

NEWICK PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Meeting of the Planning Committee of Newick Parish Council held at Newick Sports Pavilion, King George V Playing Field, Allington Road, Newick, on Tuesday, 13th February 2018 at 6.30 p.m.

Present: Councillors: C. Armitage, M. Halsey, I. Nesbitt, J. Smerdon, and J. White

In Attendance: Mrs. S. Berry (Clerk)
Twelve members of the public

An audio recording was made of the meeting

- 1. Apologies for Absence** – Apologies had been received from Cllrs. M. Thew and C. Wickens
- 2. Disclosure by Members of personal interest in matters on the agenda, the nature of any interest and whether the Member regards the interest as prejudicial under the terms of the Code of Conduct.** There were no disclosures of personal interest from members, however, it was noted that three of the applications on the agenda had been submitted by Newick Parish Council and it would not be appropriate for the committee to comment on these.
- 3. Questions or Statements by Members of the Public** – All of the comments made by members of the public were in connection with planning applications LW/18/0048, LW/18/5000 and LW/18/0080 (Land adjacent to The Rough and Vernons Road).

Mr Caulkett stated that he was a resident of The Rough and that his garden backed on to the land which was proposed for development. He raised the following points and urged the Parish Council not to remove this valued green space:-

- During consultation in 2013 30% of those who voted were not in favour of developing this site
- A large number of people pass through the site each day and they would miss the open space
- Why did the Parish Council spend money on submitting planning applications prior to resolving the covenant issue?
- The proposed development would result in the loss of street parking in The Rough
- Would there be any provision for continued access to rear gardens from this land?
- The additional open space mentioned in the Parish Council's statement on Newick.net was not adequate or convenient for those who currently use the land between Vernons Road and The Rough

Mr Marchant stated that he and his wife had moved in to The Rough in 2017, having previously lived in Ardingly where he served on the Parish Council. He stated that he was opposed to the proposed development and spoke specifically on the proposal to remove the covenant on the land. He said that he could not see any reason for the covenant to be removed and that building on the land may result in the removal of one of the existing trees. He proposed that instead of development, the land should be planted in order to attract wildlife. Mr Marchant said he hoped that District Councillor, Jim Sheppard, would be able to prevent the proposed development and urged the Council to withdraw the plans and review the Neighbourhood Plan.

Mr Lucas stated that during consultation for the Neighbourhood Plan some local residents did object to development of the area in question but others were in support, one having commented that it would tidy up an ugly area. He also advised that the Neighbourhood Plan had been supported by 89% of those who had voted and that, in view of this, he did not see how the Parish Council could do other than pursue it.

The Committee Chairman, Cllr. Nesbitt, stated that he would not respond individually to points raised by members of the public but referred to a statement that had been posted on the Newick.net website and which gave the Parish Council's reasons for making the application for the covenant to be amended and for the land to be developed in accordance with the Neighbourhood Plan.

A member of the public asked about the process for considering planning applications made by the Parish Council and it was clarified that the planning authority, Lewes District Council, would consider the applications and come to a decision as to whether or not to allow the development to proceed. It was also noted that the Lewes DC decision may be made by a planning officer under delegated authority rather than by the District Council's Planning Committee. It was confirmed that a District Councillor is able to 'call in' an application to be considered by the District Council Planning Committee but that this would need to be done within a certain time period.

In answer to a question raised by Mr Caulkett, the Clerk clarified that the reason the application for the modification of the covenant had been made at the same time as the planning applications were submitted was that Lewes District Council's legal department had advised that this would be the correct course of action.

Eleven members of the public left the meeting at 6.43 p.m.

4. Planning Applications

Newick LW/18/0048 Case Officer: Mr Piotr Kulik	Land Adjacent To The Rough And Vernons Road Outline Planning Application - One pair of semi-detached three bedroom houses with integral garages and parking spaces. This application, having been submitted by Newick Parish Council, was not discussed.
Newick LW/18/0050 Case Officer: Mr Piotr Kulik	Land Adjacent To The Rough And Vernons Road Outline Planning Application - One pair of semi-detached two bedroom bungalows with integral garages and parking spaces This application, having been submitted by Newick Parish Council, was not discussed.
Newick LW/18/0051 Case Officer: Mr Christopher Wright	31 Cricketfield Planning Application - Proposed two storey side extension and entrance porch for Mr & Mrs Heater. It was agreed to make no comment on this planning application.
Newick LW/18/0080 Case Officer: Mr Piotr Kulik	Land Adjacent To The Rough And Vernons Road Modification of Planning Obligation - Modification of agreement dated 26 April 1968 pursuant to s37 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1962 to remove restrictive covenant regarding use as a play area for Newick Parish Council. This application, having been submitted by Newick Parish Council, was not discussed.
Newick LW/18/0024 Case Officer: Miss Michelle Gardiner	5 High Hurst Close Planning Application - Conversion of bungalow into a two storey residential property, including loft conversion for K & D Cullip. It was agreed to make no comment on this planning application.

4.1 Approvals/Refusals etc. – It was noted that the following application had been **refused** by Lewes District Council:-

LW/17/0951 23 Newlands Park Way – Planning application for first floor balcony to front elevation.

4.2 Tree Works Applications - It was noted that the following tree works application had been **approved** by Lewes District Council:-

TW/17/0116/TPO 6 The Pagets – 2 x Beech (G3 of the Order) – Reduce crowns of both trees by no more than 20% of branch length ensuring that a framework of small foliage-bearing twigs and branches remain to provide a canopy in the next growing season.

The Meeting Closed at 6.49 p.m.

Signed: **Dated:**.....