survey and Mitigation Strategy (Liz Lord Ecology, December 2017). As long as mitigation and enhancement measures contained within these ecological assessments are fully implemented then condition 8 should be discharged”.

Cllrs Luck proposed that the Parish Council follow the guidance of Place Services on Conditions 7 and 8. Cllr Tasker seconded. All Cllrs present agreed.

With regards to Condition 3 (approved plans and documents) the Clerk explained that she had needed to contact the planning department that day. On the application form it made reference to a “Brief Statement in Support”. The Clerk could not see that document on the Babergh planning portal. It subsequently transpired that it was not on the website. One of the planning officers had emailed a copy to the Clerk late in the afternoon and had then put a copy on to the website (it later transpired that the Architects had not provided the planning department with the Brief Statement in Support).

The Clerk noted from the Brief Statement in Support that it referred to drawing 2898/104 revision P07, but the drawing available on the website was P02. The Clerk advised the Parish Council that it was impossible for them to comment on a drawing that they had not seen and they could not know what changes had been made. It was possible that P07 was a typing error in the Brief Statement in Support and that it should say P02, but the Clerk had been unable to establish that with the planning department prior to this meeting.

All Cllrs agreed that the Clerk was to write to Babergh, explain that the Parish Council had called an additional meeting to consider the planning matter. Residents had come along to the meeting, and either (a) not all of the documentation was available for the Parish Council, or (b) there was a typing error in the Brief Statement in Support that the Architects had prepared, but the Parish Council could not guess which one of these scenarios was the case and therefore were being prejudiced in being able to comment on Condition 3. As such an extension of time for the Parish Council to consider Condition 3 at the next scheduled meeting on 25 August 2018 was being sought.

7. Date and time of next meeting: 25th September at 7.30pm

Meeting closed at 7.50pm

Signed.....

Dated.....