

Sibton Parish Council

An Extra-Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council was held on Wednesday, March 3rd 2021 virtually on Zoom at 7pm.

Minutes:

Present:

Cllr. A. Dale (Chair); Cllr. A. Candler (Vice-Chair); Cllr. A. Cable, Cllr. S. Lear and Cllr. R. Levett-Scrivener and Cllr. D. Sims:

Also Present:

Paul Widdowson (Clerk):

Matt Bostock and Argus Hardy to give a presentation on Planning Application DC/21/0621/FUL (Left 7-30pm).

1) Apologies:

There were no apologies.

2) To receive declarations of interest:

Cllr. D. Sims declared an indirect personal interest in Planning Application DC/21/0436/FUL. It was agreed that he would not vote on any motion.

Cllr. A. Dale and Cllr. S. Lear declared an indirect personal interest in Planning Application DC/21/0621/FUL. It was agreed that they would not vote on any motion.

3) Requests for dispensations:

There were no requests for dispensations.

4) Planning Matters:

DC/21/0621/FUL was discussed first.

Proposal: Erection of 4 No. tourist accommodation lodges and associated development.

Address: Sibton Park, Yoxford Road, Sibton, Suffolk. IP17 2LY

Ref: DC/21/0621/FUL

Matt Bostock and Argus Hardy gave a presentation on the planning application. Cllr. A. Candler asked whether the traffic especially service and customer would increase and whether the footpaths on the old maps would be reinstated as currently some paths were not open. Matt Bostock and Argus Hardy said that with some new lodges, there would be a few more visitors and the service traffic would be twice a week. As regards the paths, they said that there had been much discussion about the paths and the point was taken on board. Cllr. D. Sims said

that Matt Bostock and Argus Hardy had mentioned the old Green and he reported that he had got a map of these old Greens. Argus Hardy asked if he could have a copy of this map.

Councillors agreed to submit the following:

Following the Sibton Parish Council Extra-Ordinary Meeting on March 3rd 2021, the Parish Council do not object of the proposal but do have some reservations and concerns.

We do understand and appreciate that the tourist trade is important to East Suffolk. Our primary concern is that will there be more such proposals? It is felt that there is already enough holiday accommodation, of all types, in the area. Within this part of Suffolk, there has been a huge increase recently and more is constantly being proposed. Much more, sadly, spoils it for all those that must live and work here and for those wishing to sample the delights of this part of Suffolk. We do not wish to end up as overcrowded areas such as Cornwall.

Hollow Lane/New Road is not the most suitable road to access Lodges 2,3 & 4 from the A1120, being as their access is at the northern end of Hollow Lane/New Road. It would therefore seem that one of the more likely routes will be via Sibton Green. The accommodation may be of low occupational numbers but will there be an increased service traffic for the lodges? Cleaners, maintenance and the additional services are mentioned. This road is already a busy route for the "Wilderness Reserve" traffic and the estate's agricultural vehicles who are transiting from Home Farm to the further reaches of the estate and beyond.

The extracurricular activities are also of some concern in how they will impact on those who live close to the park, not just as noted above from the extra traffic, but also from the noise and disturbance to the neighbouring properties and the wildlife. It was noticed on the site plan that there may be a future development which has not been mentioned within the application statement.

Light pollution is also of concern. It is gratefully noted that low level lighting is proposed and whilst this is a welcome consideration, any form of extra lighting does add to the overall detrimental effect. Presently Sibton, as a Parish, with Sibton Green enjoys a particularly good dark sky which is very much appreciated and envied by visitors as is the general sense of peacefulness. Please do not spoil it.

The Parish Council noted and appreciated that the proposal was well researched, thoughtful and sympathetic to its surroundings and that the Wilderness Reserve attended the Parish Council Meeting.

The Parish Council know that the Wilderness Reserve does fully appreciate and consider extremely important much of the above but we felt that it just needed to be reiterated.

Proposer: Cllr. A. Cable:

Seconder: Cllr. D. Sims:

Proposal: Widen the entrance so that two cars can pass. This would involve removing a small portion of the verge and existing scrubby bushes and providing a hard surface, probably concrete, for a new additional carriageway.

Address: St Peter's Church, Yoxford Road, Sibton, Suffolk. IP17 2LX

Ref: DC/21/0436/FUL

The Parish Council approved the planning application

Proposer: Cllr. A. Candler:

Seconder: Cllr. S. Lear:

5) Clerk's Report, Correspondence and Donations:

The Clerk said that there was no report.

6) Cheques and Receipts:

There were no cheques or receipts.

Councillors asked the Clerk to follow up Cllr S. Burroughes regarding the grant for the Sign Indicator Device and to put the Snowplough and SID Bracket on the Agenda.

The Meeting ended at 7-55pm.