

# LITTLE WALTHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Extra Ordinary Meeting held on 28<sup>th</sup> July 2020 at 7:30pm online

Present: Councillors Edith Robertson (Chair)

Antony Kingham

Barbara Denny

Melanie Williamson

Chloe Tron

Rupert Watson

Clerk Suzanne Walker

County Councillor Councillor Aldridge

Two members of the public were present

Meeting commenced at 7.30pm. The Clerk confirmed the meeting will be recorded.

## **20/105 Apologies**

Received from Councillor Eve and City Councillor Knights

## **20/106 Declarations of Interest**

Councillor Robertson declared a non-pecuniary interest in agenda item 20/109.3 as she is acquainted with the applicant. The matter has been determined by the City Council but the declaration is being made for the sake of propriety.

## **20/107 To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> July 2020**

The minutes of the meeting of 7 July 2020 were formally **approved** by Councillors as a correct record and will be signed by the Chairman.

## **20/108 Public Forum – To receive any representations from the Public**

No comments from members of the public.

Councillor Aldridge advised that the Chelmer Valley Park and Ride has re-opened with a new pedal and ride facility and some price amendments. Essex County Council has introduced a new bursary scheme for nursing and social care apprenticeship scheme to encourage recruitment into that sector. On 13<sup>th</sup> July the virtual exhibition for the Chelmsford north east bypass and new railway station. John has made grants from his locality fund including a grant to the Channels Residents Association to install two new seats. He confirmed that Chelmsford City Council has launched a consultation for a Community Governance Review to consider Parish boundaries and the potential for new Parish Councils in the urban centre. The review will include consideration on boundaries for the Channels and Beaulieu development. He also confirmed that a white paper is to be issued in the autumn which will impact upon the local government sector. Some areas in Essex are considering becoming unitary authorities and there will be changes to all sectors including the Parish sector. There will also be consideration as to how health and social care will be amalgamated into the sector and how devolution will effect the county.

## **20/109 To consider the following planning applications**

20/109.1 20/00964/FUL - Site at 98 The Street, Little Waltham - Conversion of the existing outbuilding into a two-bedroom dwelling. Associated hardsurface off-street parking (porous in nature and aesthetically appropriate). - Councillors discussed the application and **agreed to object** on the basis that 98 the Street is an iconic building and changes to the frontage would be detrimental to the street scene in the Conservation area. Also, vehicular access onto The Street would be problematic in view of the volume of traffic and narrow nature of the road which is further complicated by on-street parking. It was noted that the traffic report appears inaccurate in its summary of the volume of traffic in the area. There was also concern that the suggested access from Chapel Drive is over an area where there is no evidence of a vehicular right of way and would impact adversely upon residents.

20/109.2 20/00980/LBC - The Wilderness, Leighs Road, Little Waltham – replace current lime plaster on the extension with bead edged feather edged weatherboard – It was noted that the Conservation officer has no complaints so **No**

### **Comments**

20/109.3 16/01552/NMAT/1 - 80 The Street, Little Waltham - Non-material amendment to planning permission 16/01552/FUL - (Single storey side and rear extensions). Install 2no Roof Windows in the Rear Extension Sloping Roof – Already determined by Chelmsford City Council so no need to consider.

20/109.4 19/01267/OUT - Land south of Runneymead Cottage, Blasford Hill, Little Waltham - AMENDED SCHEME: Development of 13 dwellings. (Outline application with only landscaping reserved) – Councillors **agreed to object** to this application as it was noted that the Fire Brigade has commented that the road is not wide enough and Essex Highways have indicated that it will not be adopted by them. As the houses do not have garages the road could be made even narrower by on-street parking. There is a detrimental impact of more traffic accessing the site from Blasford Hill. It was noted that the housing is quite narrow and will not be the high quality landscape led design indicated as desirable by the City Council. In addition, as set out in the Local Plan, Bloor Homes will be developing the site next door with an additional 400 houses so there is no need demonstrated for this development.

20/109.5 20/00989/FUL - Land west of Croxton Mill Cottage, Blasford Hill, Little Waltham - Construction of timber building to support apian activities at Croxton's Mill – It was noted that there are beehives in the area and it would appear that the proposed shed is to support honey-making. It was noted the structure is on a flood-plane – **Agreed no comments or observations.**

## **20/110 to consider issues surrounding anti-social behaviour and Police response**

After discussions at the meeting on 7<sup>th</sup> July a letter was sent to the Police Fire and Crime Commissioner who responded by saying the issues raised were operational and no response will be made from that office. The issue of payment for services was highlighted as being strategic but still no response received from the PFCC. It had been stated that a response would be made by the Police but nothing has as yet been received and issues continue in the recreation grounds. It was **agreed** to contact the District Commander and ask him to respond and attend the next Zoom meeting to discuss operational issues. In relation to the strategic issues to write to the Chief Constable. If no response received to consider approaching the local MP for support.

**20/111 To review the opening of play area and tennis court**

The tennis court opened on 10<sup>th</sup> July and the notices are still in situ. The tennis court gate should be repaired shortly. The Clerk has carried out inspections and found no issues. The play area opened on 24<sup>th</sup> July with notices put up. One resident complained that she can not push both children on the swings at the same time but otherwise residents appear pleased that the area is open again. Councillor Denny agreed to check on the area tomorrow to check how busy the area is and there will be ongoing ad hoc monitoring. Councillors also **agreed** the expenditure for two metal signs to be produced and erected at the play area.

Councillor Robertson confirmed that last week she attended the Chelmsford City Council policy board as it was considering the masterplan for the Bloor Homes development. She made representations regarding the use of the spine road. The City Council supported the position of the hospital that it should only be for the use of hospital staff only. The issue will come back at the detailed planning application stage so the Parish Council can make formal representations. The hospital claim that 70% of the traffic on Hospital Approach are staff. It was not clear as to how that would be managed and where the prohibition would come into effect as the road will lead to Woodhouse Lane as well.

Meeting concluded at 8.17pm