

HOUGHTON PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Extraordinary Parish Council Meeting
held on Monday 18th October at 19.00
at Houghton Village Hall

Present: Parish Councillors: A Young (Chairman), L Adams (Vice Chairman),
A Dougall, P Chant.
Borough Cllr A Johnston.

Members of the Public: 19

Minutes: Cllr A Dougall

The meeting started at 19.00

Item Minute

- 1. Chairman's Welcome** – The Chairman welcomed all to the meeting. The Chairman welcomed Mr Brett Spiller, Mr Daniel Shea, and Mr Ethan Brighton who were representing Fortitudo Ltd and Chapman Lily and explained that they would be asked to address the meeting regarding Item 4(a) and would then answer questions and address points raised by parishioners and councillors before councillors making their decision on this item.
- 2. Apologies for Absence** – Cllr J Coombes.
- 3. Declarations of Interest**
To declare an interest in any items of business on this agenda – None.
- 4. Planning – Cllrs to propose a response to the following Planning Applications:**
 - a) 21/02761/OUTS – Outline application for demolition of existing industrial unit and the erection of 11 dwellings with associated parking (with all matters to be considered except landscaping which is a reserved matter) - Ro-Dor Ltd, Stevens Drove, Houghton – **Objection** – Proposed Cllr Adams, seconded Cllr Chant, all agreed.
*(While we support in principle the idea of developing this site as a brownfield site (and thereby continuing to preserve our green spaces), and the fact that the proposal is for smaller houses (2-bedroom and 3-bedroom dwellings), we **object** to the outline planning proposal on the following grounds:*
 - *The proposal is for eleven dwellings, and this is too many for this site. Moreover, there is no provision for affordable housing in the proposal.*
 - *The proposed layout is too cramped and is out of keeping with the character of the village and of nearby properties (it looks too urban).*
 - *There is insufficient parking given the number of properties and proposed layout for parking is poor. Moreover, it does not take into account visitors' parking, which would most likely have to be on the street.*
 - *The number of houses and, consequently cars (owners, visitors and deliveries) would inevitably increase the traffic in Stevens Drove considerably and consequent potential risk of accidents.*
 - *Potential flooding risks given the inadequate data provided on drainage.)*
 - b) 21/02818/TREES – Trees highlighted pink on Site Plan P651/1 to be crown lifted up to 4 metres and remove epicormic growth – 12 Houghton Farm Close, Houghton – **Support** – Proposed Cllr Chant, seconded Cllr Adams, all agreed.
 - c) 21/02843/CLPS – Application for a lawful development certificate for proposed siting of caravan for incidental/ancillary use – Oaklands, Chapel Close, Houghton – **Comment** – Proposed Cllr Dougall, seconded Cllr Adams, all agreed.
(We understand that a covenant exists on the Kents Orchard land that may apply to this property which could restrict the homeowners' use and there is considerable concern among neighbours about the proposal and the potential for noise nuisance, and the precedent this may set for other such applications in the conservation area.)
- 5. Next Meeting**
Full Council Meeting – Tuesday 9th November 2021 at 19.00
Meeting closed at 20.10

These minutes were approved and signed at the meeting held on 15th November 2021