

**HAWSTEAD PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
AT THE VILLAGE HALL
ON 27th October 2022 at 7.30pm.**

Present: Cllrs P Baker (Chairman), J West, P Barham, C Carr, G Rushen, R Alexander (in part) and H Brewis. C Hibbert (Clerk).
Five members of the public.
Apologies: N/a.

The meeting started at 7.30pm.
The filming statement was taken as read.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

N/a.

2. PUBLIC FORUM

2.1 Public participation

RA joined the meeting 7.35pm.

The following matters were raised during public forum:-

Two members of the public raised objections to the application at item 5.1 below on grounds that the Local Plan does not support such development in open countryside; concerns were also raised about inaccuracies in the application documents and the impact of further development on the limited water and power supply serving the existing dwellings in this location.

Public comments in relation to item 5.2 to be taken with that agenda item.

3. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

3.1 Cllr HB declared a pecuniary interest in the planning application at item 5.2 as landowner of the application site (no vote in relation to relevant item);

3.2 No dispensations were granted in relation to any identified pecuniary interests.

4. MINUTES FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING DATED 29th SEPTEMBER 2022.

The minutes from the Parish Council meeting dated 29th September 2022 were **APPROVED** and signed as a true and accurate record of this meeting.

5. REPORTS

5. PLANNING APPLICATIONS, APPEALS AND NOTIFICATIONS

5.1 DC/22/1224/FUL Planning application - a. change of use of agricultural land to residential b. Single storey dwelling for holiday let at land off Bull Lane Pinford End Hawstead; the meeting considered this application and discussed; (i) the open countryside designation in the Local Plan; (ii) whether the proposals met the criteria set out in policy DM27; (iii) inaccuracies in the application material - including as to the regular bus service (only one bus per week) and the lack of holiday let accommodation in the area – there is plenty; and (iv) the speculative nature of this proposal. The Council resolved by majority (6 in favour, one abstention) to **OBJECT** on grounds that; (a) the proposal does not meet the criteria set out in Policy DM27 which restricts development in the open countryside, except to the extent it is the development of an infill plot in a cluster of ten dwellings; and (b) the impact of the proposals on the existing precarious water/power supply to the houses in this location has not been fully addressed.

5.2 DC/22/1564/FUL Planning application - one dwelling at The Spinney Bury Road Hawstead Suffolk.

Public forum resumed

The following points were made:-

The applicant referred the meeting to comments from the WSC tree officer in relation to this application which raised no concerns on grounds of trees.

A resident (the tree officer) commented that there is a planning condition requiring the replanting of 20 trees following removal of 20 elms authorised by historic permission DC/14/2046/TPO in

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relation to compliance with which, he was uncertain; the schedule specifying details of the re-planting required by that permission is not available on the WSC planning portal. An exchange followed about whether the elms had been removed and whether replanting was required if the 20 elms had not been removed. Concerns were expressed that the councillor applicant was still in the room whilst this matter was being discussed; the Council was urged to appreciate the importance of safeguarding trees and to be seen to deal fairly on this issue with all residents (including councillors).

The applicant stated he did not consider he was in breach of any condition and that he was in any event agreeable to undertaking to plant more trees under the current proposals.

Public session closed. HB left the room.

The meeting discussed; (i) the uncertainty around whether the conditions attached to previous planning application DC/14/2046/TPO had been complied with, given that no plans were immediately available showing the location of the elms whose removal was authorised by that previous permission which might indicate whether the requirement to re-plant has been triggered; it was noted that this was a matter for WSC to investigate; (ii) the importance of making sure trees subject to TPO are appropriately preserved and protected to ensure the contribution they make to the appearance and biodiversity of the village is safeguarded; (iii) the applicants' willingness to commit to planting more trees if required; (iv) the applicants' willingness/ the physical ability to move the proposed access point to the north to ensure there is no encroachment on the village green; and (v) the modest nature of the proposals. The Council resolved by majority (five in favour; one objection; one precluded from the vote) to **SUPPORT** the proposals on condition that; (1) there is a requirement to replant trees (type and location to be notified by WSC) to the extent that WSC conclude that there are any conditions regarding replanting of trees pursuant to DC14/2046/TPO which have not been fully complied with; and (2) the site access point is moved to the north to avoid any encroachment on the registered village green.

HB re-joined the meeting.

8. FINANCE

8.1 To approve payments; the following payments were APPROVED:-

	Detail	Net (of VAT)	Vat	TOTAL
BHIB Ltd Ins -PAID 10/10	Chq	374.02		£374.02
Macmillan Cancer PAID 10/10	Cheque	200.00		£200.00
C Hibbert - expenses	online	52.00		52.00
B Monk – generator service	online	39.79		39.79
CH 1&1	online	14.97	2.99	17.96
Brady Corp Ltd – grit bins	online	366.92	73.38	440.30

7. AOB The meeting heard that SWT had recently visited Hawstead to review three possible sites identified as areas for the creation of ponds/ leaky dams – a report is awaited. Thanks to RA.

8. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Revised date of Thursday 17th November 2022 at 7.30pm.

The meeting closed at 8.20pm.

Distribution
 All Cllrs
 Email list
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