

Minutes of the Meeting of Whinburgh & Westfield Parish Council held at the Whinburgh & Westfield Pavilion on Tuesday 13th December 2022 at 7:30pm.

Present: Nick Anema, Chairman
Sian Carrel, Vice-Chairman
Michael Goodrick
Mark Hansell
Richard Gundry
Simon Whiteley
Jimmy Miller, Locum Clerk

Also present: 19 members of the public plus District Councillor Paul Plummer.

Before the meeting, the Locum Clerk announced that the meeting was being recorded.

Cllr Carrel informed the meeting that Parish Clerk Julian Gibson had had a stroke and that WWPC had sent their best wishes to Julian and his family.

Cllr Carrel thanked the Locum Clerk and the County Officer of Norfolk Association of Local Councils for help in making this evening's meeting happen.

1 Apologies for absence

Cllr Pinch had sent his apologies and these were accepted.

2 Declarations of interest

Cllr Anema declared an interest in agenda item 6.1.

3 Applications for dispensations

None.

Cllr Anema said that as many of the public were likely in the public participation session to be giving their opinions on agenda item 6.1, he would leave the meeting and pass the chair to Cllr Carrel. He suggested that the public participation session be immediately followed by agenda item 6.1 and, once finished, he would return to the meeting where the public participation session could resume.

Cllr Anema left the meeting.

4 Public participation session

Most of the public participation session was taken up discussing 3PL/2022/1071/O. All members of the public who spoke about 3PL/2022/1071/O were against the application. A number of issues were raised including whether the Traffic Impact Assessment for the original 291 houses was invalid when 89 houses were added on, traffic problems in general, problems with pedestrian access, access to schools and healthcare and the additional risk of flooding. One parishioner stated that he was organising a petition and that this petition would be handed in to Breckland DC.

6.1 Planning application 3PL/2022/1071/O

Land to the East of Westfield Road, and to the South of Westfield Lane

Outline Planning for development of a maximum of 89 dwellings and associated infrastructure (all matters reserved)

Cllr Goodrick proposed the motion that WWPC object to the application on the grounds that the development would increase traffic problems and congestion, there is not enough access to schools and healthcare, there is no pedestrian access, there is increased flood risk as a result of the development, and there are environmental issues associated with the development; motion was seconded by Cllr Hansell. WWPC voted unanimously to object to the development on the grounds indicated. WWPC also requested that they be notified when the application goes to committee.

Cllr Anema returned to the meeting.

4 Public participation session (resumed)

A parishioner stated her objection to 3PL/2022/1267/F. She stated that the cattle shed was not a cattle shed but was a commercial building. Another parishioner stated that it was too close to a ditch; Cllr Anema said that the building did not comply with the construction of a cattle shed; another parishioner stated that the building, if it was a cattle shed, had its opening facing ENE which is the wrong direction for a cattle shed.

6.2 Planning application 3PL/2022/1267/F

Cattle Shed, Chapel Farm, Dereham

Retrospective application

Cllr Whiteley proposes the motion that WWPC object to the application on the grounds that it is not built as a cattle shed, and consequently is not fit for purpose, that it is too close to a ditch, and that it would increase the risk of flooding; motion was seconded by Cllr Hansell; WWPC voted unanimously to object to the development on the grounds indicated. WWPC also asked that this development go before committee.

5 Play equipment inspection

WWPC was informed that Cllr Pinch had recently inspected the play equipment and that it was all in a good state of repair.

7 Any matters for consideration at next meeting

WWPC discussed the issue of finding a locum clerk.

Meeting closed at 8:52pm.

Date of next Parish Council meeting: 17th January 2023