

CRANBROOK & SISSINGHURST PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE PLANNING & PRESERVATION COMMITTEE
HELD ON THE 12TH JANUARY 2016

Declaration of Interests, Dispensations, Predetermination or Lobbying: `

Members are required to declare any interests, dispensations, predetermination or lobbying on items on this agenda. Members are reminded that changes to the Register of Interests should be notified to the Clerk.

Present: Cllr. Bunyan (in the Chair), Cllrs. Cook and Fermor

Apologies: Cllr. Rook

The Chairman reported that Cllr. Hartley had agreed to stand down from this Committee. He was not able to attend the meetings.

Cllr. Cook declared a personal interest in 15/510234 as he was an employee of Cranbrook School.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS:

15/510216/FULL/RH1

Hemsted Forest Equestrian Centre, Golford Road, Benenden

Variation of Condition (23) of planning permission TW/13/01338/FULL to allow lighting on the sand school to be used between the hours of 15:30 and 19:00 hours.

The Parish Council recommend APPROVAL but are disappointed that the access works agreed under 13/01338 have not been carried out prior to any development taking place.

Proposed by Cllr. Bunyan, seconded by Cllr. Cook and agreed.

15/509449/FULL

Unit 2 Hartley Dyke Business Centre, Hartley Road, Cranbrook

Change of use of Day Centre (D1) to office (B1)

The Parish Council recommend APPROVAL.

Proposed by Cllr. Cook, seconded by Cllr. Fermor and agreed.

15/510234/FULL

6A Tippens Close, Cranbrook

Erection of fence and hedgerow.

The Parish Council recommend APPROVAL.

Proposed by Cllr. Fermor, seconded by Cllr. Cook and agreed.

15/503689/FULL & 15/503699/LBC

The Barracks, Wilsley Green, Cranbrook

Conversion of barn into one single residential unit; with associated alterations and extensions works.

The Parish Council recommend APPROVAL. Members were disappointed on the loss of the original rooflight from the scheme which is an important feature on the building (former squash court). There does not appear to be any eco or solar initiatives. The plans are also inconsistent in that on some plans it shows two rooflights and on others there are three shown.

Proposed by Cllr. Cook, seconded by Cllr. Fermor and agreed.

15/510003/FULL

2 Hope Cottages, Wilsley Pound, Sissinghurst

Loft conversion with dormer window to rear and one velux window to front elevations.

The Parish Council recommend APPROVAL subject to the views of the Conservation Architect.

Proposed by Cllr. Bunyan, seconded by Cllr. Cook and agreed.

TREES:

15/510238/TPO

Hartley Road, Cranbrook

TPO application to: T1 – Oak – Remove larger dead wood section and cut ivy at base of tree. T2 – Oak – Fell.

The Parish Council recommend REFUSAL with regard to the felling of T2 unless the Tree Officer, Dan Docker, is convinced that the tree is diseased and therefore a hazard. APPROVAL is recommended to works to T1 subject to the views of the Tree Officer.

Proposed by Cllr. Fermor, seconded by Cllr. Cook and agreed.

APPEALS:

The Chairman informed Members that she and the Clerk had met with Dan McEwan, Fluid Planning, prior to this morning's meeting. His view was that Tunbridge Wells Borough Council had written up a good proof of evidence, it was well written and had really concentrated on the sustainability aspect. After a full discussion it was agreed that Mr. McEwan will write a letter to the Inspectorate on behalf of the Parish Council to reiterate our strong reasons for rejection of the appeal. Cllr. Bunyan stated that she would hopefully be able to attend on some of the days of the Appeal which runs for five days from the 19th January.

CONSULTATIONS:

DC&LG proposed changes to the national planning policy: Members had all been furnished with a hard copy of the Consultation Document. Members went through the consultation in detail and several comments were made in answer to relevant questions. It was agreed that the Clerk send a response by e mail.

DECISIONS:

Cllr. Bunyan read out the recent decisions downloaded from the Portal. She made Members aware of issues with the Mid Kent upgraded system in that it now shows that applications are "decided" but does not show what the decision is unless you go into the documents, which is very time consuming.

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION:

The Chairman informed Members that there had been concerns raised by a resident adjacent to Breach Farm where an informal enquiry had been received regarding a proposed change of use of one of the buildings. The Clerk explained that this was a process where an applicant could establish whether a planning consent would either be required or not required for a specific proposal. The Parish Council is not a consultee on informal enquiries.

The Chairman also reported that a further e mail had been received from another resident adjacent Breach Farm regarding a recent retrospective application where the Parish Council had recommended approval. They had concerns which they are taking up with the Enforcement Officer. There was no further action which the Parish Council could take.