

HOUGHTON PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Extraordinary Parish Council Meeting
held on Monday 13th August 2018
at Houghton Village Hall, 7.30pm

Present: Parish Councillors: I Burt (Chair), A Young (Vice Chair), L Adams, P Chant, P Kennesion, A Dougall

Members of the Public: 12

Minutes: Cllr Ingrid Burt (Chair)

The meeting started at 7.30pm

1	<p>Apologies Apologies received from James Scougall</p>	Noted
2	<p>Declarations of Interest Cllrs to declare any interest relating to items on this agenda. None.</p>	Noted
3	<p>Public Participation Public comments on planning application 18/01953/FULLS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resident 1 - We have proven in the village that we do not want building on protected sites and this site is currently protected by a Woodland Preservation Order. It is in the Conservation Area, can't see any good reason why the Parish Council should give the application it's approval. TVBC's grounds for refusal of the original application are entirely relevant to this one. • Resident 2- in agreement with Resident 1. Architect is using Kentish vernacular. Windows facing Mayfield are invasion of privacy. • Resident 3 - the village has had or will have a lot of development which in turn removes green spaces. This is a really precious green space and should be preserved. • Resident 4 - it would be a very sad day if the Woodland were to be removed for development. • Resident 5 - it's a travesty that someone can purchase land in an area that they don't know and build on the only copse that it is left in the village. We want this Woodland copse to remain for habitats for wildlife and to enhance our Conservation Area. No vernacular architectural style in keeping with the village. TVBC should refuse it on the same grounds as the previous application. <p>The applicant then responded – we are a family of 4 wishing to move to the village, looking to make a positive contribution. The plot is within the village settlement boundary and as such the principle of development applies. The scheme doesn't involve clearing the plot, 64 trees on the site with 1 A grade tree, 14 moderate quality, 45 low quality. The development will impact 14 trees. 34 trees will be planted to fill in the hedgerow. We are respecting the plot and developing it in a careful and considered manner. I respect that there are some parishioners who oppose this application, but I request that they read the reports that were submitted with the application. We have worked very hard with TVBC planning department to ensure that the building follows the village vernacular.</p>	
4	<p>Planning Applications Cllrs to propose a response to be submitted to TVBC in relation to the following planning or tree applications:</p> <p>a) 18/01953/FULLS - Erection of a detached dwelling - Land Adjacent To Meadow View, Houghton.</p> <p>Following a full discussion, the Council resolved to object to the application on the following grounds: The recent housing needs survey, although not yet published, has not raised any need for further large houses in the village. There are 12 large houses approved for development in the next couple of years. The Council cannot see the case for building another large house, especially on the last woodland copse in the village.</p> <p>The Village Design Statement and Neighbourhood Plan, although not yet published, will seek to protect the last green spaces in the village.</p> <p>The Houghton and Bossington Conservation Document, states that the copse contains 'important trees and groups of trees'. It also characterises the village as having distinctive features of interlinking hedgerows and listed buildings close by. The reduction of these distinctive village features is unacceptable</p>	

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	<p>and detrimental to the character and setting of the Conservation Area. It contravenes policies COM2 and E9.</p> <p>The plot is currently subject to a Woodland Preservation Order. This application would involve cutting down many valuable trees losing habitat for the village rookery and impacting on the biodiversity of the wood, thus contravening policy COM2 and E5.</p> <p>The development would be visible from Sheepbridge and also lies adjacent to the Clarendon Way. Both are visited regularly by tourists and locals who appreciate the rural nature of the area and the abundant birdlife and wildlife. There have already been significant developments approved by TVBC very close to the site. 13 houses to be built opposite and another 6 have been built close by. The area will have changed beyond recognition if the woodland were to be developed with the further loss of green and wildlife abundant spaces.</p> <p>The Parish Council would like to draw attention to the notice of refusal for 17/02017/FULLS. The reasons for refusal are still applicable to this application. The planning officer found that the application 17/02017/FULLS was contrary to TVBC Revised Local Plan policies COM2, E1, E2, E5, E9 and LHW4. Houghton Parish Council would like to object to this proposal in the strongest possible terms given that it contravenes 6 policies of the Revised Local Plan.</p> <p>Proposed Cllr Burt, seconded Cllr Dougall, all agreed.</p> <p>b) 18/01602/CMAS - Restoration of former chalk quarry through the importation of inert fill together with associated temporary infrastructure - How Park Farm, Cow Drove Hill, Kings Somborne.</p> <p>Following a full discussion, the Council resolved to submit the following comments on the application:</p> <p>Although this application lies outside the Parish Boundary, the Parish Council are concerned about the noise impact that it could have on the village of Houghton. There is a natural amphitheatre across the valley from the site to the village, with little or no natural protection from intrusive noise.</p> <p>The movement of heavy lorries, tipping and earth grading with be very noisy and intrusive. For example, the reversing alarms of the lorries using the Tarmac facility adjacent to the site are audible in the village, so it is inevitable that the noise from this site will also be.</p> <p>The hours of operation are extensive, 7.00 – 18.00 Monday to Friday and 7.00 – 13.00 on Saturdays. If nothing else, it would preferable to have these hours reduced in order to preserve the quiet and rural nature of the surrounding area. The popular Test Way and Clarendon Way lie adjacent or extremely close to the site.</p> <p>The Parish Council are also concerned about the access to the site and the level of large lorry movements through Kings Somborne, especially at drop off and pick up times at the Primary School. The access through Cow Drove Hill is difficult as the road is narrow and dangerous.</p> <p>Proposed Cllr Burt, seconded Cllr Adams, all agreed.</p> <p>c) 18/01747/CLES - Application for a Lawful Development Certificate for existing use - Occupation of dwelling without complying with occupancy condition – Merlins, Spitfire Lane, Chattis Hill, Stockbridge.</p> <p>No objection</p> <p>Proposed Cllr Burt, seconded Cllr Dougall</p> <p>d) 18/01812/FULLS - First floor extension over existing side extension to provide study and enlarged bathroom - The Old School House, Church Lane, Houghton.</p> <p>No objection</p> <p>Proposed Cllr Burt, seconded Cllr Young</p> <p>e) 18/01980/TREES - T1 Mature Cherry – Fell - Test Lodge, Horsebridge Road, Houghton.</p>	
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	<p>No objection Proposed Cllr Young, seconded Cllr Burt</p> <p>f) 18/01971/TPOS – Re-coppice trees along roadside away from powerlines by up to 2 metres – Meadow View, Houghton. Following on from a full discussion the council resolved to seek further information from TVBC tree department as to whether the trees would be subject to re-coppicing or pollarding. To coppice a tree is to take it down to a stump which would not be acceptable. Cllr Young to investigate further with TVBC and submit comments.</p>	Cllr Young
5	<p>Next Meeting. Tuesday 4th September 2018 – 7.30pm – Houghton Village Hall</p>	

Meeting closed at 8.30pm

These minutes were approved and signed by the Chairman at the meeting held on 4th September 2018