

# ARLINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Arlington Parish Council held on 19<sup>th</sup> July 2018 at 7.30pm in Arlington Village Hall

**PRESENT:** Cllr M Garner (Chairman), P Stenning and V Radtke.

**IN ATTENDANCE:** County Councillor N Bennett and A Stevens (Clerk). Mr Rodker and Ms Sinanan (Applicants Planning Application WD/2018/1473/F) and seven members of the public were also present.

## 35. PUBLIC SESSION

County Councillor Bennett sent two emails to Councillors before the meeting. The first detailed the housing numbers in the Local Plan. The total allocation for Arlington is 76 but it includes 46 which have already been completed and committed. The second email showed the range and extent of savings being made by the County Council. Copies of both emails are available from the Clerk upon request.

County Councillor Bennett confirmed he had no new information about the A27 and he has not seen the Business Case.

Mr Rodker from the Ecological Land Co-Operative spoke about planning application WD2018/1473/F. The co-operative is applying for temporary permission for three small holdings in a field to the south of Copyhold Cottages to prove their agricultural viability. He said:

- The small holdings could be an asset and could bring many benefits to the village.
- The access has been moved to make it safer than the previous application.
- The accommodation will be remove-able and screened. The accommodation has also been moved and is more contained.
- Their site in Devon is proving to be profitable.
- The Co-operative has bought another site in South Wales.
- Other sites nationwide are proving to be successful too.
- ELC has the support of DEFRA and the National Trust.

In answer to residents and Councillors' questions Mr Rodker confirmed;

- Their business model works.
- Families were quite happy to live in the caravans. They have no plans to change the accommodation to permanent housing.
- Their plans are sustainable.
- As soon as Wealden received this application they wrote to those who previously submitted comments so Wealden has already received letters of support, albeit mostly from outside the area.
- Water will be supplied from a bore hole and the energy used will be renewable.
- ELC owns the land and has the support of many local sellers.

County Councillor Bennett then left the meeting.

## 36. APOLOGES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Parish Councillor J Parsons, V Radtke, N Kinghorn and J Sellars. These were accepted by those present.

District Councillor White also sent apologies for his absence.

## 37. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND CHANGES TO THE REGISTER OF INTERESTS.

There were no declarations of interests nor were there any changes to the Register of Interests.

### 38. MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 21<sup>ST</sup> JUNE 2018.

The Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on the 21<sup>st</sup> June 2018 were read, approved by all and signed by the Chairman as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

### 39. PLANNING

#### a. Planning Applications:

WD/2018/1224/F - Claverham Manor, Wick Street, Berwick, BN26 6TL - Minor external and internal reconfiguration works (Revisions to Planning Permission WD/2017/2832/F) – Arlington Parish Council has no objections on any planning grounds to this application.

WD/2018/1225/LB - Claverham Manor, Wick Street, Berwick, BN26 6TL - Minor external and internal reconfiguration works (Revisions to Listed Building Consent WD/2017/2833/LB) – Arlington Parish Council has no objections to this application as long as it meets the listed buildings requirements.

WD/2018/1239/F - Robin Post Stables, Arlington Road West, Hailsham, BN27 3RD - New Lunge Pen – Arlington Parish Council had no objections on any planning grounds to this application.

WD/2018/1223/F - Arlington Village Hall, The Street, Arlington, BN26 6RX - Removal of existing timber doors/frames and replacement in PVCU and commercial aluminium – Arlington Parish Council does not object to the doors being replaced but Councillors would prefer the doors to be wooden because they feel wooden doors are more appropriate in a Conservation Area.

WD/2018/1473/F - Field To The South Of Copyhold Cottages, Formerly Part Of Wilbees Farm, Arlington, Hailsham, BN26 6RU - Resubmission of WD/2017/0340/F for the siting of three temporary agricultural workers' dwellings for a period of 5 years together with an agricultural barn with PV array and alterations to existing highway access to provide three affordable smallholdings to new entrants to ecological agriculture – Arlington Parish Council voted by two votes to one to support the application as long as it is temporary in order to allow the company to prove its viability.

#### b. Approved Planning Applications - No Planning Applications have been approved by the District Council since the last meeting.

The following application has been refused;

WD/2018/0355/MAJ – Land at Camberlot Stables, Camberlot Road BN27 3RJ – Proposed change of use of equestrian land to provide 10 number C3 residential dwellings.

#### c. Planning Matters – No other planning matters were discussed at this meeting.

### 40. FINANCE.

To approve list of payments – Councillors resolved to accept and approve the list of payments to the 19<sup>th</sup> July 2018 which totalled £1246.60

1892	B Coode - Computer	£ 100.00
1893	R Collins - Website	£ 20.45
1894	T Hoad - Grass Cutting	£ 54.00
1895	Mass Media - Website	£ 42.00
1896	A Stevens - Salary	£ 569.10
1897	ESCC - Pension	£ 210.39
1898	Recycling Partnership	
	- Bin Emptying	£ 43.26
1899	SE Water - Allotments	£ 27.40
1900	Stripes - Grass Cutting	£ 180.00

#### b. To approve the accounts to date – Councillors **resolved** to approve the accounts to 29<sup>th</sup> June 2018.

41. **WEALDEN LOCAL PLAN** – This was covered by County Councillor Bennett in the public session. The Plan is due out for representation from 13<sup>th</sup> August until 8<sup>th</sup> October. Arlington Parish Council will make any comments it has at its Full Council Meeting in September.

