

Swilland and Witnessham Grouped Parish Council

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MINUTES

Planning Committee Meeting

Monday 7th June 2021 at 7.30pm

The School Room, Witnessham Baptist Church

1. **Present:** Mr Hindle (Chair), Mr Barlow, Mrs Shaw and Mr Henley.
Apologies for absence: Mr Collings.
Chair welcomed all to the meeting and in particular the new committee members, Mr Barlow and also Mr Henley who has served previously on the committee a few years ago. Chair apologised to the meeting for the physical set up of the meeting venue.
2. **Councillors' declarations of interest:** Item 5a, Mr Barlow lives across the road, opposite Elm Cottage.
3. Minutes of the meeting of 13th April 2021 were approved as a true record and signed by the Chair.
4. **ESC decisions received since the meeting of 13th April 2021:**
 - a) DC/20/4974/ROC Hillbrow Farm Tuddenham Lane Witnessham. Was supported by the PC. ESC refused.
 - b) DC/21/0240/FUL Cockfield Hall Cockfield Hall Lane Witnessham. Was supported by the PC. ESC permitted.
 - c) DC/21/0781/OUT Kersey Croft Kennels Strugglers Lane Witnessham. Was supported by the PC. ESC refused.
 - d) DC/21/0993/FUL The Hope Centre Wash Lane Witnessham. Was supported by the PC. ESC permitted.
5. **Planning Applications for Consideration**
 - a) Application: DC/21/2233/FUL **Elm Cottage Mow Hill Witnessham** Erection of two-storey and ground floor extension.
Plans and elevations were shared on screen and Chair gave an overview of the application. Committee comments included that the site was well screened and similar materials had been specified as the existing.
Decision: No objections.
 - b) DC/21/2445/LBC **Witnessham Hall Church Lane Witnessham** Listed Building Consent - Alterations to main house (LBC1) report.
Chair explained that this was a retrospective application for alterations made internally by previous owners and that the ESC Conservation Officer and Historic England were supportive.

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Decision: No objections

6. Residential Amenity, High Road Swilland

The Chair gave an overview, mainly for the benefit of the new committee members and confirmed that the issue had been raised formally with ESC, including concerns about possible fuel storage. This was low priority with ESC so a swift outcome was unlikely.

7. Homelands House Vehicles Parked Onsite – update

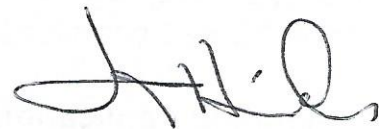
The formal written complaint made to ESC and their response had been circulated prior to the meeting. The coaches are still parked on site in breach of the planning condition and three extension periods given to comply with the regulations. The committee considered this most unsatisfactory and agreed to escalate by writing to the Chief Executive of ESC seeking an explanation of lack of enforcement to date and asking him to direct an early resolution of this issue.

8. Neighbourhood Plan (NP) – Chair reminded the meeting of the pending July informative presentation due by ESC, to the PC, at the next full council meeting. Expected information would include what is involved in setting up a NP, what resources and support is available. Council can then make an informed decision on whether to pursue a NP. It was important that the committee members study the NP documentation prior to the July meeting so that appropriate questions can be asked. Any future NP would need to be agreed by ESC and the Inspectorate.

9. Matters to be brought to the attention of the Planning Committee.

After a brief discussion about potential forthcoming planning applications, Chair made the point that Parish Councils were not made aware of pre-applications and had raised this point at a recent consultation with ESC.

Meeting closed at 8:50 p.m.



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