

MINUTES OF MEETING OF ASSINGTON PARISH COUNCIL
Held in Assington Village Hall on Monday 18th March 2019

Present: Councillors Simon Thorogood (Chairman), Stephen King, Rose Symonds, Bronwen Stacey, Steve Betts and Helen Wallace

Attending: Babergh District Councillor Jennie Jenkins, Jane Hatton (Clerk) and 4 members of the public

19/017 Apologies for Absence

Councillor John Symons and County Councillor James Finch

19/018 Declaration of Interest and Requests for Dispensation

No interests were declared and no request for dispensation had been received.

19/019 Minutes of Meeting held on 28th January 2018

The minutes of the meeting were approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

19/020 Public Forum

District Councillor Jennie Jenkins advised that the council tax bills had been distributed and there had been several queries regarding the Police proportion, of which BDC only collects and has no control over the amount set. There had been a Suffolk wide initiative to reduce the amount of council tax paid by care leavers. Discuss was taking place regarding the possibility of a multi storey car park at the end of the North Street in Sudbury and an extra planning meeting to discuss the BDC building in Corks Lane in Hadleigh. The District Councillor was also going to see the MP James Cartlidge regarding the resident in Assington who is not getting their post delivered.

The public meeting was closed.

19/021 The Befriending Scheme Community Care Farm

Two representatives attended to update the council regarding the proposed care farm and informed the council that The Befriending Scheme had been a charity for nearly 30 years and their remit was to support vulnerable people. They have already set up a care farm at Otley College in May 2018 but as their head office is in Sudbury, it would be ideal to also have something local as there is currently no facility nearby and they are not sure of the future of Otley College. They have a 30 year lease of a 1.4 acre field in Assington where they want to keep small animals such as chickens and goats to enable them to provide the benefits of gardening, animal welfare and the outdoors. They have put in planning permission for two portacabins and a storage container. The first portacabin will be a classroom and a dry place to have lunch and socialize. The second in the future will also be a classroom but will provide accommodation to give respite care. They confirmed that there will be looking to have 12 to 20 placements per day and the drop off will be around 9.30am and collection 3.30pm but they will be encouraging the use of the buses and it will be continuous including school holidays. There is already hard standing for vehicles and they would be looking to set up a steering group of local people and already have several interested residents.

19/022 Planning

- a. Councillors reviewed **Planning Permission – DC/19/00395** – Application to erect a single storey side extension at 1 Vicary Estate, Assington and the councillors resolved to **object** to this application on the grounds that the cladding proposed on the outside of the whole building including the extension is not in keeping with the street scene.

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- b. Councillors reviewed **Planning Permission – DC/19/00971** – Application for siting 2 portacabins and 1 storage container on land at Assington Fruit Farm, The Street, Assington and the councillors resolved to **support** to this application.
- c. Councillors reviewed **Appeal – APP/D3505/W/18/3217096** – Outline Planning Application for erection of 6 dwellings at land east of The Street, Assington and the councillors resolved to **object strongly** to this application on the grounds which the permission had already been refused by BDC and overturned regarding the neighbouring site on appeal and these reasons still apply including:
- Overdevelopment of the site and no requirements for any additional dwellings in addition to the 10 dwellings with planning permission failing to meet CS11 which requires development to be well designed and appropriate in size/scale and character to its setting and village.
 - No capacity of physical infrastructure (Assington has no mains drainage or sewage) with the additional risk of flooding including foul water including the quality of the water in the nearby brook which is a SSI
 - Highway issues with additional traffic generation and highway safety with no footpath connecting the proposed site with the amenities of the village
 - The impact on the development in a designated special landscape NPPF para 109.
 - The drive through the St Edmunds Close had been agreed for access for agricultural use only

In addition, since the original application the Neighbourhood Planning Group has been established for nearly a year have done a survey of residents of which 52% responded and 99% of these agreed that any development should respect Assingtons biodiversity and views, 87% felt that speeding traffic was a problem and 81% want any further development to be infill along the street.

Babergh District Council has met its 5 year housing supply needs and Assington is being overdeveloped, with 159 houses in 1999 and currently there are 185 properties with another 41 with planning permission to be built.

With regards to the two affordable properties only now included at this Appeal stage of the planning application process, these (and more) should have been included in the original plan of the neighbouring site and are not required with all the additional properties already being built in the village.

- d. Councillors reviewed **Listed Building Consent – DC/19/01106** – Application to change two rear ground floor windows to French doors at The Coach House, Assington Park, Assington resolved to **support** to this application.
- e. **Planning Issues**
A large cabin had been put on a land in the village with a post box without planning permission and the clerk will contact BDC Planning enforcement
- f. Status of planning applications previous reviewed by APC are as follows:

Date Received	BDC Ref	Application	APC Ref	APC Response	BDC Response
22/06/18	DC/18/02836	Erection of extension to existing production premises, associated car parking, landscaping and drainage infrastructure at Hill Farm, Stoke Road, Polstead	18/081a	Objected	

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09/07/18	DC/18/03080	Erection of dwelling, detached garage and air source heat pump at land south of Maxton and Russet, The Street, Assington	18/081b	Objected	Application Withdrawn
11/08/18	DC/18/04078	Listed Building Consent - Conversion of detached outbuilding to two dwellings at Hill Farm, The Street, Assington	18/105c	Objected	Granted
25/09/18	DC/18/04270	Erection of dwelling, detached garage and air source heat pump at land south of Maxton and Russet, The Street, Assington	18/116a	Supported	Granted
23/10/18	DC/18/01894	Erection of new detached dwelling at Land South of Wistons, The Street, Assington (re-consultation)	18/128b	Supported	Granted
19/11/18	DC/18/04077	Conversion of detached outbuilding to two dwellings at Hill Farm, The Street, Assington (re-consultation)	18/128d	Objected	Granted
26/11/18	DC/18/05178	Erection of up to 7 dwellings with carports at land at Assington Barns, The Street, Assington	18/143a	Supported	
06/12/18	DC/18/05348	Erection of extension at Lantern House, The Street, Assington	18/143c	Supported	Granted
18/01/19	DC/19/00210	Listed Building Consent at The Old Workhouse, Further Street, Assington	19/010a	Supported	Granted

19/023 Walk of the Village Update

- a. Although the representative from SCC Highways only deals with planning and not highway issues, she had been very helpful. It was agreed that funding from BDC CIL for speed calming measures should be investigated and put on the next agenda.
- b. The clerk was to find out the price of speed signs in addition to those sent through from the SCC Highways representative.

19/024 Lorry Watch

- a. Lorry Watch requires a trained operative to collect the information of registration and time a lorry goes through the village with an unsafe load without a cover. A request will be put in the newsletter for a volunteer.
- b. Scrap lorries are being parked overnight and at weekends on the layby on the A134 and District Councillor Jenkins will investigate with SCC highways on the best approach.

19/025 Telephone Kiosk

It was confirmed that the kiosk is listed and therefore BT could not take it away but that it would be left unused and the telephone removed. It was therefore agreed that the council would adopt it and it would show Assington History and tourist information centre, to show the history of the village and footpaths.

19/026 Village Hall Bin

Councillors considered the proposed new bin and agree the purchase of £155 plus VAT.

19/027 Question to the Chair

Cllr King as the chair of the Assington Village Charity informed that they had had a request from Ryes College to switch off the wifi as the students were able to access it. It was agreed that it was a matter for the Village Hall to respond to Ryes College with the support of the Parish Council.

19/028 Next Meeting

The next scheduled meeting date is Monday 25th March 2019 starting at 7.30pm.

The meeting closed at 9.05pm

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