

Swilland and Witnesham Grouped Parish Council

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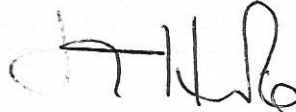
MINUTES

Planning Committee Meeting

Tuesday 13th April 2021 at 7.30pm

Held remotely via Zoom

1. **Present:** Mr Hindle (Chair), Mr Collings, Mrs Shaw and Mr Rush.
Apologies for absence: Mr Hill
In Attendance: 1 member of the public for item 7
2. **Councillors' declarations of interest:** None
3. Minutes of the meeting of 15th March 2021 were minutes approved **Chair agreed to respond** to ESDC by 26^h April deadline on their Sustainability and CIL communication.
4. **ESC decisions received since the meeting of 15th March 2021:**
No previous decisions to note.
5. **Planning Applications for Consideration**
 - a) Application: DC/21/0993/FUL **The Hope Centre Wash Lane Witnesham** Proposal for a temporary portacabin.
PC had **no objections and agreed to support** application for a temp Portacabin at the Hope Centre facility but with a maximum 3-year time limit
Decision: Supported with the above comments.
 - b) DC/21/1583/FUL **Low Farm Cockfield Hall Lane Witnesham** Demolition of Victorian and modern east end extensions and chimney stack. Erection of room-in-roof extension to east end.
PC had **no objections and were supportive** of the proposed two storey side extension proposal at Low Farm Cockfield Hall Lane.
Decision: Supported
 - c) DC/21/1584/LBC **Low Farm Cockfield Hall Lane Witnesham** Listed Building Consent - Demolition of Victorian and modern east end extensions and chimney stack. Erection of room-in-roof extension to east end.
As Above acknowledging this is a Listed Building of some significance in the village the PC had **no objections** to the materials and style of the proposal and were in support.
Decision: Supported

7/6/21 

6. ESC Planning Protocol – Survey

After the Chair listed the questionnaire survey provided by Theberton and Eastbridge, the general feeling was that ESDC Planning was one of the better councils. It was noted that it was important to use the referral system when there were differences of views between the Parish Council and delegated Planning Officers. Some concern was expressed at the working and representation on the Referral Panel Referral and from previous experience there were concerns with ESDC Enforcement process and no opportunity for Parish Councils to be involved in taking cases to committee. Both these aspects could be improved. **Chair agreed to complete the survey and return to summarise the committee's general views and to highlight the above points.**

7. Residential Amenity, High Road Swilland

The Chair confirmed the location at Eastview along the High Road Swilland has been highlighted as a cause for concern given the apparent activities being undertaken on the site involving vehicle storage and dismantling along with transporter vehicles occasionally narrowing the highway.

The Committee heard from a member of the public who resides in Swilland who outlined several concerns residents of Swilland had expressed to him particularly with noise issues of vehicles being worked on the number of vehicles and parts being stored on site and their visual Impact not only on the general area but on the immediate neighbouring dwellings, along with potential contamination in what is very much a residential area. There was also some suggestion of car and parts sales being undertaken from the premises and the activities occupying much of the rear garden area of the property.

The Committee had been made aware of this some time ago and had chosen to monitor, but with the complaints once again being expressed of the activities on the site the PC agreed via the Clerk to request that the District Council be notified and be requested to Investigate the Visual Impact , Noise and general activities being undertaken at the site and the impact of these to Residential Amenity, to confirm or otherwise if this is a legitimate use of the site under its current residential status and to advise the Parish Council accordingly.

8. Homelands House Vehicles Parked Onsite – update

Chair confirmed that the ESC Enforcement Officer had responded to a chasing e-mail request for further action on the Homelands site where parking of vehicles prohibited had continued beyond the Jan deadline date. The Enforcement Officer advised he would follow up in the coming days and **Committee agreed to follow up with Head of Planning if no further action were taken in the near future.**

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

Chair encouraged all committee members to view the slide presentation that had been forwarded from ESC, particularly to note sections on "how to frame responses" to applications and the importance, wherever possible refer to

SWgPC/Plan/05/21

Planning Policies. Chair also highlighted the section on Residential Planning Briefs which could be important with the allocated sites at Street Farm and Mow Hill in considering their development.

Meeting closed at 8:50 p.m.

7/6/21 J W