

Hartest Parish Council Minutes of the meeting held at The Institute Wednesday 15 August 2007 at 7.00pm

In attendance: Cllrs Rachel Irvine (Chairwoman), David Loxton (Vice-Chair), David Burr, Robin Oaten, Jo Pask, Mary Gough

Apologies: Cllr Maddox (away on holiday)

Attending: Marie Huggett (Clerk)

- Action**
- 07/129 Apologies** had been received from Cllr Maddox.
- 07/130 Minutes** of 4 July meeting were approved as a true record and signed accordingly.
- 07/131 Matters arising** from 4 July (that could not wait to be raised at the next main meeting on 5 September) – there were no matters.
- 07/132 Declarations of prejudicial interest** – Cllr Burr advised he possibly had an interest in the Townsend Barns planning application.
- 07/133 Public Forum** – No members of the public were present.
- 07/134 Planning**
- a. Decisions received:**
1. B/07/00929 – The Copse, The Row – felling of 1 Poplar Tree – **Granted**
 2. B/07/01004 – The Old Rectory, The Green – to remove top branch Of 1 Oriental Plane Tree and remove 2 lower branches from 1 Oak Tree – **Granted**
- b. New planning applications:**
1. B/07/01034 – Barns at Townsend Farm, Melford Road – Construction of new vehicular access and erection of flint and brick wall (Barn 2) - **HPC has no objections. HPC is concerned with the visibility from Barn 1 access (a separate matter from B/07/01034), which is approximately 31 metres although previous planning information suggests the visibility is 70 metres. HPC would like BDC to look into this matter. Information regarding the bats and owl will also be revisited. (Note: Cllr Burr did was not involved in the commenting process due to a declared interest).** Clerk JP
 2. B/07/01021 – Butchers, The Green – Change of use from domestic dwelling with butchers shop and associated outbuildings to 1 dwelling – **HPC would like BDC to clarify its “change of use” policy in relation to this application. HPC believes that policy states that properties such as this should be fully marketed as is, for 12 months and feels that this procedure should be followed. The safety of the structure may not be relevant as this may be resolved in the short-term to enable the policy to be adhered to.**
 3. B/07/01270 – Pet Food Sales Building, Pear Tree Farm, Brockley Road - Erection of single-storey front and side extensions to existing agricultural/storage building adjacent to Pet Food Sales Building to provide machinery store and office (existing Nissan huts to be demolished) – **HPC has no objections.** Clerk
- c. New planning applications received since date of meeting notice:** Clerk
none.
- d. Tree Preservation Order applications:**
1. B/07/01195 – Wheelwrights, The Green, Hartest – Removal of dead wood and stubs and lightly re-balance crown of 1 Cherry

Tree; crown reduce to previous pruning points of 1 Hornbeam Tree; fell to ground level 1 Hornbeam Tree and re-pollard 1 Lime Tree – **HPC has no objections.** Mr Terry Waite had spoken with Cllr Pask regarding the problems he experiences with lack of light and telephone line interference due to the trees outside his house. Michael Feather has advised that some light thinning may help. Clerk to further consult with Michael Feather. To be discussed at the September meeting.

- e. **BDC Administration of Tree Preservation Order Applications:** This item was discussed later in the meeting. **Clerk**

07/135 Finance:

- a. Annual renewal of Data Protection Registration - £35.00 **Approved** **Clerk**
- b. Re-investment of Halifax Reserve Account - £6500 was invested in February 2007. The account matured on 5 August 2007 with interest of £132.80 with a balance of £6632.80. It was agreed that this amount be reinvested and other future investments be looked into before the next maturity date in February 2008. **Clerk**
- c. BDC Litter Bin emptying - £8.55 **Approved** **Clerk**

07/136 Any other business:

- a. The Steps on The Green – Conservation drawings have been supplied by BDC suggesting Suffolk red bricks could be used. HPC favour railway sleepers – this is to be looked into further. **Clerk**
- b. Suffolk Preservation Society Planning Training – it was agreed that Cllr Loxton (as HPC planning representative) attend the two planning Training workshops in October at a cost of £7.50 per day. **Clerk**
- c. New Councillor Training – a training course in conjunction with Stanstead Parish Council and SALC has been arranged for September. This is the most cost effective solution to Councillor Training. **Clerk**
- d. An application is being made to SALC for free I.T. equipment for the clerk and council as limited funding is being made available. If successful, the previously agreed budget of £750 to spend on new I.T. equipment will be vastly reduced (further software will be required). **Clerk**
- e. Affordable Housing – it was agreed to put back a potential meeting with BDC representatives until October 2007. **Clerk**
- f. BDC Administration of TPO Applications – HPC is very concerned to that BDC has advised that there is no legal requirement to consult Parish Councils in respect of TPO applications. A letter is to be sent To BDC advising of the importance of consultation and inclusion of Tree Warden's comments and detailed local knowledge. **Clerk**

07/137 Matters for consideration for next meeting: none

07/138 Date of next meeting – Wednesday 5 September at 7.00pm in the Institute.

07/139 The Chairwoman closed the meeting at 7.55pm.

