

Swilland and Witnessham Grouped Parish Council

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MINUTES

Planning Committee Meeting

Monday 6th September 2021 at 7.30pm

The School Room, Witnessham Baptist Church

1. **Present:** Mr Hindle (Chair), Mrs Shaw, Mr Henley, Dr Nicol, Mr Barlow and Mr Collings.
Apologies for absence: None
Chair welcomed all to the meeting and to Dr Nicol, for his first Planning Committee meeting.
2. **Councillors' declarations of interest:** None
3. Minutes of the meeting of 19th July 2021 were approved as a true record and signed by the Chair.
4. **ESC decisions received since the meeting of 19th July 2021:**
 - a) DC/21/2680/LBC Witnessham Hall Church Lane Witnessham. PC did not comment. ESC permitted.
 - b) DC/21/2828/FUL Merrihay Hall Lane Witnessham. No objections by the PC. ESC permitted.
 - c) DC/21/2859/FUL Mary Rose Cottage Upper Street Witnessham. No objections by the PC. ESC permitted.
5. **Planning Applications for Consideration**
 - a) Application: DC/21/3740/FUL **Low Farm Cockfield Hall Lane Witnessham** Conversion & extension of former barn to dwellinghouse. Comprising installation of sewage treatment system, new boundary wall structure & associated landscaping. New vehicle access to highway & site access route. After discussion, it was agreed that the PC has no objections to the application.
Decision: No Objections
 - b) Application: DC/21/3741/LBC **Low Farm Cockfield Hall Lane Witnessham** Listed Building Consent as per item 5.a.
Decision: No objections.
 - c) Application: DC/21/3519/FUL **Low Farm Barn Kirby Lane Swilland** Alterations to existing access, including replacing driveway gates. After discussion, it was agreed that the PC has no objections to the application.
Decision: No objections.

- d) Application: DC/21/3925/FUL **St Marys Church Church Lane Swilland**
Demolition of the redundant boiler/coal house situated on the north wall to replace it with the proposed extension in conjunction with internal alterations (not part of this application).
After discussion, it was agreed that the PC supports the application as community benefit for Swilland was perceived.
Decision: Supported
6. Residential Amenity, High Road Swilland – It was reported that ESC is now due to visit the site for a second time to follow up. This was to assess if further enforcement was necessary after the timescale for the occupier to either submit a planning application or cease the activities had passed.
7. Enforcement case and complaint: Homelands House Vehicles Parked Onsite. Chair gave an overview of the current situation with the site and the received unsatisfactory responses from ESC regarding the formal complaint submitted by the PC to ESC and also the concerns over the other breaches of planning conditions in regard to use of machinery outside and the resulting noise disturbance to the near neighbours. The response from the formal complaint, claimed to have been sent to the PC by ESC, was never found and only after further inquiries was this actually then received by the PC. Doubt was cast over the following of the ESC Complaints Procedure and timescales.
This would be followed up. The committee agreed that Chair and Clerk should contact the ESC expressing the PC's concerns over the way the formal complaint was handled. Secondly it was agreed that the PC should seek a further formal enforcement case against the wood working noise breaches of the planning conditions, and ask that these breaches be considered alongside the enforcement concerning storage of vehicles.
8. Enforcement case Mill Lane Witnesham – It was reported that after enquiries made by ESC Councillor Tony Fryatt, that the owner of the property claims that the fence has been replaced like for like to the ESC Enforcement Officer. Photographic evidence offered by the occupier is pending receipt by ESC and further investigation.
9. Matters to be brought to the attention of the Planning Committee.
It was noted that a new application for Street Farm site had been received today for 20 dwellings. This would be an agenda item for a subsequent Planning Committee meeting. Dates and options were discussed and the preferred venue was the Baptist Chapel, if not The School Room. **Over-head projection facilities and venue availability would be investigated by the Clerk.**

Meeting closed at 8:45 p.m.

