

**WORTH PARISH COUNCIL
PLANNING AND HIGHWAYS COMMITTEE
4th AUGUST 2014**

PRESENT: Mrs L Field (Chairman)
Mrs E Ancomb
Mr D Blackman
Mr R Blackmore
Dr I Gibson
Mr C T Larkin
Mr E M Livesey
Mr A Brooks
Mr C T Phillips
Mrs J Suckling
Mr N Walker
Mr G Williams
Mrs J Saunders (Clerk)

22 members of the Public

PUBLIC SPEAKING

A resident from Crawley Down congratulated Cllr M Livesey for his eloquent detailed speech outlining all the reasons for rejection of the St Modwen planning application at the Mid Sussex District Council Planning meeting held 31st July 2014.

A Local resident of Copthorne who also attended this Committee meeting at MSDC and had a 3 minute slot to raise his concerns regarding the proposed Schooling changes and the overall impact this will have on Copthorne Village. After the decision by MSDC to grant planning permission he had sought legal advice to see if there was a potential breach in how the evidence was put together by MSDC. The legal adviser agreed that the delay in getting the information together regarding the Schools would be good enough grounds for a judicial review to be pursued by Copthorne Village.

Cty Cllr W E Acraman who represents Copthorne ward at West Sussex County Council sympathised with the residents of Copthorne and explained there were 2 or 3 options regarding the Schooling and the fact that Fairways Infant School is in need of a complete refurbishment is a factor that will need to be considered. However, he will fight against the main school being moved out to the new development site. The main School needs to be in the heart of Copthorne.

35 APOLOGIES: Cllrs: Mr P Coote, Mr A Lacey, Mrs N Raschia-Grau, Mrs Stein & Mr T W Thomas

36 DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY AND OTHER INTEREST: -

Cllr C Larkin declared a pecuniary interest in item 4 on the agenda and left the room when this item was discussed.

37 MINUTES HELD ON 21st JULY 2014

The minutes held on the 21st JULY 2014 were signed as a correct record.

38 UPDATE ON MSDC PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETINGS

St Modwens application 13/04127/OUTES Cllr Livesey had attended the MSDC meeting and addressed the committee as a ward Councillor. He and a large number of Copthorne residents were very disappointed with the outcome. The Council and the residents of Copthorne have 6 weeks to decide if they wish to pursue a judicial review. This will be discussed at the next Copthorne Sub Committee and at present the consensus is that they have at least 5 separate grounds to be considered:-

- How the meeting was chaired – It contravened the MSDC standing orders and processes.
- The Planning Officers brow beat the statutory bodies – whilst the Environment Agency had not raised any objection, but, purely dealt with the flood risk the important issue of air pollution was not addressed at all and in any event would fall outside the EA remit.
- The original Highways report was not taken into account or addressed by WSCC. The stretch of M23 between junctions 9 and 10 was one of the UK's 10 worst air polluted sections identified last year by the Highways agency,

It was **RESOLVED** that the Clerk write a letter strongly opposing the granting of planning permission at the St Modwen site. Highlighting the WSCC highways report and the lack of this issue being addressed at the meeting. Also noting the Air pollution problem in the area.

39 MSDC SUSTAINABILITY APPRAISAL SCOPING REPORT CONSULTATION

Cllr Larkin returned to the meeting.

Cllr Brooks explained that this is part of MSDC landscape capacity study it has been prepared as a desk top study. It appears that this is to saturate Crawley Down and the lesser Cophthorne with additional Housing. This will be discussed at the Neighbourhood Plan sub Committee. It was **AGREED** that the Clerk liaise with Cllr A Brooks and the Neighbourhood Plan Committee to draft a write a letter. The Clerk confirmed she had received a letter from Claire Tester confirming that neither of the Planning officers are available to attend a Parish Council meeting, however, they will be prepared to run some training sessions on the two subjects highlighted in the Clerks email. After a discussion it was **AGREED** that the Clerk to invite Claire Tester to a meetings excluding the public but, including members of the Neighbourhood plan Committees. This will be arranged for an evening meeting if possible. It was **AGREED** that the Clerk also chase up the drop in briefing session regarding the housing assessment.

40 HIGHWAY ISSUES.

A local resident commented regarding the disregard drivers have when parking across the drop kerb areas in the Crawley Down High Street. They do not seem to care how this can block access to people in wheel chairs or using mobility scooters. Can signage or more road markings be used? If the drop white line is less that 70% visible the Parish Council can ask WSCC highways to re paint this area.

New road dressing is causing a problem in Cophthorne:-

- New surface needs the road markings repainted
- Speed restriction markings are all covered up

Action: The Chairman has agreed to contact WSCC Highways and ask them to reinstate this area.

41 GATWICK SECOND RUNWAY

A report was sent out with the agenda from District Cllr E Matthews who had attended the question and answer session for Parish Council at the Airport Commission visit 9th July 2014.

The Clerk confirmed that she had received comments from Councillors in response to Claire Testers request to have Parish Councils comments regarding the proposed second Runway by the end of July. It was **AGREED** that the Clerk put on the Council Web site details of our response and a note to encourage members of the Public to make their comments by the 15th August 2014.

42 CRAWLEY DOWN CRICKET CLUB

The Crawley Down Cricket Club would like to erect a net to reduce damage arising from cricket ball impact. They have already contacted MSDC planning authority to request planning permission. It was **RESOLVED** that the Parish Council support this request.

43 TO CONSIDER THE PLANNING APPLICATIONS LISTED

RESOLVED: that the observations contained in the attached schedule dated 4TH August 2014, to be conveyed to the District Council.

Meeting closed 8 .25 pm

Chairman

date

The Parish Council has the following comments on the Planning Applications shown.

Where the word "Support" is shown this indicates that the Parish Council supports the grant of planning permission subject to the imposition of appropriate conditions.

WP/14/02409/FUL 1 Gorse Close, Copthorne, West Sussex, RH10 3PY – Front extension and single storey side extension.	SUPPORT.
WP/14/02454/LDE Stable Cottage, Oakfields Farm, Hophurst Lane, Crawley Down, West Sussex, RH10 4LN – Use of Stable cottage as a dwelling. This is an application to establish whether the development is lawful: this will be a legal decision where the planning merits of the proposed use cannot be taken into account.	NOTED.
WP/14/02481/FUL 21 Fairway, Copthorne, West Sussex, RH10 3QA – Single storey side extension.	SUPPORT.
WP/14/02505/OUT Land adjacent to Amberwood, Cuttinglye Road, Crawley Down, West Sussex, RH10 4LR – Outline application for proposed new dwelling, with all matters reserved.	OBJECT OUTSIDE VILLAGE BOUNDARY – IN ALIGNMENT WITH CRAWLEY DOWN NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN EMERGING POLICIES.
WP/14/02539/FUL The Retreat, Pembley Green, Copthorne, Crawley, West Sussex, RH10 3LF – Demolition of current kitchen and bathroom and the addition of a 2 storey rear extension to match that of the adjoining property.	SUPPORT _ SUBJECT TO ALL NEIGHBOUR'S CONCERNS BEING ADDRESSED.

Clerk

Worth Parish Council

Dated 5th August 2014