

## Swilland and Witnesham Grouped Parish Council

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### MINUTES

#### Planning Committee Meeting

Monday 28th February 2022 at 7.30pm

The School Room, Witnesham Baptist Church

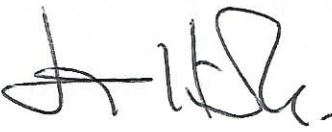
1. **Present:** Dr Nicol, Mrs Shaw, Mr Collings and Mr Hindle (Chair).  
**Apologies for absence:** Mr Barlow  
**In attendance:** two members of the public
2. **Councillors' declarations of interest:** None
3. Minutes of the meeting of 1<sup>st</sup> February 2022 were approved as a true record and signed by the Chair.
4. **ESC decisions received since the meeting of 1<sup>st</sup> February 2022:**
  - a) DC/21/5445/FUL Leaside Lodge Upper Street Witnesham. PC "no objection". **ESC permitted.**
  - b) DC/21/5692/FUL and DC/21/5693/LBC Witnesham Hall Church Lane Witnesham. PC "Supported" both. **Esc Permitted both.**
5. **Planning Applications for Consideration**
  - a) Application: DC/22/0140/FUL **Walnut Tree Cottage Rose Hill Witnesham** Demolition of two bay garage and construction of a two bay cart lodge with storage/home office above.  
After viewing plans and elevations **the committee agreed on a "No Objection" response to ESC.**
6. **DC/21/4111/FUL Street Farm application and SCC Highways consultation response.** The Clerk had written to SCC Cllr Elaine Bryce asking for a meeting to be set up between SCC Highways officers and Mr Hindle and Dr Nicol over concerns about the access off the B1077. Accident information referred to by SCC did not hold records for a serious in accident in 2020, of which proof was obtained from a local resident and photographs supplied which were forwarded to SCC.  
A response had been received today. It was confirmed that SCC is still recommending a holding objection – this is mainly related to drainage issues. It was also stated that officers were inadequately resourced to meet on individual planning applications. Crucially, SCC's role as the highway authority is as a technical statutory consultee, which requires them to be fully independent and not seen to be influenced by 3rd parties, for example, Parish Councils, or individual groups. The information already provided by the PC with regards to the collision has now been forwarded on to the team concerned,

including the helpful photographs. Officers have confirmed that they are very happy to receive information from other statutory consultees. The committee agreed the outcome was disappointing but understood the reasoning given.

**7. Review of ESC Local Validation List - Initial consultation. To consider response.** Chair explained about issues encountered in the past with validation of planning applications. This was an initial consultation on a new draft validation list, which would be followed by a second consultation when a second draft was produced. It was agreed to wait until later in the year for the re-consultation.

**8. Matters to be brought to the attention of the Planning Committee.** Chair reminded the meeting of the need to seek additional Planning Committee members. In this regard, the clerk had advertised and two potential new PC members had applied to join the PC. Chair reported that a response had been received from the landowner's agent at the Witnessham Wood Yard site stating that the owners were still considering future options for the site.

Meeting closed at 8:05 p.m.

  
12/21/22