42. **HIGHWAYS –**

i: Update on the A27 - Councillor Stenning read from his report from a meeting he attended along with Councillor Garner and the Clerk. The meeting was organised by SSALC for those Parishes that would be most affected by any changes made to the A27.

His report is as follows;

**'Chairman:** Trevor Leggo CEO, Surrey and Sussex Associations of Local Councils (SSALC) Ltd.

**Attendees:** **Arlington** – Cllr Peter Stenning, **Alfriston** – Cllr Nick White, **Alciston** – Geoff Watkins, **WDALC** – Alison Stevens, **Chalvington & Ripe** – Cllr Colin Webb, **Cuckmere Valley** – Stephen Smith (Clerk), **Firle** – Andrew Barr, **Glynde** – Cllr Jonny Denis, **Lewes** – Cllr Susan Murray, **Long Man** – Cllr Jeremy Christey, **Milton Street – part of Long Man** – Cllr Bryan Stevens, **Selmeston** – David Quysner, **Willington & Jevington** – Steve Keogh (Clerk), **Lewes DC** – Cllr Vic lent, **CPRE** – Kia Trainor, **ESALC Board** – Mike Garner (Arlington) & Penny Lower (Seaford), **SSALC** – Trevor Leggo, Anna Beams

The meeting opened at 10:30 with a welcome and introduction from Trevor Leggo, who stated that Highways England (HE) had been invited to the meeting but had declined. HE also declined to release the Stakeholder Document that was presented by them to the A27 Reference Group Stakeholder meeting on 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2018, instead HE sent a statement which states; *The focus of the east of Lewes off-line study is to investigate a longer-term improvement option, specifically to examine the need (or otherwise) for the construction of a new off-line section of road. The study takes into account the online improvements scheme announced as part of RIS 1. (RIS1 is the already announced 2015 - 2020 Road Improvement Strategy to provide smaller scale improvements to the existing A27 between Beddingham and Polegate. The preferred route, which omits Selmeston, was announced in 2017, and is unaffected by the off-line study)*

Also contained in the statement from HE is a time scale graphic for a new off-line road that starts at 0 and proceeds to 7 (0 being strategy, shaping and prioritisation, and 7 being closeout/delivery). Currently the project is at 0, however we were able to ascertain that closeout/delivery is set for mid 2030.

Vic lent then gave a presentation that was much the same as the one he gave to the meeting in Selmeston on 12<sup>th</sup> June 2018. APC councillors will have already seen the notes on that meeting made by John Parsons and myself. Vic lent also stated that HE have **no** plans for the Ashcombe and Southerham roundabouts **or** the section of A27 between Beddingham and Southerham i.e. they are not included in the study or financial calculations for a new off-line road which currently stands at between £450m - £650m.

Kia Trainor of CPRE gave a presentation that again was much the same as that which she gave at the Selmeston meeting on 12<sup>th</sup> June 2018. Again APC councillors will have seen the notes of that meeting.

The meeting then proceeded to open discussion with councillors making their own observations about the current proposals as far as can be ascertained given the secrecy with which the A27 Reference Group and HE conduct themselves. However, it transpired that South East Water has not been contacted by either HE or the A27 Reference Group and were unaware that one of the proposed off-line corridors crosses the site of their proposed new reservoir to the north of Arlington Reservoir, and that a second runs very close to the southern end of the reservoir and the associated water treatment works (see attached graphic).

The general consensus of the meeting was that all the Parish Councils along the A27 should be united in their approach to any proposed "new" road or indeed the widening or duelling of the existing road. To that end, Trevor Leggo will attempt to set up a meeting between the three local MPs; Maria Caulfield, Nus Ghani, Stephen Lloyd, HE and representatives of Parish Councils along the A27 in order to gain clarity about what is actually being discussed behind closed doors.

The meeting then closed at approximately 12:30'.

Councillor Stenning also pointed out that Wealden District Council Director of Planning Policy and Economic Development Nigel Hannam, states the Business Case for the A27 is looking positive and a decision is expected by Government in 2019. It is an integral and critical component of the Wealden Local Plan and if it is successful the road would be completed by 2030 and the current A27 would be downgraded to a local road. There is some confusion however as the Lead Member for Planning Policy, Ann Newton, seemed to contradict Mr Hannam by saying the Local Plan does not need an 'off line' A27.

ii: update on the SLR Meetings – Councillors resolved to move the SLR meetings from January and July each year to March and October to make it easier for everyone to attend.

- 43. RISK ASSESSMENTS** – Councillor Stenning risk assessed the defibrillator in Arlington at the end of May and again at the end of June. There were no immediate causes for concern.

Councillors agreed the notice board outside the Yew Tree needs re-varnishing. The Clerk will ask Councillor Parsons if he can recommend someone to carry out the work.

- 44. ALLOTMENTS** – There is currently one vacant allotment which the Clerk hopes to be able to allocate soon.

- 45. VILLAGE GREEN PROJECT** – The completion report has been done. Councillors discussed whether the planned cream tea should be in aid of the families of the houses burnt down in Upper Dicker recently and agreed instead to donate £100 to each family to help them buy immediate essentials.

- 46. REPORTS AND QUESTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS** – There were no further reports or questions from Councillors on this occasion.

- 47. ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA -**

- Wealden Local Plan

- 48. DATE OF NEXT MEETING** - The next meeting will be the Full Council Meeting which will take place on Thursday 20th September 2018 at 7.30pm at Arlington Village Hall. If any major planning applications are received after the July Meeting, a Council Meeting for those applications only will be called on the 16th August.

There being no further business, this meeting closed at 8:45pm.