

SOUTH HANNINGFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a council meeting held by zoom (digital meeting platform) on Thursday 25th March 2021.

Present: The Chairman and Councillors Black, Whitehead, Mitchell, Huntington, Marsello, Burgess, Bonnett, Walker and Vickers. One resident was also in attendance and the Clerk kept the minutes.

- 1. Apologies for Absence** – Councillors Vallis and Coveley.
- 2. Disclosure of Interests** – Cllr Bonnett declared a non-pecuniary interest on item 4a.
- 3. Public Participation** – The resident expressed his concerns regarding the possibility of the proposed affordable housing development within the Parish and the Hilltop Nursery planning application.
- 4. Planning** –
 - a) **21/00115/Ful – Hilltop Nursery, Dowsett Lane, Ramsden Heath** – Demolish existing storage buildings. Construction of steel portal framed building for purpose of agricultural storage – The Parish Council has looked carefully at this application, as the site has been unused for a number of years since the nursery previously operating there closed. It was a very popular local amenity and therefore plans to bring the site back to use are welcome. It is important to look at this application in conjunction with the application for a new, small zoo on the lower part of the site, on which we have made separate comments, as it is unclear if this application would affect the operation of the proposed zoo and it was for that reason that the Parish Council sought additional information. On this application alone the proposed building is close to the road and not attractive, but it is in an agricultural area which has similar buildings. What is particularly unclear is the purpose of the building, given the majority of the site would be taken up by the use proposed for the zoo and the Parish Council has concerns that it could subsequently become an industrial building or could be deemed “previously developed land” after being classified “Agricultural” rather than the present “Horticultural” classification, which precludes housing development in the Green Belt. We would therefore request the City Council ensures that suitable conditions are placed on the proposed new building that ensure that it be used solely as set out in the application with any future uses being subject to a new planning permission.

- b) **21/00306/Cleud – Littlemead, Grange Lane, Downham** – Residential Dwelling – It is disappointing that our comments were not taken into consideration back in December 2013, when we requested that the existing house be demolished first, before the replacement dwelling was built! We were in fact advised this would be the case, but obviously this was allowed to slip by, by the planning department.
- c) **21/00486/Ful – Foxearth, Brock Hill, South Hanningfield** – Single storey rear extension with window – No Objection.
- d) **21/00394/Ful – Land East and West of A130, North and South of Canon Barns road, East Hanningfield** – Installation of a solar photovoltaic (PV) park generating up to 49.9 MW of electricity spread over three sites (sited either side of the A130/Canon Barns Road) comprising of ground mounted PV solar arrays, battery based electricity storage containers and one point of connection (POC) mast of up to 35m in height on Church Road (junction with Link House Farm), together with inverters/transformer stations, distribution network operator (DNO) substation. Access and cable connection to POC mast to connect to 132kv power line, customer substation/switchgear and meter kiosk, batteries, internal buried cabling and grid connection cables, internal access tracks, security fencing and gates and CCTV cameras, other ancillary infrastructure, landscaping and biodiversity enhancements – Although we recognise the need for solar power, and support the needs, we would prefer a more suitable site be found, where brown field areas are used first, which have a lower grade of agricultural soil.
- e) **21/00308/Ful – Oaklands Farm, Goatsmoor Lane, Stock** – Demolition of existing dwelling and garage with a new replacement dwelling and detached garage – No comment.

5. Finance –

- a) Ratification of Cheques – Proposed by Cllr Mitchell, Seconded by Cllr Burgess. Cllr Thomason Declared an Interest*

105184	M Holt	Re-imb materials & machinery	£ 541.08
105185	CCC	Refuse collection @ S/Field	£ 119.86
105186	R Tidnam	Replace bulkhead fitting@S/Pav	£ 120.00
105187	M Holt	Re-imb materials	£ 210.17
105188	J Sewell*	Tree & hedge cutting	£ 400.00

- b) Report from Cllr Whitehead, Finance Committee Chairman – Cllr Whitehead reported the Finance Committee had recently met to discuss the forthcoming expenditure and proposed projects for 2021/22. It was agreed just to repair and refresh the dugouts, the play safety surfacing in the Recreation Ground still probably has several years life remaining,

but the P&O Spaces Working Party will monitor this, and they will monitor the basketball court. Cllr Black will start obtaining quotations for the replacement Vehicle Activated Sign by the Sports Field and the Clerk is to obtain a rebuilding cost for the Sports Pavilion for insurance purposes.

- 6. Discuss and agree a date for the 2021 Annual Parish Meeting –**
Members agreed to hold this on Thursday 29th April commencing 8pm via zoom.
- 7. Discuss the Affordable Housing Questionnaire produced by the RCCE and agree for this to be distributed –** After lengthy discussion, members were in full agreement to invite Laura Atkinson to a meeting, in order to verify certain questions, they have.
- 8. Matters for Information –**
 - a) The Clerk reported pothole repairs are soon to take place in Park Lane and Short Lane.
 - b) Cllr Walker reported that CCC Parks Services, arrived at Norton Meadows on the morning of the Cross County Event.
 - c) Cllr Walker advised members that Pauline Maycey had recently passed away.
 - d) Cllr Mitchell asked who owned the bench near Jubilee Gardens and Downham House, as this is in need of maintenance.
 - e) Cllr Burgess reported the new air conditioning is working well in RHVH.
 - f) Cllr Vickers advised members he had resigned from the SHVH Committee after serving 28 years on there. The Chairman said this was the right decision, as it was affecting his health.
- 9. Date of Next Meeting –** This will be held on Thursday 15th April 2021 commencing 7.00pm via zoom.

Approved as a true record.

Signed.....Dated.....

