

**MINUTES of the MEETING of BOXFORD PARISH COUNCIL** held on Monday 24th July 2017 at 7.30 p.m. in Bell House, Stone Street Road, Boxford.

**PRESENT:** J Fincham-Jacques (Chairman), R Balls, S Impett, A Sargeant, C Hughes, D Waspe, V Trafford, M Wooderson, D Hattrell (Clerk), J Finch (County Councillor), B Hurren (District Councillor) and around 14 members of the public (mostly from Leavenheath Parish).

**APOLOGIES:** were received from D Talbot Clarke due to holiday.

**DECLARATION OF INTEREST BY COUNCILLORS:** Nothing was declared.

**MINUTES OF 3RD JULY 2017:** Accepted as correct.

**QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC:** Various points were raised by Leavenheath residents who opposed the Planning at Hill Farm, Brick Kiln Hill. Members listened to all the points raised. Points included the expansion could operate in a more suitable industrial area. Traffic was a significant issue for the residents and there was suspicion expressed about the earlier passed traffic movements and the design of this application around those figures. Safety concerns were expressed about the proposed increase in HGV movements to accompany the expansion. Road safety in the vicinity had been the subject of an earlier meeting involving Leavenheath residents and County Councillor James Finch. The light pollution and proximity to the AONB were mentioned as significant together with the impact on the Dedham Vale application for "Dark Sky" status. Views that the application would not pass the test of "exceptional circumstances" under the National Planning Policy Framework and that 2 local Parish Councils had already opposed the application were also mentioned. On another matter, an update was sought on the Goodlands phase 2 application.

**CONTRIBUTION TOWARDS MEMORIAL:** It was agreed to defer this item until the September full meeting - **Action Clerk.**

**AUGUST PAYMENTS:** The regular August salary and contractor payments were approved.

**URGENT REPORTS FROM MEMBERS:** It was reported that clearance of the undergrowth by the path towards the Doctors Surgery has revealed an uneven surface. It was agreed for V Trafford to investigate further and take photos. R Balls reported an incident where a HGV got stuck at Daking Avenue on the way to Cox Hill on the night of 20th July. B Hurren agreed to investigate - **Action B Hurren.** The visibility at the Stone Street/A1071 junction is still obstructed by overgrown vegetation. It was agreed to forward the email on the subject of attendance at Parish Council meetings regarding the District Council Strategic Plan to M Wooderson and B Hurren - **Action Clerk.** V Trafford reported the poor quality of the recent grass cut at the top of School Hill.

The meeting closed at **9.00 p.m.**

**Planning Meeting Held by Boxford Parish Council at Bell House, Stone Street Road, Boxford on Monday 24th July 2017**

**The following applications were discussed: -**

a) **B/17/00091** - Outline application to erect up to 24 dwellings (including up to 8 affordable dwellings) with access on land to the south of, Daking Avenue. M Wooderson updated the meeting on issues relating to this applications - specifically the spoil heap and traffic issues. The Planning Officer has suggested the spoil heap is removed. If this action is taken, a delay with the application will take place. The meeting was closed briefly to enable assistance to be sought from County Cllr James Finch in relation to a highways meeting. Frustration was expressed regarding the lack of communication from the Highways authority and their apparent disregard for their own data. Cllr J Finch stressed that the Highways report should focus on regulation and he agreed to arrange an early meeting involving the Highways Development Manager - Steve Merry, the Planning Officer and also representatives from the Parish Council.

b) **B/17/03117** - Application at Hill Farm, Brick Kiln Hill, Polstead. Extensions to production premises, associated parking, landscaping and drainage. The Chairman went through some of the issues and then directed each member to share their views. It was noted the vehicle movements applicable to this expansion were passed in 2008. The main points members discussed were traffic (including the impact for Stone Street residents), the employment and economic factors (where a case was made that the benefits should be weighed against the impact on the countryside) and the suitability of the scale of the expansion planned. Some members had visited the plant and the secure 50 year lease was mentioned. One member warned against what would replace the operation if it were to leave the current location. Voting then took place and there were 4 ordinary votes for "No Objections" and 4 "Opposing the Application", the Chairman used his casting vote to agree "**No Objections** to this Application".

c) **B/17/02678** - 5 Hadleigh Road - Proposed single storey front extension and covered canopy. **No Objections.**

d) **B/17/02491** - Pro Tem, Calais Street - Proposed two storey dwelling. This application had already been passed by the Planning Authority.